

PM to chair committee to review salary, allowance scheme for civil servants

By Nor Ain Mohamed Radhi - July 13, 2023 @ 6:47pm

PUTRAJAYA: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar will chair a committee to review the salary and allowance scheme for civil servants soon.

This, he said, was because the wages and salaries of the civil servants are still low.

"After 10 years, no committee has yet to conduct any studies on the salary and allowance scheme of civil servants.

"Maybe in a week or two, or maybe after the state polls, I will be chairing the meeting, which will also be attended by the Chief Secretary to the Government (Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali), the Public Service Department director-general (Datuk Dr Zulkapli Mohamed), ministers and officers.

"We will scrutinise the salary, allowance and pension scheme as well as our financial ability to do so," he said in his speech at the Cakna Madani programme with enforcement agencies at the Putrajaya International Convention Centre here, today.

He suggested that the salary increment be done in stages, according to the economic situation.

"We will give what is reasonable and fair to the civil servants. We may not even need to wait after the state polls (to hold the meeting).

"If we are late (in holding the meeting), blame the chief secretary to the government," Anwar joked, drawing laughter from the audience.

Speaking to reporters after the event, the prime minister said the restoration of the pension scheme for retired civil servants will involve a financial implication of RM1.3 billion.

He said the amount was already included in the 2023 Budget.

"It is not an additional allocation," he said.

Yesterday, Anwar in a statement said the cabinet has decided that pension payments from July to December 2023 will be based on the original pension amount.

This, he said, was following the Federal Court's decision on June 27 that Sections 3 and 7 of the Pensions Adjustment (Amendment) Act 2013 were invalid, which meant that the law before the amendment is applicable by itself for pension adjustment.

The prime minister added that for civil servants who retired before 2013, pension payments would revert to the amount as in December 2012.

"The difference between the current pension amount and the original pension amount will now be paid in the form of a special assistance called "Special Appreciation for Pensioners," Anwar said in the statement.