

20/01/2014 - Government To Save RM400 Million Through 11 Cost-Cutting Measures

PUTRAJAYA, Jan 20 -- The government estimates that it can save RM400 million this year with the implementation of the 11 announced cost-cutting measures for the public sector.

The Chief Secretary to the Government (KSN), Tan Sri Dr Ali Hamsa, said the savings would also be part of the contribution of civil servants to the country.

"These measures reflect that civil servants share the impact of spending cuts with the people, consistent with the concept of 'Merakyatkan Perkhidmatan Awam' (making the public service people-oriented)," he said when delivering the 'Amanat KSN 2014' (2014 Message of the Chief Secretary to the Government), here, Monday.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak announced the measures to reduce public expenditure at the end of last year in line with the government's desire to practice prudent spending this year.

The measures include slashing toll and entertainment allowances for ministers and deputy ministers, reduction of energy consumption in all government premises and cutting down on meals at formal occasions.

At a press conference later Ali said the government would also consider consider a number of other proposals to save expenses.

"We will keep reviewing from time to time. The Ministry of Finance and other ministries will bring this proposal to the National Planning and Development Committee," he said assuring that those measures will not set aside the welfare of civil servants.

Feedback from civil servants found they did not question the austerity measures because they realise that it can reduce government spending.

The Ministry of Finance had issued a circular on austerity measures in the public sector, including a guide to save electricity by five per cent.

Regarding the 2012 Auditor General's report, Ali said the action to be taken against the parties involved would be announced soon.

A total of 378 complaints were recorded in the 2012 Auditor General's Report of which 111 complaints were directed to the federal public service, 229 complaints were directed to the public service in the states and 38 complaints to the statutory bodies.

At the same event Ali also launched the book 'Merakyatkan Perkhidmatan Awam' to clarify the principles

and values in an effort to bring the civil service closer to the people.

-- BERNAMA

[Print](#)