

PRIME NEWS

Bonus for pensioners, govt servants

2016 BUDGET:

2.6m people to benefit from special payment

SITI NURSURAYA ALI

KUALA LUMPUR

siti.nursuraya@nst.com.my

THE government yesterday announced that a special bonus for public servants and government pensioners will be paid today.

In a statement, it said the special bonus was in accordance with the 2016 Budget announcement by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Razak in October last year.

"Some 1.6 million public servants will receive RM500 each, while one million pensioners will receive RM250 each."

+ The special bonus involves an al-

location of RM645 million.

In his Facebook and Twitter accounts, Najib said he hoped the RM500 special payment would ease their burden, especially those who have schoolgoing children.

"*Insyah-Allah*, the government will pay RM500 to 1.6 million civil servants in service and RM250 to pensioners tomorrow as announced in the 2016 Budget," he said.

The government had also announced a raft of perks for public sector employees in the budget. Some of the benefits, which will take effect from July 1 and involves an allocation of RM1.4 billion, include a salary adjustment equivalent to a one-year increment for 1.6 million public servants. This involves an allocation of RM1.1 billion.

"The government also agreed to improve 252 service schemes that will benefit 406,000 public servants," said the statement. The government had set public servants' minimum wage at RM1,200, to be enjoyed by 60,000 employees.