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Rafizi confident businesses will be receptive to progressive wage model



KUALA LUMPUR (Aug 4): Economic Minister Rafizi Ramli has expressed confidence that the business community in Malaysia will be receptive to the progressive wage model (PWM) policy papers that will be presented to the National Economic Action Council on Aug 7.

The minister said a 'middle point' has been achieved between the government and private sector employers that is a win-win which is expected to greatly address the issue of slow wage growth in Malaysia.

"We have harmonised the various agencies' views on how we can do this. What we will be presenting next Monday is a halfway meeting which can be successfully implemented and practised in this country. It's a middle path that requires commitment from the government and employers. We are hopeful that it will get the support from the employers

as well,” he said at a press conference after officiating the launch of Statistics on Wages for the first quarter of this year (1Q2023), here, on Friday (Aug 4).

He added that PWM, with its unique solution, will also quell employers' concerns that an increase in salary would result in higher operating cost for business.

The minister further said he has also urged the government to consider setting aside a special allocation intended for wage increase of private sector employees.

“The government has only raised the wages of public sector workers all these while. But the private sector never got anything because there were no progressive policies in place to support wage growth. But this will need government’s approval and yearly allocation,” he said.