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**OUTGOING PRESIDENT**

# AZIH PROUD OF HIS CUEPACS LEGACY

**'I am a conservative leader with a radical view'**

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**P**UBLIC sector unionist Datuk Azih Muda has always described himself as a conservative leader with a radical view.

The outgoing Congress of the Unions of Employees in the Public and Civil Services (Cuepacs) president, however, believes that nothing can be achieved through force.

"I am a conservative leader, but on some occasions, my views can be radical.

"At the same time, I don't believe in taking things to the streets or using force, or *gertak* (threat), to get attention from the government.

"That is not the way.

"When you are leading a congress that is looking after the welfare of over a million people in the civil service, all you want to do is to ensure that we achieve the goal we seek.

"And the best way to achieve this is through the negotiation table, as well as by trying to create a win-win situation between the civil service and government," he told the *New Straits Times*.

After leading the congress for the past six years, Azih will not defend his post, which he was elected to for the first time in 2013, following his mandatory retirement from the public sector at the end of this year.

He was elected as president for the 2013-2016 term after he won the contest for the post during the congress's 26th triennial convention and retained it for the 2016-2019 term.

When asked on his greatest accomplishment, Azih described every action taken by the government to uplift the social economic well-being of congress members as his achievement.

"I am satisfied with the legacy I am leaving behind, in which people look up to Cuepacs.

"This is because when Cuepacs voiced our concern about certain issues, we did not do it in a tactless manner.

"There is a solid reasoning behind everything that we do," he said.

He urged the government to continue introducing initiatives to raise the livelihood of civil servants, especially those in the B40 and M40 categories, adding that it was them who contributed to the growth of the economy.

"These people are those who help stimulate the economy.

"These are the people who mostly visit wet markets operated by traders.


"So, it is important that this group continues to receive help from the government."

Five people are vying for the president's post for the 2019-2022 term at the congress' 28th triennial convention at the Shah Alam Convention Centre from today to Thursday.

The candidates are current secretary-general Adnan Mat, who is also the Amalgamated National Union of Local Authorities Employees deputy president; Universiti Putra Malaysia General Staff Union president Mohd Razali Singah; Peninsular Malaysia Malay Forestry Officers Union president Datuk Ahmad Shuffir Zakari; Peninsular Malaysia Customs Officers Union president Abdul Malik Mohamed Zin and Perak Water Board Union president Zainal Ismail.

Cuepacs is an umbrella body representing unions in the public sector.

It is made up of more than 100 public sector unions, representing some 1.2 million civil servants.



*Datuk Azih Muda*

DISEDIAKAN OLEH	1-MOHD SHA AFFANDI BIN MD ARIPI (N41), BPM 2-RAJA MUSFARIZAL BINTI RAJA MUHAMAD (S19), BPM UNIT PERKHIDMATAN MAKLUMAT, BPM
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