

30 October 2008

**PRESS STATEMENT
ON
DOCTORS' SERVICE COMMISSION**

The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) read with interest the statement made by the Health Minister on the Health Ministry's proposal to set up a doctors' service commission under the Ministry if the Public Service Commission (PSC) continues to delay the emplacement of young doctors at government hospitals nationwide.

The Health Minister also mentioned that the delay resulted from the PSC's insistence on having the doctors attend civic courses prior to their emplacement and the doctors have to wait for their turn to attend these courses.

Delay in emplacement could also be due to the delay in the doctors reporting themselves. This can be overcome by educating them to submit their application first (report themselves first) and plan when they would like to start working. This will ensure that their application being in process.

The MMA wishes to state that we fully support the Health Minister's suggestion to have a separate doctors' service commission under the Ministry so that the process of doctors' emplacement at hospitals can be hastened. These doctors can be sent for the courses after their emplacement in the hospitals. The country is facing shortage of doctors in government facilities and delay in emplacement of doctors should not occur. Furthermore, some good candidates have been lost to other country e.g. Singapore because they get their job faster there.

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