

Salary **boost** expected with GST

> But survey finds workplace environment not family-friendly

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PETALING JAYA: The salary increment of both executives and non-executives dropped this year compared with 2013, according to a survey by the Malaysian Employers Federation (MEF).

Executives' salaries for this year rose by 5.53%, compared with 6.31% last year, while non-executives' salaries this year rose by 5.43%, compared with 6.78% last year, the survey, which polled 53,435 respondents from 451 companies from the manufacturing and non-manufacturing sectors, showed.

However, private sector employees can look forward to a cheerful 2015, as the survey made a forecast that the salary increment next year will rise due to the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in April, said MEF president Tan Sri Azman Shah Haron at the launch of the survey

here yesterday.

"Close to 50% of the respondents say they will take GST into account when they review employees' salaries next year," he said.

At the event, MEF also launched two other survey reports – Survey Work-Life Balance Practices 2014 and Analysis of Collective Agreements and Awards on Terms and Conditions of Employment 2013.

He said the survey will be a useful guidelines for employers and policy makers to plan future family-friendly facilities at the workplace.

Azman said the survey showed most of the employers did not provide an adequate "family-friendly" environment in the workplace especially childcare centres.

He noted that most of the respondents said it is difficult to set up a childcare centre in the workplace.

Azman stressed that the challenges of setting up childcare centres in the workplace need to be addressed.

"These facilities are important as they have the capabilities to retain women employees," he added.