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GOVERNMENT ENCOURAGES USE OF NGV

Mahathir - NGV

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SEGAMAT, Dec 14 (Bernama) -- The government has agreed to fix the price of Natural Gas for Vehicles (NGV) at half the rate for petrol as an incentive to motorists, Prime Minister Datu Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

He said NGV was much safer and more efficient than petrol, apart from causing less air pollution.

Petronas would launch a programme soon to encourage the use of NGV as an alternative to petrol and diesel, he said when opening the Peninsular Gas Utilisation stage two here.

He said vehicles suitable for NGV included taxis, buses, commercial vehicles and fleet vehicles.

The government would also take steps to discourage the use of leaded petrol and stop the import of vehicles which could only use such fuel.

Johor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Mohyiddin Yassin, Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Syed Hamid Albar, International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Rafidah Aziz and Petronas Chairman Tan Sri Basir Ismail were present.-- more

▼14/12/13-39MST

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Mahathir - NGV 2 (last) Segamat

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir was happy that several oil companies, including Petronas, had taken initiatives to introduce unleaded petrol to motorists.

The government had reduced the excise duty on unleaded petrol from this year as a move to control pollution.

He said it was necessary to control air pollution in view of the rapid increase in the number of vehicles on the road, especially in major towns. For example, about 75 per cent of the new vehicles registered each year were based in the Klang Valley.

He said a joint-venture company had been set up to supply gas to houses and factories in an effort to increase the use of gas.

The move was aimed at providing alternative fuel to factories and domestic use as gas was found to be more environmentally friendly than fossil fuel.

He hoped that the industrial sector would cooperate with the government in this matter.--Bernama

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