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KOH THANKS FEDERAL GOVT AND TNB FOR EXTRA REBATE

PULAU PINANG, Oct 31 (Bernama) -- Chief Minister Tan Sri Dr Koh Tsu Koon today thanked Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, the Cabinet and Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) for agreeing to an additional 10 per cent rebate on electricity bills for Penang island consumers for the nine-day blackout from June 25 last year.

In a statement issued from Yokohama, Japan, where he is leading a trade and investment mission, he said the unprecedented goodwill gesture from TNB will boost the people's confidence in the utility company.

Dr Koh said he met Dr Mahathir on Monday morning to personally convey his appreciation on behalf of the people of Pulau Pinang after being informed on Oct 25 about the Cabinet decision.

He also spoke to TNB executive chairman Datuk Dr Ahmad Tajuddin Ali who assured him the TNB would continue to take concrete measures to upgrade the power transmission and distribution network in the state to ensure consistent supply.

Dr Koh also thanked Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Anwar Ibrahim, Primary Industries Minister Datuk Seri Dr Lim Keng Yaik and Energy, Telecommunications and Post Minister Datuk Leo Moggie for being supportive of his request for the rebate.

He said both TNB and the people of the state can now put behind them the unpleasant experience of the blackout and look forward positively to work together to ensure better power supply for the state.

In addition to the 10 per cent rebate for the 1995 blackout, Pulau Pinang consumers are also entitled to the 10 per cent rebate announced earlier for consumers in Peninsular Malaysia for the Aug 3 outage.

Consumers will receive the rebate in their December and January bills.

-- BERNAMA

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