

Kiosk operators seek Govt support on commission

Bt 23 OCT 2001

By **AZLAN** ABU BAKAR

PETROL station operators have sought the Government's support in their quest for a higher commission rate to allow them to achieve better earnings.

This is to cushion higher operating cost due to the 10 sen a litre increase in diesel and petrol prices.

They said a proposal for an increase in the commission rate of between five sen and six sen a litre has been submitted to the Government early this year but so far, there has yet to be a decision on the matter.

The Government had done studies on the commission rate and had informed the Treasury about the matter. The rate has not been reviewed for six years despite changes in the price of fuel.

A committee comprising officials from the industry, Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry and Finance Ministry has been formed to find the best solution for the matter.

The solution would then be presented to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad who is also the Finance Minister.

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said if the Government decided to allow the increment, it would mean a lower revenue from tax collections for the Government.

Muhyiddin said his ministry would continue to monitor any price increases of consumer products in the country as a result of the increase in the prices of petrol and diesel as announced under the Budget 2002.

He said this after launching Mesra Link, a one stop customer service centre that facilitate communication with customers, business partners and the public on all matters relating to Petronas Dagangan Bhd's business.

The centre operates 12 hours a day, from 7.30am to 7.30pm, and for six days, from Monday to Saturday including on public holidays.