

For rakyat, sultan buys RM750k plate number
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As the nation struggles to cope with a slew of price hikes, the Sultan of Johor has purchased a vehicle plate number for RM748,000.

However, Sultan Ibrahim Sultan Iskandar argues that it is the people who will benefit from the exorbitant purchase since the money will go back to them.

"The people will benefit from it. So the amount paid is small compared with the benefits that the people will reap," he was quoted as saying in a New Straits Times report.

The sultan said he had placed a bid for the number through the proper channel via the Road Transport Department.

"I was told that there was a number of interested bidders for 'W1N'. I do not mind paying for the number because I know that the amount paid will be channelled back to the rakyat.

"I am not the type who skips procedures to get things my way. It is the 'Johor-style' to pay for what we want because everyone should have a fair chance and like the saying goes, 'only the best man wins'," he added.

The report also featured a photograph of the sultan posing next to a Proton Suprima S, which is about RM80,000, affixed with the "W1N" plate number.

Previously, the sultan, who has a passion for cars, won the tender for the "WWW1" plate number for RM520,000. The matter generated widespread interest.

The government recently slashed subsidies to avert an economic downturn, which resulted in the escalation of prices.

Come April 2015, the government will also implement the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

However, the opposition insists that such measures can be avoided if the government plugs wastage and corruption.

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