

Govt Seeks Additional Operating Expenditure
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KUALA LUMPUR -- The government on Tuesday tabled a bill in the Dewan Rakyat seeking a supplementary allocation of about RM13 billion for operating expenditure this year.

Deputy Finance Minister Dr Awang Adek Hussin tabled the Supplementary Supply Bill 2011 for first reading.

The additional allocation raises the budget estimates for this year to RM176 billion.

The bill provides RM6 billion for the Finance Ministry, the highest single sum under the supplementary allocation, which is to meet payment of subsidy claims (of RM5.6 billion) on petroleum products for this year, meet payment of subsidy for exemption of monthly electricity bills for usage of RM20 and less (RM150 million), and meet the cost of conducting skills training programmes nationwide (RM100 million), among others.

The supplementary allocation is also to meet the guarantee on down payment for 'My First Home Scheme' (RM100 million) and the cost of skills and training programmes by the Multimedia Development Corporation for undergraduates (RM50 million).

A total of RM1.5 billion is allocated to the Ministry of Education while RM1 billion is allocated to the Ministry of Health.

Apart from that, an additional RM11.3 million is also required to finance maintenance works at Parliament House.

(Bernama)

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