

**Government Has Never Duped The People - Rais
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KOTA KINABALU, Jan 7 (Bernama) -- The government has never duped the people when implementing any aid programme, including the 1Malaysia People's Aid (BR1M) programme.

Rejecting claims by certain quarters that the government borrowed from the World Bank to finance BR1M, Information Communication and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Rais Yatim said the people were won through sincerity and truthfulness.

"As a senior member of the Cabinet, I urge them not to make baseless accusations. This is not good for the country if we are called 'lying politicians'.

"However, if the opposition wants to continue lying, it is up to them. We will not deceive, and we have not deceived the people whom we serve very faithfully," he told reporters during a visit to the Sabah Information Communication and Culture Ministry Complex here Saturday.

Rais said this when asked to comment on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak's statement yesterday, that the government was capable of implementing BR1M because the strong internal economy generated encouraging revenue.

Najib was also quoted as saying, the government did not borrow from the World Bank to finance the programme because Malaysia's internal economic strength from its efficient administration had boosted revenue by RM22 billion last year.

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