

DPM: M'sia's inflation control strategy one of world's best
TheStarOnline
April 27, 2012

KOTA KINABALU: Malaysia's inflation strategy does not burden the people and is one of the best in the world, says Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

While the country's inflation rate hovers at around 3%, rates in other countries can range from 10% to 100%, he said in his speech at a function with retired teachers at Grand Ballroom 1 Borneo, Likas near here Friday.

"The government has never raised prices of goods, the traders do that. Price rises occur everywhere, the world population has risen to seven billion but the food supply has not kept pace, so if demand exceeds supply, economic theory says prices are sure to go up," he said.

Muhyiddin said the government is continuously looking for ways to rein in inflation to lessen the burden on the people, citing the government's annual subsidies of RM457mil on sugar and RM2bil on diesel and petrol.

The deputy premier also slammed the opposition's claims that the Barisan Nasional (BN) government is irresponsible for letting vulnerable groups live in economic hardship.

"In reality, Malaysia is one of the few countries in the world that practises a price control system," he said, adding no group in Malaysia is neglected "as the BN government's policy is to see the people's welfare always taken care of.

"In Malaysia we have a rather wide-ranging social safety net programme, we have records on assistance given to the poor and very poor.

"In Malaysia also the majority of the people have received help to overcome their problems in life, as the BN approach is to take into consideration the needs and aspirations at all levels of society."

At the event, Muhyiddin announced an allocation of RM100,000 for the Sabah branch of the Association of Former Officers of the Malaysian Education Service.

Chief Minister Datuk Seri Musa Aman had earlier announced an annual allocation of RM50,000 for the association in appreciation of its members' contributions to education in the state.

Copyright © 1995-2012 Star Publications (M) Bhd

Source:

<http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2012/4/27/nation/20120427221633&sec=nation>