

Household buying power continues to increase, says government
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By Ida Lim

KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 2 — The nation's household buying power has continued to increase, Datuk S.K. Devamany said in Parliament today.

He said this was reflected by household income rising at a greater rate compared to the inflation rate.

"The rate of rising household income, this average, is higher than the inflation rate of 3.4 per cent annually," said the deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Department.

The country's average gross household income had increased from RM264 per month in 1970 to RM4,025 per month in 2009, said the Cameron Highlands MP.

He said he based his figures on the government's study of the nation's household income that first begun in 1970 and was last carried out in 2009.

He was replying to a question by Sri Gading MP Datuk Mohamed Aziz who wanted to know the growth rate of household income of Malaysians.

To a supplementary question by Kepong MP Dr Tan Seng Giaw on how the welfare of Malaysians could be uplifted, Devamany said: "Deep in your heart, you know we are doing our best to help the poor."

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