

**Budget 2016 Offers Good Provisions For The People**  
**Bernama**  
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 23 (Bernama) -- Members of the public see the Budget 2016 tabled by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak today as meeting the needs and wishes of the people.

A Bernama check found that in general, the public was satisfied with the budget which gave them some relief to counter the increasing cost of living.

For civil servant Ahmad Faisal Mohamed Fiah, 35, the increased amount of the 1Malaysia People's Aid (BR1M) next year should be applauded as it eased the burden of purchasing basic amenities.

"It is proof of the government's seriousness in helping the people meet their needs in today's challenging times," he said.

He said the continued provision of affordable homes was the appropriate action in response to the restlessness of the people, especially youths, who want to own homes.

According to trader Hanan Mansor, 24, the increased BR1M would help the people in urban or rural areas.

"For individuals like me, with an average income and responsibilities, the increase in BR1M would help me somewhat to pay for rent and petrol," he said.

Private sector employee Anne Abdullah, 26, said the government's efforts to improve public transportation was an attractive alternative for the people following the increase in toll rates and fluctuating petrol prices.

"With this, I hope public transport would improve through time management, infrastructure and technical aspects so that the system in our country is equal to that in developed countries," she said.

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia medical student, Nurul Ain Saari, 23, said students would definitely benefit from the 1Malaysia Book Voucher (BB1M) of RM250 to buy reference books which are expensive.

"I hope the government will ensure there is no abuse by irresponsible parties," he said.

In the Budget 2016, the government allocated RM836 million for the Public Housing Programme under the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to build 22,300 units of affordable apartments and 9,800 units of terrace houses.

With the BR1M, the amount given to household with income of RM3,000 and less was

increased from RM950 to RM1,000 while for household with income between RM3,001 and RM4,000, BR1M has been increased from RM750 to RM800.

In the public transport sector, the government announced the implementation of two Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) projects next year - the BRT Kuala Lumpur-Klang with a cost of more than RM1.5 billion and the BRT Kota Kinabalu with a cost of almost RM1 billion.

Meanwhile, the BB1M vouchers will be continued with RM250 given to 1.2 million students to be used at recognised book shops.

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