

### **Poverty line to be revised, expected to be amended in 1Q23**

KUALA LUMPUR (March 7): The country's poverty line (PGK) will be revised and expected to be amended in the first quarter of next year (1Q23), the Dewan Rakyat was told on Monday (March 7).

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department (Economy) Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed said the **Department of Statistics Malaysia** will review the poverty rate in the PGK used currently, which is RM2,208 for households and RM1,169 per household for the hardcore poor.

"This figure will be reviewed and is expected to be amended in the first quarter of next year," he said during a question-and-answer session in the Dewan Rakyat on Monday.

The Malaysian Rubber Council (MRC) is targeting new markets this year, which include Middle East and African countries, to showcase high-quality local rubber products, says CEO Nor Hizwan Ahmad.

He said the government, under implementation of the 12th Malaysia Plan, is highly committed to eradicating the hardcore poor with an average income of RM1,169 per household through a holistic and comprehensive approach.

The country's poverty rate, he said, had also changed significantly over the past five decades as influenced by the overall economic growth rate, which was encouraging during that period, and also with the New Economic Policy.

"However, the country is still facing several issues and challenges, with the poor still existing in urban and rural areas as well as in Orang Asli areas.

"Besides that, the issue of low salaries and wages, as well as inequality of development between regions and states, urban and rural areas still exists, apart from the spread of Covid-19 which also has a big impact on household income," he added.

He was responding to a question from Tan Kok Wai (Pakatan Harapan-Cheras) on poverty in urban and rural areas, the income gap in the country, as well as the achievements and failures of programmes planned and implemented by the government to create a more equitable society.

<https://www.theedgemarkets.com/article/poverty-line-be-revised-expected-be-amended-1q23>