

Producer Price Index contracts to negative 1.8% in August

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia's Producer Price Index, which measures the prices of goods at the factory gate, contracted to negative 1.8% in August 2023 as against negative 2.3% in July 2023, the Department of Statistics Malaysia reported yesterday.

Chief Statistician Malaysia Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin commented that the decline was contributed by the mining sector, which decreased by negative 3.8% (July 2023: -10.8%), with the extraction of crude petroleum index posting a negative 6.5% in August 2023.

At the same time, the manufacturing

sector decreased by negative 2.3%, affected by the drop in manufacture of coke & refined petroleum products (-13.4%) and manufacture of food products (-7.6%) indices. The electricity & gas supply sector also recorded a decline of 0.1% (July 2023: 0.1%). On the other hand, the agriculture, forestry & fishing sector increased by 2.9% supported by the index of animal production (6%) and growing of perennial crops (2%). The water supply sector also rose 2.5% in August 2023.

On a monthly basis, Mohd Uzir said, PPI local production went up by 0.3% in August 2023 (July 2023: 0.2%). The mining sector

increased by 3.9% owing to the extraction of crude petroleum (5%) and extraction of natural gas (0.7%) indices.

The agriculture, forestry & fishing sector edged up by 1.9% with the index of growing of perennial crops posting an increase of 5%. The water supply sector also recorded an increase of 0.2% in this month. Meanwhile, the manufacturing sector decreased by negative 0.2%, attributed to manufacture of refined petroleum products (-1.2%) and manufacture of vegetable & animal oils & fats (-1.2%) indices. The electricity & gas supply sector also declined by negative 0.1%.