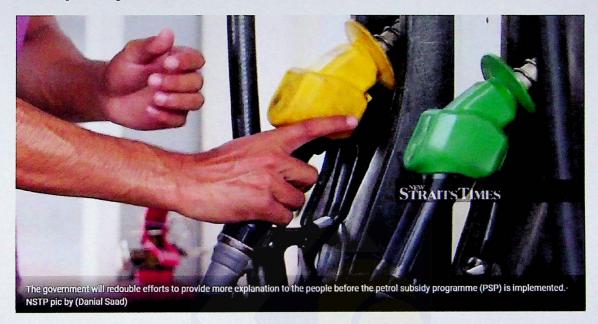
STRAITS TIMES

Nothing wrong with PSP; ministry to explain more on new policy



By Audrey Dermawan December 30, 2019 @ 7:03pm

BUKIT MERTAJAM: The government will redouble efforts to provide more explanation to the people before the petrol subsidy programme (PSP) is implemented.

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail said they would continue to do so until the cabinet is satisfied that the people have fully grasped the government policy.

He said until such a time, everything would remain status quo — the people would continue to enjoy petrol price based on the current system.

Saifuddin also stressed that there was nothing wrong with the PSP.

"Since the cabinet felt that more explanation should be given for better understanding and preparation of the PSP implementation, we will continue to do just that. However, it is not only the responsibility of the ministry alone but the whole of the government's information machinery.

"People still have a misconception. Take for example when we announced that petrol prices will increase one sen every week from next year. They immediately equate it with 52 sen increase in a year, which is not the case at all.

"So, we will continue to engage with the people until they fully comprehend this good policy of the government. This is to ensure that there will be no issues when it is finally implemented.

"For now, the timeline remains open-ended," he said after the 'Back to School' programme at Mydin Hypermarket here today.

Earlier today, Saifuddin, in a statement, announced that the government was postponing the PSP to allow the Finance Ministry to fine tune its implementation mechanisms.