

No fuel subsidies for East Malaysia as consumption is lower than in peninsula: Saifuddin

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KUALA LUMPUR: Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Saifuddin Nasution Ismail (*pix*) says vehicle owners in East Malaysia will not receive petrol subsidies as consumption in Sabah and Sarawak is relatively lower than in the peninsula.

However, he said the price of RON95 petrol in the two states will be capped at RM2.08 per litre.

He also reiterated that the subsidy programme is meant to benefit those in the lower income group.

"If you're driving a luxury car, one full tank of petrol might cost you around RM200, while a low-income earner may spend about RM60 to fill up his car.

"We can see who gets more subsidy from this comparison itself," he told reporters at the Parliament lobby yesterday.

The new targeted fuel subsidy will be for the B40 segment of society who are also recipients of Bantuan Sara Hidup.

The subsidy, which will be implemented on Jan 1, will be capped at RM30 per month for cars and RM12 per month for motorcycles, and will be credited directly to the recipients' bank accounts every four months.

For cars, individuals who only own one car below 1,600 cc in engine capacity can apply for the subsidy and also those who own similar engine capacity cars and above that are over 10 years old..

As for motorcycles, the subsidy is only given to those with engines of 150 cc and below, or bikes that are seven years old or more that are above 150cc.