

6pc dividend for Tabung Haji depositors

NANCY NAIS

PUTRAJAYA: Tabung Haji yesterday announced a six per cent dividend for last year, with a total payout of RM1.67 billion, an increase of 25 per cent against RM1.33 billion in 2010.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom said 6.9 million depositors nationwide would receive their dividends on Wednesday.

"Last year's dividend was 0.5 per cent higher than the 2010 rate, which was 5.5 per cent.

"The higher dividend was due to the fund's better financial performance in 2011," Jamil said at a gathering of several government agencies, which come under the Prime Minister's Department.

"The dividend rate for Tabung Haji is competitive, taking into account the profile of Tabung Haji's investments which are limited to syariah-compliant investments."

He said if a comparison was made between the rate of returns of commercial banks for fixed deposits or savings, it was obvious that Tabung Haji's returns were much better.

In the same period, he said Tabung Haji recorded revenues of more than RM2.2 billion, six per cent higher compared with RM2.06 billion in 2010.

The main sources of income for Tabung Haji last year were derived from investments

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58pc income from equities

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in equities, which accounted for 58 per cent, profits from dividend income (25 per cent) and shares (33 per cent).

The second largest contribution came from investments in debt securities, mainly Islamic bonds, which contributed 15 per cent.

Tabung Haji also recorded RM44 million in business zakat payments last year. This was against RM41 million recorded in 2010.

Depositors would continue to enjoy good returns, he said.