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Tabung Haji declares highest bonus

KUALALUMPUR: Lembaga Tabung Haji yesterday announced a Golden Jubilee bonus comprising 6.5% annual bonus and 1.5% special bonus for the financial year ended Dec 31, 2012 (FY12).

The payment, the highest since its inception 50 years ago, amounted to RM2.46 billion, comprising RM2.13 billion annual bonus and RM325 million special bonus.

Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Jamil Khir Baharom said the payment of RM2.46 billion was arrived at after deducting RM47 million for the payment of zakat.

"This is the best anniversary reward from Tabung Haji in appreciation of the loyalty of the depositors who have faith in saving with the fund," he told reporters after the announcement of the bonus yesterday.

He said Tabung Haji's financial

position is positive and strong and the reserves accumulated over the last seven years had enabled the pilgrimage fund to give depositors the special reward. For FY11, Tabung Haji declared an annual bonus of 6%.

Jamil Khir said Tabung Haji has recorded earnings of over RM2 billion for the past three years since 2010 and the net profit for the first time exceeded RM2 billion, after recording about RM1 billion annually for the past five years since 2007.

"Profit after zakat and taxes exceeded RM2.1 billion for the first time compared with RM1.7 billion in 2011, an increase of 27%. This represented over three-fold increase over 2006," he said.

This has resulted in value creation of RM9.2 billion for the depositors' fund since 2006, he said.

The number of depositors has

increased to 8.2 million and the accumulated fund has grown to RM35.8 billion, up 17% and 13% compared with seven million depositors and RM31.7 billion in accumulated funds in 2011, he said.

Jamil Khir said Tabung Haji's total investment assets in 2012 recorded a 22% increase to RM38.4 billion from RM31.4 billion in 2011. This positive development was due to tactical investment allocations and consistent funding from depositors, he said.

In 2012, he said, Tabung Haji earned RM1.7 billion from investment in shares, of which RM1.2 billion was from trading in shares and RM530 million from dividends.

"The second biggest contributor was investment in debt securities like Islamic bonds which contributed RM516 million," he said.

— *Bernama*