

SUBSIDIES: Show MyKad when buying petrol

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There is need for a system to monitor and prevent the wasteful dispersal of subsidies. - NSTP/SYARAFIQ ABD SAMAD

THERE is need to re-evaluate the fuel subsidy scheme. A system to monitor and prevent the wasteful dispersal of subsidies is long overdue.

Customers at petrol stations should be required to show their MyKad before being allowed to buy fuel.

This will help fuel station workers save time and energy.

Now, let's go into the mechanics of how this subsidised petrol refund may work.

Malaysians may offset their yearly tax bill by claiming their subsidy using the Inland Revenue Board's e-Filing system.

This would guarantee that only citizens get aid.

Using an electronic wallet system might be an effective way to repay drivers for the government's portion of the cost of petrol, building on the government's commitment to provide everyone over 21 with RM100 credit.

Those earning below the minimum legally required may find this information useful.

Institutions of higher learning and schools might coordinate payments for students younger than 21.

One option is to provide petrol coupons to ensure that young people also receive the benefit.

However, improving Malaysia's Internet connection is essential, ensuring that all areas of the country have access to the Net.

This is to ensure petrol stations have access to MyKad data for verification.

Malaysians are not required to show their MyKad at petrol stations if they wish to forgo reimbursement.

It should be clear that managing subsidised goods is easier with a well-structured system in place.

This strategy, based on the ideas of the now-defunct Goods and Services Tax, can be applied to other subsidised commodities.

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The views expressed in this article are the author's own and do not necessarily reflect those of the New Straits Times

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