

DIVIDEND/BONUS

Armed Forces Fund Board declares 12pc payout

KUALA LUMPUR: The Armed Forces Fund Board (LTAT) will pay out a 12 per cent dividend and bonus for the financial year ending Dec 31, 2016 (FY16).

Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said this would involve a sum of RM685.5 million.

He said the payout comprised a six per cent dividend and a six per cent special bonus in the form of unit trusts for LTAT's active members.

"I am pleased with the results and performance achieved by LTAT for FY16 and hope this performance will be sustained and improved for the coming years to ensure the welfare of serving members and retired members of the armed forces is protected."

He said the rate declared was higher than the average yearly dividend and bonus of 11.3 per cent since LTAT's was set up 44 years ago.

The dividends and bonuses of contributing members would be credited into their accounts starting today, he said.

He said LTAT's unaudited total profit rose 5.8 per cent to RM811 million in FY16 from RM766.8 million in FY15.

For the year under review, the fund's total assets increased 2.2 per cent to RM9.5 billion from RM9.3 billion in the previous year, while members' contributions stood at RM8.6 billion compared with RM9.1 billion previously.

On LTAT's performance, Hishammuddin said the fund had provided payouts, incentives and contributions to its members.

"For last year, LTAT has processed 11,179 withdrawal applications from members upon completion of their service with the armed forces amounting to RM1.7 billion.

"In addition, RM15.9 million was paid out to 1,952 members, who are eligible to purchase a house or land under the Housing Withdrawal Scheme."

He said a total of RM7.5 million was paid out to 225 members or next of kin under the Death and Disability Benefits Scheme. From the total, RM5.7 million was paid out to 170 dependants of deceased members as death benefits and a total of RM1.8 million was paid out to 55 members as disability benefits.