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TH to maintain haj pilgrimage subsidy

by SHAHEERA AZNAM SHAH

LEMBAGA Tabung Haji (TH) will continue to subsidise pilgrimage cost for Malaysians performing haj this year, with an estimated subsidy of RM400 million.

Minister in Prime Minister's Department Datuk Seri Dr Mujahid Yusof Rawa said the subsidy will cover first-time pilgrims and those who

succeeded in their appeal to perform haj this year.

"I have discussed with TH on the misleading information about subsidy for haj as the matter has not been confirmed.

"The TH board of directors has reached a conclusion to maintain the current subsidies for all first-time haj pilgrims, including those who made an appeal to perform

haj this year," Mujahid said in a statement yesterday.

In a separate statement, TH said the decision was made after considering various aspects, including TH's current financial stability and prospects in 2019.

Speculations were rife earlier this month on the abolishment of the pilgrimage subsidy, which will refuse thousands of Malaysian Mus-

lims the subsidy enjoyed for decades.

Previously, Mujahid said the cost for first-time pilgrims would remain at RM9,980 per person, while the government would subsidise a total of RM12,920 per person.

He added that the cost for each pilgrim has increased to RM22,900 in 2019, compared to RM22,450 last year.



Mujahid says the cost for each pilgrim has increased to RM22,900 in 2019