

# Praises for EPF's performance

**LAUDED:** Agency's 6.75pc dividend payout reflects its shrewd investments

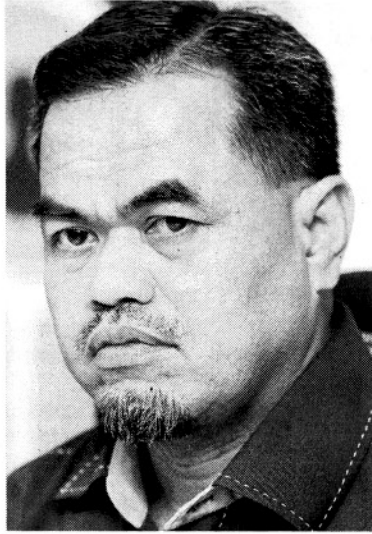
**FAIRUZ MOHD SHAHAR  
AND C. PREMANANTHINI**  
KUALA LUMPUR  
news@nst.com.my

**T**HE 6.75 per cent dividend rate declared by the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) showed that the agency was capable of making shrewd investments which ensure high returns for contributors.

Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations deputy president Mohd Yusof Abdul Rahman hoped EPF would maintain its performance and continue to make profitable investments.

"This development showcases EPF's achievement in making investments which result in high returns.

"With this rate, it could ease the burden of the employees after their



*Mohd Yusof Abdul Rahman hopes EPF will continue to make profitable investments*

retirement.

"There have been issues when the pensioners have difficulty in covering their living costs due to insufficient retirement savings.

"We hope that the dividend rate will help boost the employees' savings and can be sustained over the next 10 to 15 years after their re-



*Datuk Shamsuddin Bardan says the higher dividend payout is good news for EPF contributors*

tirement," he said.

Malaysian Trades Union Congress deputy president Mohd Jaafar Majid said if EPF continued to manage its investments prudently and with integrity, the returns could be expected to improve further.

"Despite the increase in the dividend rate, the employees should al-



*Mohd Jaafar Majid advises employees to manage their finances wisely*

so manage their finances wisely, before and after their retirement.

"With the drop in the oil prices and ringgit, we should be cautious about the rate decreasing in the future," he said.

Malaysian Employers Federation executive director Datuk Shamsuddin Bardan said the dividend payout

was good news for all EPF contributors.

"Although the 6.75 per cent dividend showed positive development, they could have done better if the dividends were in the double digits.

"This will definitely help members when withdrawing their dividends as they are entitled to a higher investment return.

"If they continue to perform and invest well this year, hopefully, the payout will be even better next year," he said.

Meanwhile, independent macro-analyst Prof Dr Hoo Ke Ping said EPF had performed admirably despite the economic challenges.

"EPF has surpassed its standards and showed that they have been very prudent with their strategies despite the economic challenges.

"However, they should slow down buying and sell more of their shares. Nevertheless, it was a good announcement for EPF members.

"If they continue with the consistency in application of policies and good management, they can look forward to maximising their returns even higher this year," he said.