

Business Times

NEW STRAITS TIMES
FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2006

Half of THP profit for dividend payment

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TH Plantations Bhd (THP) will allocate at least half of its net profit for payment as dividend to shareholders.

For the year to December 31 2006, managing director Datuk Rashidi Che Omar said the company forecast a minimum gross dividend payout of 8 sen. THP will soon be listed on Bursa Malaysia's main board most likely on April 27.

It has forecast a net profit of RM30.83 million this year, but is confident of surpassing the target since the forecast was based on a lower price of crude palm oil (CPO). "We expect higher profit margin than what we have forecast as the current

price of CPO is RM1,450 and we think it would not drop below RM1,400," he said.

Another positive factor is increasing demand for CPO, Rashidi told reporters after the launch of THP's prospectus in Kuala Lumpur yesterday by Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Abdullah Md Zin.

THP is the first subsidiary of Lembaga Tabung Haji to go public, offering 74.515 million shares at RM1.25 each.

Proceeds from the sale of about RM93.15 million will be ploughed back to Lembaga Tabung Haji for investments.

Rashidi said THP wants to expand its landbank in Terengganu, Sabah and Sarawak through direct acquisitions.