THE STAR 7 APRIL 2016 (KHAMIS) (m/s 43)

Why were the PTPTN discounts stopped?

IT was announced by the Government before the last general election that special discounts would be given to PTPTN borrowers who settled their loans early. I believe the move at that time was in response to the Opposition's promise to cancel all loans if it came to power.

I know children of friends who

I know children of friends who started settling their loans quickly and parents, especially those who had many kids studying in colleges, really benefitted from these discounts. But when I went to PIPIN to settle my child's loan last month, I was shocked when the officer told me they had stopped the discount and that it would not make much difference even if I paid up 10 was safe.

years early.

I think this is absolutely unfair and does not encourage borrowers to repay early. I am sure this has discouraged many people

from repaying their loans early.
What is the rationale behind
this sudden decision and why was
it not announced to the public?

Is it right for the Government to backtrack on the promise they made to the voters before the election?

Such promises, which affect millions of Malaysians directly or indirectly, must be kept. I hope the Government will reconsider this decision.

DISAPPOINTED



"WHY WERE THE PTPTN DISCOUNTS STOPPED?"

We refer to "Why Were The PTPTN Discounts Stopped?" by Disappointed, Puchong in The Star dated 7 April 2016.

Special discounts were given to PTPTN borrowers for certain period as incentives in 2013 and 2015 budget announcement.

However, there are still several other benefits given and available to PTPTN borrowers. Under the current policy, PTPTN borrowers who obtain Bachelor Degree with First Class Honours are eligible for loan repayment exemption. To encourage borrowers making the repayment earlier, 1% Ujrah will be waived if their loan fully settled within six (6) month after graduation. Borrowers who settled their loan earlier than the stipulated period will also get benefit in which the Ujrah charged will be lesser.

Further information on loan repayment, please do not hesitate to contact the Public Relations Department at 03 - 2193 1059/ 1064 or PTPTN hotline at 03 - 2080 4455.

Thank you.

Rina Abd Rahman

Public Relation Officer National Higher Education Fund Corporation