

Provided for client's internal research purposes only. May not be further copied, distributed, sold or published in any form without the prior consent of the copyright owner.



**The New Straits Times, Malaysia**  
04 Nov 2014, by ZAIDI ISHAM ISMAIL

Business & Finance, page 1 - 165.00 cm<sup>2</sup>  
Malaysia - English Newspapers - circulation 101,408 (MTWTFS)

ID 335586090

BRIEF FELDA

INDEX 1

PAGE 1 of 1

# MSM sees sweet 2015

**UPBEAT MOOD:** FGV unit expects record profit on back of favourable raw sugar prices

**ZAIDI ISHAM ISMAIL**

**M**SM Malaysia Holdings Bhd is set to register a record performance in 2015, riding on favourable international raw sugar prices.

MSM president and group chief executive officer Datuk Dr Sheikh Awab Sheikh Abod said the company's earnings and profitability next year could be its highest ever.

"If raw sugar prices stay at this level and our trading company kicks off in Dubai by year-end, our earnings next year will be our highest ever."

Raw sugar is currently trading at US\$0.17 per pound at the New York Mercantile Exchange and it is expected to rise to as high as US\$0.25 next year due to strong global demand

and erratic weather patterns.

"We will also maintain our dividend policy of paying 50 per cent of net profit to shareholders," Sheik Awab said in an interview recently.

MSM, the sugar arm of Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd and the country's largest refined sugar producer, will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this month.

The company buys raw sugar from Brazil, South Africa and Australia and exports refined

sugar and other sugar-related products to more than 10 countries.

MSM, which commands more than 60 per cent of the local sugar market, operates two sugar refineries through subsidiaries Malayan Sugar Manufacturing Co Bhd in Prai, Penang, and Kilang Gula Perlis Sdn Bhd in Chuping, Perlis.

It employs more than 1,000 workers and has a capacity of 1.2 million tonnes a year.

MSM is in the midst of finalising plans to build its third refinery in Pasir Gudang, Johor, in a joint venture with United Arab Emirates' Al-Khaleej Group International Ltd.

