



MSM, gov't in talks to increase sugar price a further 29 sen



MSM Malaysia Holdings Bhd is still in talks with the government to increase local sugar price by a further 29 sen per kg to ensure the company's profitability this year.

Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd (FGV) Group president and CEO Zakaria Arshad said the volatility in raw sugar prices, coupled with the ringgit performance, had made this year a very challenging year.

"Given the volatility in raw sugar prices, the government should increase the selling price by 40 sen per kg," he told reporters after MSN Malaysia's annual general meeting in Kuala Lumpur today.

MSM, a 51-percent owned unit of FGV, is Malaysia's leading refined sugar producer.

The government had increased the local sugar price by 11 sen per kg to RM2.95 per kg on Mac 1, 2017, although MSM had asked for a 40 sen increase earlier.

"We are still in talks with the government to have the 29 sen per kg that we are supposed to get, but we also know that the government has its difficulty on that.