

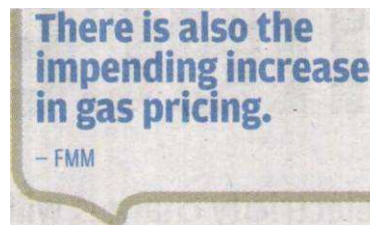
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FMM urges Govt to reconsider tariff hike

PETALING JAYA: The Federation of Malaysian Manufacturers (FMM) has called on the Government to reconsider the move by Tenaga Nasional to increase electricity tariff.

In a statement, FMM said it was disappointed with the "huge" 16.85% increase in tariff for the industrial category, as well as the one-month's notice ahead of the Jan 1, 2014 implementation date.



While it understood the need to rationalise subsidies and increase energy tariff rates, FMM said the double digit hike would impose further difficulties on the industry in the wake of the implementation of minimum wage and retirement age policies.

"There is also the impending increase in gas pricing, along with various other proposals in the pipeline, such as unemployment insurance, environmental cess and increase in FIT (Feed-in Tariff) contributions," it said, adding that these matters would significantly increase the cost of doing business.