

Small logistic companies feeling the diesel pinch

BY [TEH ENG HOCK](#)

KLANG: Small logistics companies here are finding it tough to get diesel, despite the announcement of an additional quota of 25 million litres.

Tee Boon Hock, who runs a logistics company with eight lorries, said the problem persisted especially at the beginning and at the end of the month over the past six months.

“The drivers waste up to 45 minutes waiting to fill up their lorries,” he said.

The Government announced on Tuesday that an additional quota of 25 million litres of diesel had been approved for the festive season.

A check by *The Star* in Pandamaran showed that a couple of petrol stations had run out of diesel, while at another, there was a queue of 10 lorries at the diesel pump.

Association of Malaysian Hauliers president Datuk Che Azizuddin Che Ismail said the long queue for diesel was normal as Hari Raya approaches.

“You should plan your time better to avoid the queue. For example, you can arrange with the petrol operator to allow you to fill up at midnight.

“We have 7,000 trucks and can you imagine if everyone goes to the pump at 8am?” he said.

Che Azizuddin said most of his members also have their own skid tanks and were not affected by the queue.

“The smaller companies don’t have skid tanks, so they are fully dependent on petrol stations,” he said.

On whether the cost of transportation and logistics would go up, Che Azizuddin said it depends on market forces.

“We have done away with fixed pricing. Today, it is a free market,” he said.

Many areas have also reported diesel shortage in the last few days.

Source: <http://www.thestar.com.my/News/Nation/2013/08/02/Small-logistic-companies-feeling-the-diesel-pinch/>
