

Taspen Pays The Former Vice President's Pension



Jakarta - Drs. H. Muhammad Jusuf Kalla, Indonesian Vice President on the period of 2004-2009, receives first pension and Old Age Saving (THT) payment for state officials, counted since 1 November 2009. This payment is delivered by Taspen President Director Agus Haryanto accompanied by Head of Taspen Jakarta Primary Branch Office Dasrizal and the Deputy, Netty Dwi Riyatun.

According to Dasrizal, besides receiving first pension and THT, Kalla also receives pension back pay for 4 months. This monthly pension then will be paid through Bank Mandiri account. For this proactive payment, Jusuf Kalla is thankful Taspen. "Thank you for giving the best service on pension and THT payment," said Kalla, who was born in Wattampone, South Sulawesi, 68 years ago.

Jusuf Kalla's career in government field was started when officially sat as minister on the era of President Abdurrahman Wahid. Then once again he officially appointed as Minister of People's Welfare Coordinator in the era of President Megawati Soekarnoputri (the fifth Indonesia President). Nevertheless, his career in organization and politic has been started in his college. Kalla ever sat as General Chairman of HMI and KAMI Ujung Pandang, also as Senate Chairman, Faculty of Economics of Hasanuddin University. He also sat as General Chairman of Golkar Party replacing Akbar Tandjung (2004-2009). With the chosen of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono as the sixth Indonesia President, Jusuf Kalla then became the tenth Indonesia Vice President. Together with Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, both of them became the first President and Vice President of Republic of Indonesia who directly chosen by the people.

Before actively join in politic, Jusuf Kalla was an entrepreneur using the flag of "Kalla Group" covering business in various webs in some business fields. NV Hajj Kalla Trading Company is one of his family businesses which is able to stay until its second generation.

Kalla 's father started his business by opening textile company in Bone City, South Sulawesi. Moved to Ujung Pandang, he established seven firms along with nationalization of foreign companies. That's their first activity in import-export business. Kalla was fully started handling his father business in 1967. He developed the retail business, while handling food and clothing. Export was revived, with transportation business as its basis, and 10 buses as first capital.

In 1977, Kalla started his car sales business. Incidentally, on that moment the Office of South Sulawesi Governor needed some vehicles. The Embassy of Japan which has been contacted, explained that he could do car import business in the minimum amount of five cars. When PT Astra was pointed as distributor of Toyota car in Indonesia, NV Hajj Kalla became the agent for Sulawesi. Until now, the company has almost monopolized the car trading in eat part of Indonesia. **(RS)**