

10 items under festive price control

Published on: Friday, May 22, 2020

By: Ottey Peter, Lagatah Toyos, Ahmad Apong



Abas showing the price of eggs to Poon, which is under the Festive Season Maximum Price Control Scheme.

KOTA KINABALU: The Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry has listed 10 items under the Festive Season Maximum Price Control scheme for the coming Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebration.

It would be enforced for 15 days from May 20 to June 3 and the items include live chicken, standard chicken, super chicken, chicken eggs grade A, B and C. Other items are imported buffalo meat, local beef, a whole coconut and grated coconut.

The Festive Season Maximum Price Control for Pesta Kaamatan 2020 would be enforced from May 28 until June 3 or seven days. KPDNHEP has listed 11 items under the scheme, including chicken wings, pork lean and fat, and pork belly. State Health and People's Wellbeing Minister Datuk Frankie Poon said notices would

be issued under Section 21 of the Price Control and Anti-Profitteering Act 2011 on any trader who hikes the prices of goods. .

"Traders could be fined up to RM100,000 and imprisonment of not more than three years or both. Individuals could also be compounded with up to RM50,000, while companies could be fined up to RM500,000 or compounded up to RM250,000.

"Traders could also be fined up to RM10,000 or compounded up to RM5,000 for not displaying pink price tags, while companies could be fined up to RM20,000 or compounded RM10,000." he said, when launching the 2020 Hari Raya Aidilfitri and Pesta Kaamatan Festive Season Maximum Price Control at Bataras Kolombong, Thursday.

He said KPDNHEP Sabah recorded 56 cases under the scheme last year, with seizures worth RM4,434.90.

The cases were related to offences under the Price Control and Anti-Profitteering Act 2011 such as failing to put up a price tag and no pink price tag was displayed on items. "A total of RM7,800 compound were issued for all the cases," he said. Also present was KPDNHEP Sabah Chief Enforcement Officer Taha Julai.

In SEMPORNA, 32 trade-related offences were detected and action taken during the branch's inspections on 1,658 business premises since January.

KPDNHEP Semporna Branch Chief, Arsanti Abd Rasid, said 12 were related to offences under the Price Control and Anti-Profitteering Act 2011, while under the Control of Supplies Act 1961 (11) and the Weights and Measures Act 1972 (9).

A total of RM13,500 compounds were issued for all the cases, she said.

Arsanti said that since the enforcement of the Movement Control Order (MCO) in March, they have not received any complaints on online fraud cases regarding the sale of face mask and antiseptic.

She also assured that there was enough essential food supply ahead of the Aidilfitri celebrations, adding that the KPDNHEP has been constantly monitoring the food supply throughout the festive season.

"The goods' prices are also stable. KPDNHEP will inspect all the premises not only at supermarket but also at the villages. This includes the supply of sugar, cooking oil, flour, poultry and meat," he said.

"I urge consumers to report to KPDNHEP in the event of any shortage of supply in the market. KPDNHEP takes this matter seriously and warns all traders to comply with the law.

"We will take action against any unlawful party, including imposing high compound," she said.

In BEAUFORT, KPDNHEP branch Chief Fikri Lai said in a statement, Wednesday, among goods being monitored by KPDNHEP are standard chicken priced at RM9.50 per kg, imported buffalo meat (RM21), a piece of grade A egg (RM0.41), while grade B egg (RM0.40) and grade C egg (RM0.39).

A coconut should not be sold for more than RM1.50 a piece while grated coconut priced at RM5 per kg, he said.

"If consumers find that the price change is higher than the price set, they should immediately complaint to KPDNHEP," he said.

Fikri said KPDNHEP said that they will take immediate action against traders who fail to comply with the regulation.

Currently, he said KPDNHEP Enforcement officers are busy conducting inspections in Beaufort, Sipitang, Kuala Penyu, Membakut and Weston.

He also urged consumers to also be careful and only buy items that had a price tag.

“For any inquiries or complaint, please contact us or come directly to KPDNHEP office. Consumers need not worry as their identity will not be disclosed and KPDNHEP will not hesitate to take strict action against traders who fail to comply with the government regulations.”

<http://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/153192/10-items-under-festive-price-control/>

<http://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/153232/bekalan-ayam-cukup-sepanjang-perayaan/> (Edisi Bahasa Melayu)

