

## 12 more items under festive price control

Published on: Saturday, May 23, 2020



**KOTA KINABALU:** The State Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry (KPDNHEP) has added 12 items to the Festive Season Maximum Price Control Scheme (SHMMP) for the coming Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebration.

This brings the total to 22 controlled items under the scheme.

KPDNHEP, in a statement Friday, said the added items are (1) tomatoes, (2) imported round cabbage (Indonesia and China, except Beijing cabbage), (3) red chili, (4) green bell pepper, (5) China onions, (6) Holland onions, (7) imported potatoes (China), (8) dried chili, (9) imported ground nuts, (10) ikan kembung (including ikan mabung), (11) ikan selayang and (12) ikan demuduk, sagai, cermin or cupak.

The controlled price on these additional items will be enforced from May 22 to June 3.

KPDNHEP will also enforce the same scheme for the coming Harvest Festival celebration, beginning May 28 until June 3.

"The increase of these items is at the request of the consumers as they are the main choices during the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO).

"The two coming festive seasons are taking place during the CMCO period. Prices are expected to be regulated by wholesale and retail ceiling prices, especially in wet markets and small hawkers, which are the focus of consumer spending during the festive season," said KPDNHEP.

The ministry had initially listed 10 items as controlled goods, which are live chicken, standard chicken, super chicken, chicken eggs grade A, B and C, imported buffalo meat, local beef, whole coconuts and grated coconuts.

It added that the pricing of selected goods was made in accordance with current prices and takes into account the factors of price change, particularly for imported goods that are influenced by prices from its country of origin, currency exchange rates and rising operating costs.

"Traders must adhere to the instructions and apply ethical conduct in managing their business while consumers must be aware of their responsibilities and exercise their rights.

"It is advisable for consumers not to make excessive purchases that could impact the prices of goods," it said.

KPDNHEP also urged manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers not to raise prices drastically when the SHMMP ends.

"This scheme will work if everyone is responsible and plays a part.

"The State KPDNHEP will continue to enhance the monitoring and inspection of supplies and prices of goods throughout Sabah," it said.

A total of 621 inspections have been conducted by the Sabah KPDNHEP and eight Branch Offices since the SHMMP Hari Raya Puasa commenced on May 20 and 21.

Of the total, 27 were wholesale inspections and 594 were retail inspections. No cases or offences were recorded.