

Price of Indian onions shoots up in Ipoh market



Trader Noorjahan Mohd Ibrahim stocking up Indian onions at Ipoh market, which are sold at RM13 per kg.- NSTP/Muhaizan Yahya

By Balqis Jazimah Zahari - December 26, 2019 @ 6:24pm

IPOH: The price of Indian onions has increased drastically here as traders raised prices due to a disruption of supply from the producing country.

Checks at the Ipoh central market revealed that while some traders doubled or tripled the prices, others had opted to stop selling Indian onions.

Noorjahan Mohd Ibrahim, 41, previously sold Indian onions between RM2.50 to RM3 per kg, but over the past two months he has been selling it at RM7 per kg.

"Even the smaller variety of Indian onions which was previously sold for RM8 per kg is now RM13 per kg.

"There are a lot of complaints from customers who are shocked with the prices. But suppliers have set a high price for onions, which left us with no other option than to raise the prices," said Noorjahan.

Another trader, Noorzihan Aji Alang Wahi, 57, stopped selling Indian onions last month due to the high wholesale price.

"Now I only sell Holland onions," she said.

* A consumer, G. Shalini Devi, 34, hoped a solution would be found on the lack of Indian onion supply as it was a vital ingredient for the local cuisine.

"I usually buy onions that only cost me between RM3 and RM5 per kg but now the price is totally different. It is way too pricey.

"I hope there will be a solution to decrease the price as we usually use onions to cook, There must be a solution," she added.

Bloomberg had reported that India, which usually produces more onions than it needs, has been facing a problem after heavy rains and flooding damaged stockpiles of the produce in the country's main growing areas.

