

Ministry probing high price of face masks

BY ANTHONY AGA ON MARCH 20, 2020, FRIDAY AT 12:03 AM



KPDNHEP officers monitoring stocks and price of essential items at a grocery in Sarikei town.

SARIKEI: Domestic Trade and Consumers Affairs Ministry (KPDNHEP) Sarikei branch is investigating the high price of face masks charged by a pharmacy in town.

According to an invoice produced by a complainant, he had paid RM120 to the proprietor of the pharmacy for booking one box of 3-ply masks.

However, it is not known when the item would be available, the complainant said.

While assuring that they would investigate all complaints made by the public, Sarikei KPDNHEP enforcement chief Mohamad Zawawi vowed that his men would regularly monitor stocks of food and essential items at all groceries in Sarikei Division.

"For the time being, we are pleased to note that there is no shortage of most essential items, especially food," he said when contacted.

As such, he advised the public against panic buying following the enforcement of the two-week long movement control order (MCO) by the government as a measure to contain the spread of Covid-19 which took effect from March 18.

Mohamad also reminded traders not to take advantage of the situation to hoard and hike the price of essential goods.

He warned that stern action under Price Control and Anti-Profiteering Act 2011 would be taken against errant traders.

