

Sufficient supply of face masks in Sibu

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Kelyn (left) and an enforcement officer checking on a pharmacy selling face mask and hand sanitiser.

SIBU: There is no longer a serious shortage of face masks here.

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (KPDNHEP) Sibu branch enforcement unit chief Kelyn Bolhassan said the public can now easily buy them at pharmacies.

"There is sufficient supply for all, " said Kelyn after inspecting two pharmacies here.

He said the three-ply face masks were being sold at the fixed ceiling price of RM1.50 each.

"Businesses must comply and cannot charge more for them. We will take stern action on those caught doing so.

"The public can alert us of such cases," said Kelyn.

He said action can be taken under Section 11 of the Price Control and Anti-Profiteering Act 2011 as face mask is one of the essential items during the movement control order (MCO) period.

If convicted, the offender is liable to a fine not exceeding RM100,000 or a jail term not exceeding three years or both, or a compound of RM50,000.

Companies can be fined up to RM500,000 or a compound of RM250,000.

"During this MCO period, we have received 14 complaints on face masks, one on hand sanitiser and 10 more on other essential items," he said.

Kelyn said of this number, action had been taken against 23 offenders with compounds issued totalling RM2,750 while goods seized amounted to RM2,824.

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