

No need for panic buying, folks told

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Kelyn (left) checking on the price of eggs at a supermarket in Sibü.

SIBU: Those celebrating Hari Raya Aidilfitri and Gawai in Sibü, Selangau and Kanowit have been advised not to resort to panic buying for essential items as there was enough supply. Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (KPDNHEP) Sibü branch enforcement unit chief Kelyn Bolhassan said checks showed there was no shortage of this festive season.

“As a consumer, the public must be wise and not indulge in panic buying,” he said.

Kelyn also warned traders to sell controlled items for the two celebrations at the set prices.

He said the price control scheme for Raya was from May 20 to June 3 while for Gawai it was from May 28 to June 3.

“The ministry has identified nine items for Raya and 10 items for Gawai.”

He said the maximum prices had been fixed for these items due to demand during the two celebrations and to prevent profiteering.

Among the items are live chicken, standard chicken, super chicken, eggs, imported beef, coconut and grated coconut.

"Stern action will be taken against errant traders under the Price Control Act and Anti-profiteering Act 2011," he warned.

"From January to May 20, we received a total of 86 complaints, mostly on prices of good and services. We investigated 51 cases and seized goods amounting to RM111,727.

"Compounds totalling RM11,150 were issued," he said.

He said 2,837 premises were inspected so far this year in Sibul and Selangau.

Kelyn said the public can lodge complaints on errant traders by calling its toll-free number 1-800-886800, e-mail to e-aduan@kpdnhep.gov.my or WhatsApp to 019-279 4317.

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