

## No shortage of essential food items for Gawai

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By SHARON LING



Nanta (centre) checking the price of vegetables at Serian market.

**KUCHING:** There is sufficient supply of essential food items for the coming Gawai Dayak celebration in Sarawak, said Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi.

He said there was no problem with food supply and prices during the recent Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebration and similarly no shortage was anticipated for Gawai.

"Food traders have assured us that there is no problem. The supply is sufficient and they are complying with the price control scheme for Gawai," he said after inspecting prices at the Serian market near here.

The Gawai price control scheme is from May 28 to June 3 in Sarawak.

The Gawai celebration is on June 1 to 2.

The ministry has identified 22 essential food items to be controlled with a ceiling price for Gawai.

“We have identified specific items that are relevant to the Dayak community.

“For example, we do not control the price of pork for other celebrations. But for Gawai, we know this particular item is in high demand so we put price controls for pork,” Nanta said.

He noted that traders at the Serian market were complying with the controlled prices.

“In fact, we found that some of them sold their produce at a lower price. This shows they are ethical traders.

“We also found no problems in terms of food supply at the market,” he said.

<https://www.thestar.com.my/metro/metro-news/2020/05/29/no-shortage-of-essential-food-items-for-gawai>

