

## Fama: Supply of Indian red onions to be restored by February

**BUKIT MERTAJAM:** The Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (Fama) expects disruption to the supply of Indian red onions that resulted in price hike recently to be restored by February.

Its chairman, Ishak Ismail, said problems pertaining to the supply of onions had occurred over the last three months due to floods that hit India, prompting Fama to import onions from China, Pakistan and Egypt.

"We import 60% of onions from several countries to meet the needs here. Of the total, 70% are from India, but the country has completely banned export (of onions) as they are suffering from severe flooding.

"Over the last three months, we have been importing onions from other countries amounting to 106,395 tonnes.

"From what I understand, India is also importing onions from China," he said after the 'Bazar Peduli Rakyat' (BPR) programme at Kampung Pelet here yesterday.

The programme was officiated by the Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia (LKIM) chairman, who is also Permatang Pasir assemblyman, Muhammad Faiz Fadzil.



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by Dr Wong Kok Hoe

Lecturer in Mechanical Department at University of Southampton Malaysia

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According to media reports, the price of Indian onions was previously at RM4 per kg, but is now being sold at RM12 per kg.

Ishak said the price increase was only temporary and he suggested consumers to shop at Fama outlets, Fama-organised farmers markets, BPR and MyBest as the item is five to 20% lower. — Bernama