

## 'Essential items sufficient, no need for panic buying'



The Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi says people should plan their purchases and there is no need for them to do panic buying by purchasing items excessively. - NSTP/File pic

By New Straits Times - March 25, 2020 @ 10:51am

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Ministry (KPDNKK) has given its assurance that the country has more than enough food supplies and essential items.

Its minister Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi said people should plan their purchases and there is no need for them to do panic buying by purchasing items excessively.

He explained that food supplies and essential items are sufficient since the government never imposed restrictions on supply chain activities, food marketing and e-dagang during the 14-day Movement Control Order (MCO).

“Activities related to food supply and e-dagang which consist of food production, retail, packaging, distribution, wholesale (and/or) distribution centres to produce raw materials are allowed to continue operations.

“Logistics and transport services that support supply chains and marketing, as well as e-dagang to supply groceries and essential items, are also allowed to operate.

“Companies that support the food supply chains and are defined as downstream industry (or) support, and are allowed to operate but with minimal workforce and to comply with the Covid-19 regulatory measures determined by the Health Ministry,” he said in a statement today.

At the same time, Linggi also reminded industry players to ensure employees who are allowed to enter their offices are those confirmed to be free from the Covid-19 virus.

He also reminded them to practice social distancing, washing of hands regularly, aside from other precautionary measures that were announced by the government recently.

He added that all companies allowed to continue operations must do so at a minimum level and employers must provide a letter to each employee so they can be allowed to travel on the road when passing roadblocks by the police and the army.

<https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/03/577932/essential-items-sufficient-no-need-panic-buying>

