

14 controlled items sold below ceiling price

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PUTRAJAYA: Fourteen out of the 27 price controlled items, were sold below the government set ceiling price during the Hari Raya season, said Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution.

He said the Agriculture and Agro-Based Ministry ensured that there was enough supply of items to prevent abuse by traders.

"Traders were not worried about the lack of supply therefore they were able to reduce the price of certain goods," he said at a joint press conference with Datuk Salahuddin Ayub.

He said the ceiling price for 10 gred B chicken eggs was set at RM3.92 but the selling price was RM3.84.

He added that for a standard 1kg chicken it was RM7.42 but it was sold at RM6.80.

"The decision to increase the number of (price controlled) items from 21 to 27 and to increase the number of days from 15 to 30 has proven to be successful."

Saifuddin said he hoped to build on this success and improve on it.

He said the number of people found to be flouting the ceiling price was 13 while 307 did not display the special pink price tag and 42 did not display price tags.

Salahuddin also said the ministry had ensured more than adequate supply of goods.

He said the demand for chicken was 128,000 metric tonnes while supply stood at 142,000 metric tonnes.

He said demand for eggs stood at 676 million whilst supply was 800 million.

Salahuddin said by working together they were able to help consumers.