

Co-ops to sell basic goods

➤ Naccol to identify items for sale at discounted prices

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PUTRAJAYA: The National Action Council on Cost of Living (Naccol) will identify 100 essential goods to be sold at cooperatives at discounted prices.

Among the items are rice, sugar, butter, oil, flour and bread, which was compiled by Naccol after it conducted surveys on consumer behaviour, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Wan Azizah Was Ismail after chairing the third Naccol meeting yesterday.

She said the 6.1 million cooperative members throughout the country can be a part of the entrepreneurial, wholesale and plantation processes to eliminate the middleman, who drive up costs.

She also said prices of goods during Hari Raya had gone down compared to last year.

"Based on data, the average price of goods have gone down - the price of chicken dropped to

RM6.80 from RM7.42 last year, imported beef was at RM20.40 per kg compared to RM24.29 per kg and dried chillies were at RM14.13 per kg compared to RM19.50 last year."

"We are also expanding our Qfish programme nationwide as fish is important in our diet. We will use quick freezing technology to retain the quality and freshness."

Meanwhile, Wan Azizah said the council was also looking to streamline all service charges at land transport terminals throughout the country. It has given the green light to the Transport Ministry to re-evaluate the price of Electronic Train Services," she added.

"We've noticed that many land terminals have different charges and fees for their services and we want this streamlined," said Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail.

Naccol welcomed five new members - International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Darell Leiking, Attorney-General Tommy Thomas, Jeli MP Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamad, Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation CEO Surina Shukri and Malaysian Youth Council president Jufitri Joha.