

## CAP expresses concern of surging chicken retail prices

By Audrey Dermawan - May 15, 2020 @ 6:07pm



**The Consumers' Association of Penang has expressed concern over the increase in chicken retail prices over the past week, especially with Hari Raya Aidilfitri fast looming. – NSTP/File pic**

**GEORGE TOWN:** The Consumers' Association of Penang (CAP) has expressed concern over the increase in chicken retail prices over the past week, especially with Hari Raya Aidilfitri fast looming.

CAP president Mohideen Abdul Kader said the chicken retail price has increased drastically from RM7 per kg to RM8.50 per kg within a week.

He also asked the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry (KPDNHEP) on what has become of the ceiling prices of essential items imposed.

"With Hari Raya about a week away, and under the current Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO), consumers are financially pressed.

"It is not the responsibility of consumers to know the snags in the supply chain that set off the chain reaction in the increase of food prices. It is the government's duty to address the problem of escalating chicken prices," he said today.

It was reported yesterday that poultry sellers at the Bukit Mertajam market had increased the price of fresh chicken meat to between RM9 and RM9.50 per kg, since last week.

The price increase occurred following sellers having to pay a higher price to suppliers after being told of a shortage in supply due to the Movement Control Order (MCO).

When contacted, state Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Ministry director Mohd Ridzuan Ab Ghapar said they will continue to monitor chicken retail prices in markets in the state.

"As far as we are concerned, there is no issue with the supply. We have ample supply to last until the festive season," he added.

He said his officers conducted checks at the Farlim market yesterday after receiving a similar report of chicken price increase from RM9.50 last week to RM10 this week due to increase in cost.

"We checked the poultry sellers' sales invoice and found there were indeed increases in costs.

"We have asked them to furnish us with the chicken retail prices for the past year and their justification to hike up the price. They have been given until Monday to reply to us," he added.

Ridzuan also said that the festive season price control scheme will be implemented soon, usually a week before any festivity.

<https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2020/05/592869/cap-expresses-concern-surg-ing-chicken-retail-prices>

