

Deputy Domestic Trade Minister: No chicken shortage in the country

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By LO TERN CHERN



BUKIT MERTAJAM: There is no shortage of chicken in the country, says Deputy Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Rosol Wahid.

He said what is happening is that traders are seizing the opportunity to increase the price of dressed chicken, adding that this is a trend practised before festivals.

"Traders are seizing opportunities ahead of Hari Raya before the ministry sets the ceiling price," he said when speaking to reporters after visiting a factory in Bukit Minyak Industrial Area on Sunday (May 17).

Rosol said that his ministry has issued 103 notices to traders nationwide who have raised the price of chicken without reason.

• Asked, if there was a shortage of supply as alleged by the traders, Rosol said it was not true.

Last Thursday (May 14), dozens of traders at the Bukit Mertajam wet market in town cried foul over suppliers increasing their prices of dressed chicken, and raised their prices to RM9.50 per kilogram.

This is a nearly 50% increase compared to March before the movement control order (MCO).

The traders claimed that the high price was caused by a spike in production costs and blamed suppliers for charging more due to the lack of supplies from the farms.

On a separate matter, Rosol said that his ministry had inspected 5,469 premises in the country from May 13 to May 16 and 4,631 of them complied with the conditional MCO.

"We gave advice to the operators of 801 premises and issued warnings to 37," he said.

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2020/05/17/deputy-domestic-trade-minister-no-chicken-shortage-in-the-country>

