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DAN KOS SARA HIDUP

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Tarikh: **25 MAC 2024**

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI
DAN KOS SARA HIDUP

KERATAN AKHBAR

KPDN

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

BH BeritaHarian

HARI: ISNIN

TARIKH: 25/3/2024

M/SURAT: 6

'Memang ada kenaikan harga di bazar Ramadan'

Peniaga cuba ambil untung melampau, pengguna kena bijak berbelanja

Oleh Oleh Ilah Hafiz Aziz
dan Mohd Amin Jalil
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Armizan (dua dari kanan) meninjau harga beras tempatan rahmah pada Program Jualan Ramadan Rahmah di Bazar Ramadan Rahmah Garden Homes Seremban 2, kelmarin. (Foto Azrul Edham/BH)

Seremban: Menteri Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN), Datuk Armizan Mohd Ali tidak menafikan berlaku kenaikan harga makanan di bazar Ramadan ketika ini.

Beliau bagaimanapun berkata, kenaikan harga itu bukan semuanya berpunca daripada kenaikan bahan mentah di pasaran yang ditentukan pasaran.

"Saya tidak nafi ada kenaikan harga makanan, tapi untuk kata semua harga barang keperluan harian naik, itu tidak betul kerana ia membabitkan tawaran dan permintaan.

"Bawang, minyak masak misalnya pernah naik tinggi sebelum ini. Saya ada terima laporan sebelum ini bahawa ada peniaga (bazar Ramadan) jual karipap sehingga RM3 sebiji, tetapi bila kita pergi ke bazar berkenaan dapati ada sembilan peniaga yang menjual kuih itu dalam harga yang berbeza, termasuk menjual tiga biji RM1.

"Dalam hal ini, terletak kepada pengguna untuk memilih produk atau makanan yang rendah harganya," katanya di sini, kelmarin.

Terdapat peniaga di bazar Ramadan menjual nasi putih sehingga RM3.50 sepinggan walaupun kos sebenarnya hanya 40 sen.

Mengulas lanjut, Armizan mengakui terdapat segelintir peniaga bazar Ramadan yang cuba mengambil untung melampau dengan meletakkan harga makanan tinggi tidak munasabah.

Harga masih munasabah

Sementara itu, Gabungan Persatuan Penjaja dan Peniaga Malaysia menafikan harga makanan yang dijual di bazar Ramadan terlalu mahal sehingga menyukarkan orang ramai berbelanja.

Presidennya, Datuk Seri Rosli Sulaiman, berkata harga makanan dijual di situ masih lagi sesuai dengan kenaikan barang mentah.

Beliau berkata, tiada peniaga mahu kehilangan pelanggan dengan menjual makanan dengan harga yang tinggi, jika boleh mendapat bekalan mentah dengan mudah dan murah.

"Makanan dijual mahal kerana bahan mentah mahal dan sukar untuk diperoleh. Apa yang kita lihat, ia tidaklah dijual sehingga tidak mampu langsung dibeli oleh orang ramai. Ia mungkin mahal sedikit tetapi masih dalam kadar mampu dan munasabah.

"Peniaga sebenarnya terhimpit dengan keadaan bahan mentah mahal. Ada kala mereka terpaksa juga beli dan jual kepada pelanggan dengan harga yang naik dan keuntungan sedikit," Katanya.

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

Syor penguat kuasa khas pantau pencatutan harga

Kuala Lumpur: Persatuan pengguna mencadangkan kerajaan menubuhkan unit penguat kuasa khas bagi mengatasi kenaikan dan pencatutan harga yang didakwa semakin melampau pada Ramadan ini.

Timbalan Presiden Pertubuhan Mesra Pengguna Malaysia, Azlin Othman, berkata penguatkuasaan khas itu perlu dilaksanakan kerana peniaga melakukan pencatutan dengan alasan harga barang mentah naik.

Katanya, Ramadan bulan mulia, tetapi dijadikan alasan menaikkan harga barang oleh peniaga yang cuba mengaut keuntungan lebih.

"Keadaan sebenarnya, bukan semua barang mentah naik harga dan peniaga masih ada lagi keuntungan.

"Penguatkuasaan khas Ramadan bukan sahaja perlu ditubuhkan, malah perlu lebih agresif bagi menangani isu ini.

"Kepada pembeli, kita harus menggunakan kuasa memilih dan membeli kerana pilihan yang baik di tangan kita sendiri," katanya semalam.

Sementara itu, Presiden Lembaga Pelindung Kebajikan Pengguna Malaysia, Dr Lee Nan Sang, berkata Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN) perlu memantau dengan kerap dan secara rawak sepanjang Ramadan bagi menjamin pengunjung bazar menikmati harga berpatutan.

Beliau turut mencadangkan agar KPDN mewujudkan wujud semula Skuad Pengguna.

"Rakyat selalu dengar kerajaan mengatakan harga barang sudah turun, tetapi rakyat hari ini tidak dapat menikmati penurunan itu," katanya.

Beliau berkata, harga mentah turun namun kos penghantaran, bahan penyediaan makanan, dan ada setengah bahan mentah dikenakan Cukai Jualan dan Perkhidmatan (SST) 8 peratus yang menyumbang kepada kenaikan harga jualan.

"Jika subsidi bahan api dibatalkan pada April, saya pasti gelombang kenaikan harga barang, termasuk makanan dan minuman akan berlaku. Ini akan membebankan rakyat kerana kos sara hidup yang tinggi," katanya.

BH BeritaHarian

HARI: ISNIN
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M/SURAT: 3

Penstrukturan semula rantaian padi, beras negara

Kuala Lumpur: Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM) dengan dua lagi kementerian bekerjasama menstruktur semula rantaian padi dan beras negara bagi mewujudkan situasi menang-menang untuk pemegang taruh industri itu, termasuk pengilang kecil.

Perkara lain dilihat KPKM bersama Kementerian Ekonomi serta Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup (KPDN) dalam proses itu, termasuk akta berkaitan yang mungkin sudah lapuk dan perlu dikaji semula, selain aspek kuota benih, harga beras dan harga belian padi.

Jurucakap KPKM memaklumkan, menteri bertanggungjawab, Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu dijangka mengumumkan pelan transformasi dan penstrukturan semula rantaian padi serta beras negara dalam tempoh selewat-selewatnya tiga bulan lagi.

"Sekarang KPKM bersama beberapa kementerian lain berkait rantaian industri padi sedang melihat perkara ini. Menteri akan umum dalam tempoh dua hingga tiga bulan lagi, sekarang tengah susun lagi, antaranya aspek kuota benih, harga beras dan harga belian padi.

"Kita mahukan situasi menang-menang kerana banyak isu dalam industri padi ini, jadi perlu disusun dan ditransformasikan balik rantaian itu," katanya menambah KPKM tidak boleh bersendirian menangani pelbagai isu dalam industri padi dan beras, sebaliknya perlu juga membabitkan kementerian lain.

Antara isu dibangkitkan, termasuk oleh Persatuan Pengilang Beras Melayu Malaysia (PPBMM) yang mendakwa hanya lima peratus atau 7,000 daripada 140,000 tan stok beras dan padi tempatan sedia ada 'berada' di kilang kecil milik Bumiputera, sekali gus meminta kerajaan menetapkan kuota belian padi supaya kilang kecil tidak gulung tikar.

Mengakui isu berkenaan, jurucakap itu berkata, kementerian tidak mengawal kuota belian padi oleh kilang berikutan pasaran adalah bebas.

"Dalam pasaran bebas, pengilang bersaing untuk beli padi daripada petani melalui penetapan harga lantai RM1,300 satu tan. Kita tidak kawal belian padi, kilang yang bersaing sesama sendiri, tapi kita tetapkan harga lantai RM1,300 satu tan.

"Ada (pengilang) sanggup beli padi antara RM1,600 hingga RM1,700 satu tan. Kita faham pengilang kecil, modal mereka tidak besar, jadi sudah tentu tak dapat nak bersaing. Namun ini adalah pasaran bebas," katanya.

Berbalik kepada akta berkait industri padi dan beras negara yang mungkin dikaji semula, beliau berkata, ia mungkin membabitkan bidang kuasa dan jumlah denda, namun syor serta perincian mengenainya akan dikemukakan pejabat Penasihat Undang-Undang KPKM.

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

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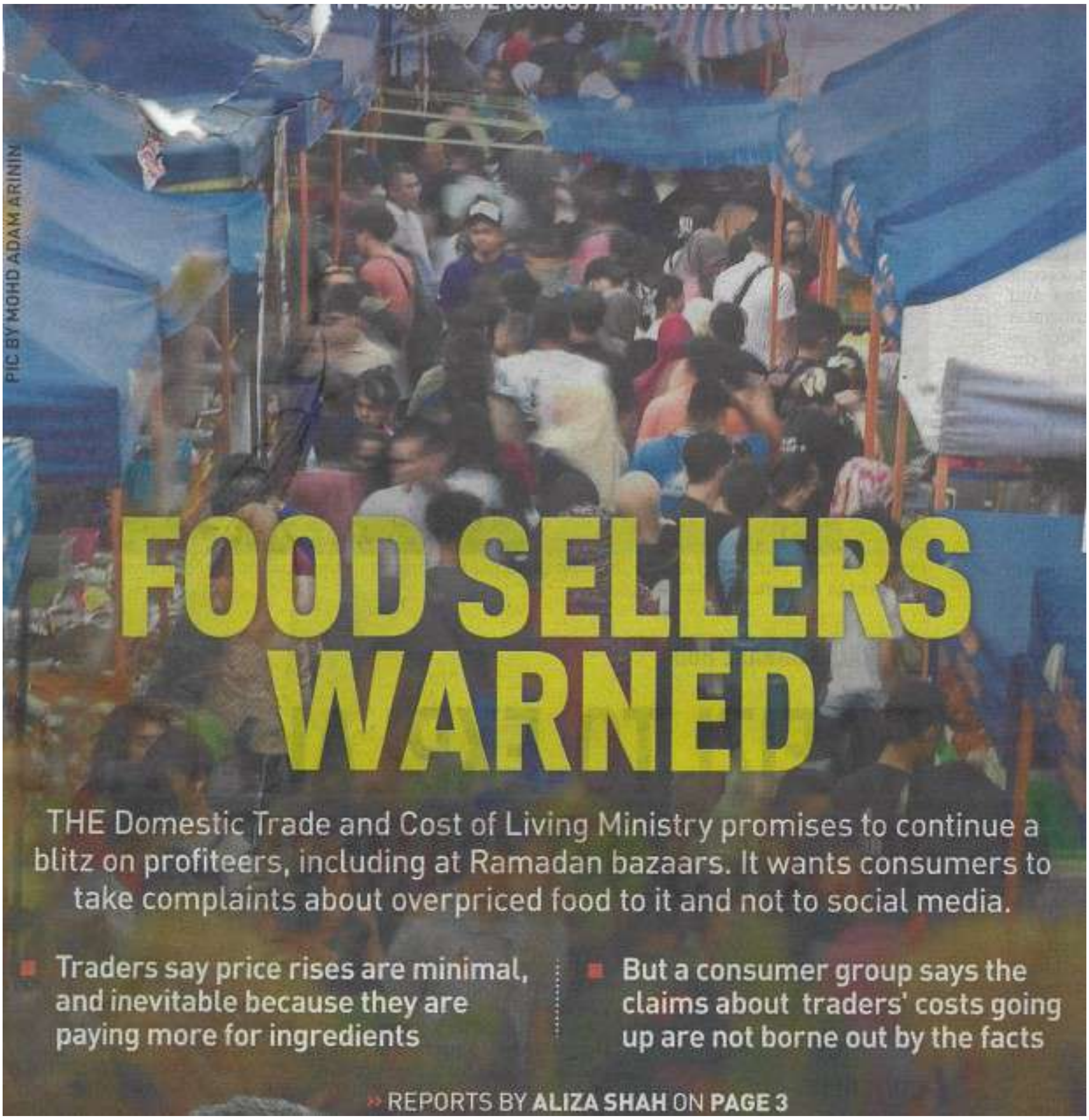

PIC BY MOHD ADAM ARININ

FOOD SELLERS WARNED

THE Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry promises to continue a blitz on profiteers, including at Ramadan bazaars. It wants consumers to take complaints about overpriced food to it and not to social media.

- Traders say price rises are minimal, and inevitable because they are paying more for ingredients
- But a consumer group says the claims about traders' costs going up are not borne out by the facts

» REPORTS BY **ALIZA SHAH** ON **PAGE 3**

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

NEW STRAITS TIMES

HARI: ISNIN
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M/SURAT: 3

SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

NO ROOM FOR PROFITEERS, SAYS D-G

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim has called for an investigation into reports suggesting there is an increase in food prices despite the drop in the prices of rice and poultry. FILE PIC

Traders warned that ministry personnel will conduct checks at all levels of business chain

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THE Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry will not compromise with traders who engage in profiteering, warning that inspections will be conducted to ensure compliance.

Its director-general of enforcement, Datuk Azman Adam, lambasted unscrupulous traders, saying that profiteering could have a significant impact on consumers.

Datuk Azman Adam

He also urged the public to report such cases directly to the ministry instead of taking to social media.

"We cannot compromise on this because even if only a small number of traders engage in unethical practices, the impact on the bigger picture is significant.

"At the same time, consumers should alert us of such practices instead of going through social media, so we can take action quickly and effectively," he told the *New Straits Times*.

He said the ministry's enforcement officers would monitor and conduct surprise inspections at all levels of the business chain.

"If there are complaints or findings that show traders taking advantage by raising prices or profiteering, action will be taken under the Price Control and Anti-Profiteering Act 2011.

"If found guilty, fines of up to RM500,000 may be imposed on corporations or companies and up to RM100,000 on individuals, or imprisonment for up to three years, or both," he said.

His comments came in the wake of complaints over high prices of food at Ramadan bazaars nationwide. Traders associations had blamed the high cost of raw materials, which led them to raise prices.

The ministry had on March 12 launched Op Pantau to monitor business activities throughout Ramadan.

The surprise inspections aim to prevent hoarding of essential items, such as sugar, chicken, eggs and cooking oil, and stabilise the prices of fresh produce in the festive season. They also aim to prevent profiteering at Ramadan bazaars and stop the sale of counterfeit goods.

The enforcement is carried out nationwide with focus on Ramadan bazaars, Aidilfitri bazaars, wet markets, hypermarkets, supermarkets, grocery stores and online sales platforms.

Azman said his ministry personnel had inspected 20,854 premises to date.

"Of the number, 84 cases involving various offences were recorded with seizures of goods worth RM414,319.07.

"Monitoring has been conducted at 685 Ramadan bazaars since Ops Pantau was launched.

"We also received 623 complaints on various offences, such as failure to display price tags, failure to use valid weighing instruments and sale of counterfeit goods."

Earlier, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim also called for an investigation into reports suggesting there was an increase in food prices despite the drop in prices of rice and poultry.

Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Minister Datuk Armizan Mohd Ali on Saturday acknowledged that there was an increase in the prices of food at Ramadan bazaars nationwide.

Speaking in Seremban, he said consumers must exercise their rights by opting for products or food sold at cheaper prices.

"I do not deny this (food sold at high prices). There are such cases and for those suspected of engaging in profiteering, we will issue notices for them to explain their cost structure," he said.

Public complaints can be lodged via WhatsApp to 019-848 8000 / 019-279 431 or the ministry's e-Complaint Portal at eaduan.kpdn.gov.my.

Consumers may also call the call centre at 1-800-886-800, use the Ez ADU KPDN application or contact the Enforcement Command Centre at 03-8882 6245 / 6088.

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

NEW STRAITS TIMES

HARI: ISNIN
TARIKH: 25/3/2024
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Price hikes are normal, says petty traders' group

KUALA LUMPUR: The rise in food prices at Ramadan bazaars is minimal and in line with the rise in the cost of ingredients, said the Malaysian Federation of Hawkers and Petty Traders Association yesterday.

Datuk Seri Rosli Sulaiman

Its president, Datuk Seri Rosli Sulaiman, said the cost of raw ingredients was high, adding that spices, for example, had recorded an increase of between 50 sen and RM1 a kilogramme.

Rosli said cooking oil and gas had also registered price hikes.

"Since the raw ingredients are expensive, obviously they will also affect the prices of food items.

"Between 50 sen and RM1 hike is just normal," he told the *New Straits Times*.

Rosli said the public could choose not to buy from stalls that imposed excessive prices.

He advised the public to exercise caution when purchasing food to avoid overspending and wastage.

"Ramadan is not a food festival, but a period for us to think about those in need, those who don't have food.

"We should buy based on our needs, not our wants. Set a budget and don't exceed it to avoid overspending and food wastage," he added.

Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Minister Datuk Armizan Mohd Ali recently said he believed that the rise in the prices of food was not necessarily due to the increase in the prices of raw materials, since it was determined by the market.

He also didn't deny that a few Ramadan bazaar traders had tried to reap profits by selling their products at unreasonable prices.

"We welcome any complaints and if possible, lodge the complaints through official channels before sharing it on social media.

"When it goes viral, the relevant parties can hide the evidence and we have received reports from enforcement officers about this matter," he said.

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

NEW STRAITS TIMES

HARI: ISNIN
TARIKH: 25/3/2024
M/SURAT: 3

Unreasonable to raise prices, says consumer association

KUALA LUMPUR: Raising food prices due to the increased cost of ingredients is unreasonable, says the Consumers Association of Kedah (Cake).

Its president, Yusrizal Yusoff, said this has been a recurring excuse by traders every Ramadan.

"This is an unreasonable excuse because when we checked various stalls, the food prices were higher than their actual (production) cost.

"For example, the price of curry puff had increased by 30 sen last year, and this year it is 50 sen a piece, not per bundle.

Yusrizal Yusoff

"However, cooking oil did not increase more than 50 per cent or even 10 per cent," he told the *New Straits Times*.

Yusrizal said prices of essential ingredients, such as flour, eggs, chicken and beef had remained stable or even decreased.

"We hope that these traders have more ethics in their business because the purchasing power is in consumers' hands."

He said the government must beef up enforcement after seeing how weak it had become, as evidenced by the traders taking advantage of customers.

He suggested setting up a task force aimed at monitoring the price and food quality at bazaars.

"Law enforcement agencies must put the Anti-Profiteering Act to good use and monitor these Ramadan bazaars consistently.

"We received many complaints regarding price hikes and low food quality, so we filed a report with the Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry.

"We hope that the ministry will enforce the Act. As for the low food quality, the Health Ministry should take action accordingly."

He also proposed to make it mandatory for traders to issue receipts as proof of purchase to customers to assist the latter if they wished to lodge complaints.

"Now, consumers do lodge reports, but when we ask them where they purchased their food, they could not tell us due to the lack of proof."

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TheStar

HARI: ISNIN
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Traders have to rely on volume to keep sales rolling

PETALING JAYA: Maintaining a reasonable volume of sales to avoid extra overhead costs is among the efforts taken by food operators to cope with pricier raw cooking materials, says a trading group.

Petty Traders and Hawkers Association president Datuk Rosli Sulaiman said the price of most cooking ingredients such as spices has increased between 50 sen and RM1, forcing traders to translate the price into the food they are selling.

"Almost all raw materials have increased from 50 sen to RM1. This would also cause the traders to increase the price of the food they sell.

"Even with that, they can only generate a small profit margin," he said when contacted.

To adapt to the price change, Rosli has advised the public to control their spending and buy only what they need, especially during the fasting month.

"I'm aware that some customers have complained that the food in the Ramadan bazaars is getting expensive, but they need to understand that this is because of the higher business operating costs.

"Traders have no other option but to raise the price of their products; the public can always choose other stalls or operators that they feel have more reasonable price tags," he added.

Checks by *The Star* on the ManaMurah portal, a platform that captures prices of food items from the Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry and Statistics Department, found that the weekly national average price of goods increased by 0.3% between March 18 and 22.

Sarawak had the highest average price increase of goods compared with the national figures at 6.9% higher, followed by Labuan (6.3%), Putrajaya (6.2%) and Sabah (4.4%).

The platform also showed that the price of imported dry raw materials such as onions, garlic, potatoes and nuts has also recorded a higher national average than the week before.

The website showed that dried herbs such as white pepper, coriander seeds, cloves and cardamom have risen to 10 sen per 100g.

Petaling Jaya Coffeeshop Association said global ingredient supply disruptions and higher rent as businesses adapt to the post-Covid-19 pandemic should justify price hikes on food, which could reach up to 10%.

Its president Keu Kok Meng said the increasing cost of operating businesses comprising logistics, electricity and water and supply disruptions due to global uncertainties have impacted the food and beverage sector.

"A standard serving of noodles in a coffee shop increased by about 10%," he said.

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

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HARI: ISNIN

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Wadah Pembaharuan

BH BeritaHarian

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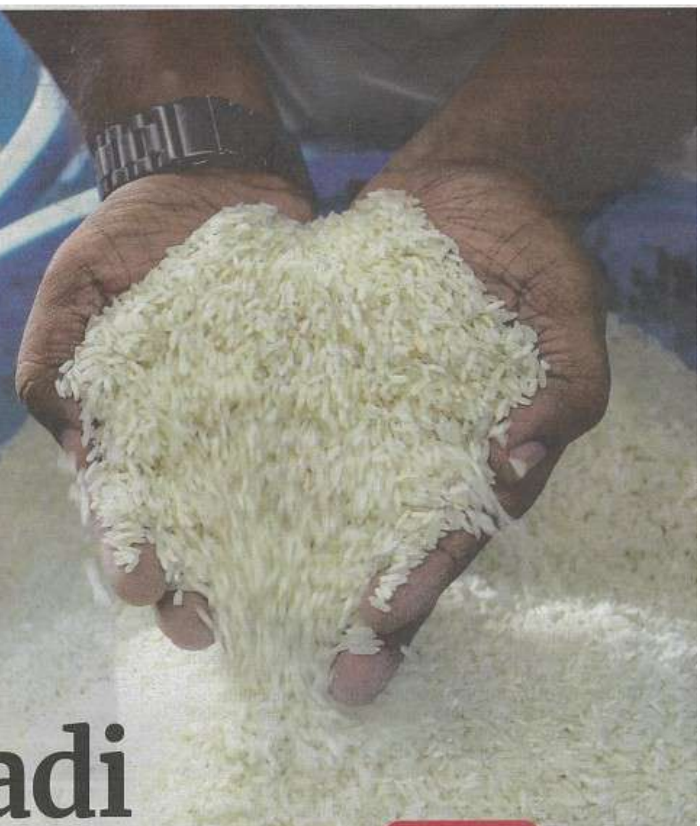

Isu kekurangan beras

Kilang besar monopoli pembelian padi

Eksklusif

Persatuan Pengilang Beras Melayu Malaysia (PPBMM) mendedahkan 11 kilang kecil Bumiputera hanya memegang lima peratus atau 7,000 tan daripada 140,000 tan stok padi kerana berlaku monopoli pembelian oleh pengilang besar. PPBMM syor kuota belian padi ditetapkan kira-kira 10,000 tan setahun bagi pengilang kecil manakala antara 30,0000 hingga 40,000 tan kepada pengilang besar.

Oleh Suzalina Halid → *Nasional* 3

BH BeritaHarian

HARI: ISNIN
TARIKH: 25/3/2024
M/SURAT: 3

Hanya 5 peratus beras tempatan 'berada' di kilang kecil Bumiputera

Persatuan rayu kerajaan tetapkan kuota belian padi dakwa pemborong, pengilang besar kuasai rantaian

Eksklusif

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Kuala Lumpur: Ketika isu bekalan beras putih tempatan belum selesai, Persatuan Pengilang Beras Melayu Malaysia (PPBMM) mendedahkan hanya lima peratus atau 7,000 daripada 140,000 tan beras tempatan 'berada' di kilang kecil Bumiputera.

Mendakwa keadaan itu disebabkan pengilang dan pemborong besar menguasai rantaian bekalan beras tempatan dan import, Setiausaha PPBMM, Musonnef Md Radzi merayu kerajaan menetapkan kuota belian padi supaya pengilang kecil Bumiputera boleh bernafas semula.

"Jika monopoli bertambah buruk, mereka dikhuatiri boleh gulung tikar," katanya kepada *BH*.

Jumaat lalu, Ketua Pengarah Kawal Selia Padi dan Beras, Datuk Azman Mahmood, berkata kerajaan menggesa pengilang untuk memproses segera sebanyak 140,000 tan padi dan beras tempatan yang ada untuk jualan di pasaran.

Jualan di pasaran akan digerakkan melalui tiga pendekatan, iaitu dengan melambakkannya di pasar raya dan pusat jualan Lembaga Pertubuhan Peladang (LPP) serta Lembaga Pemasaran Pertanian Persekutuan (FAMA).

Sementara itu, Musonnef berkata, pihak persatuan mencadangkan kuota belian padi ditetapkan kira-kira 10,000 tan setahun bagi pengilang kecil dan antara 30,0000 hingga 40,000 tan kepada pengilang besar.

"Kita pernah mencadangkan had kuota belian padi, namun cadangan itu masih tidak dilaksanakan hingga kini. Persatuan sudah lama mendesak diadakan kuota belian padi kerana bekalan sukar diperoleh akibat monopoli.

"Kilang kecil memerlukan sekurang-kurangnya 10,000 tan bekalan, baru boleh berniaga. Ada kilang besar yang mempunyai 100,000 tan setahun," katanya.

Beliau memaklumkan, sehingga kini terdapat 11 kilang kecil Bumiputera di negara ini dan mereka hanya memperoleh margin keuntungan kecil, sekitar tiga hingga lima peratus, sekali gus sukar berkembang menjadi pengilang besar.

"Bekalan beras negara dikuasai pengilang besar. Berlaku monopoli bekalan padi kerana setiap kilang tidak ditetapkan kuota belian padi.

"Mereka boleh beli seberapa banyak di seluruh negara, jadi penetapan kuota itu penting," katanya.

Beras import sukar diperoleh

Dalam perkembangan berkaitan, PPBMM memohon kerajaan menetapkan 30 peratus jaminan bekalan beras import dalam negara diberi kepada kilang Bumiputera.

Katanya, penetapan 30 peratus jaminan bekalan beras import dalam negara diberikan kepada kilang Bumiputera sangat penting bagi membantu menanggung kenaikan kos pengilangan.

"Kesukaran mendapatkan beras import juga antara punca kurangnya pemborong kecil ketika ini," katanya menambah cadangan itu juga selaras dengan pengumuman kerajaan supaya jaminan bekalan diberi kepada pembekal beras kontrak kerajaan.

Katanya, kerajaan seharusnya melihat secara keseluruhan bagi mengharmonikan industri serta menjamin keberadaan bekalan padi dan beras tempatan serta import yang ketika ini sukar diperoleh, selain memastikan harga yang munasabah.

"Monopoli ini dikesan bermula sejak 2000 atau 24 tahun lalu selepas syarikat yang menguruskan beras import mula melantik anak syarikatnya. Sejak itu monopoli bekalan beras import berterusan hingga sekarang.

"Kilang Melayu gagal mendapatkan bekalan padi. Hasil dari sawah berdekatan kilang Melayu itu pun dibeli oleh pengilang besar hingga melangkau ke negeri lain," katanya.

Isu kesukaran mendapatkan bekalan beras putih tempatan dibincangkan pada Mesyuarat Majlis Tindakan Sara Hidup Negara (NACCOL) Bil 1/2024, Selasa lalu sebelum empat inisiatif diumumkan.

Inisiatif itu ialah penurunan harga jualan runcit beras putih import antara RM2 hingga RM3 di pasaran. Langkah itu dapat meningkatkan akses rakyat kepada bekalan beras pada harga munasabah dan mengurangkan beban kos sara hidup.

Selain itu, pengilang diarah memproses 140,000 tan padi yang sudah dibeli untuk pasaran tempatan serta-merta, manakala semua kontrak kerajaan akan menggunakan beras putih import untuk membolehkan tambahan 20,000 tan beras putih tempatan mulai bulan depan.

Dalam memastikan akses terus kepada rakyat, kerajaan turut memperluaskan lokasi dan kekerapan aktiviti Jualan Agro MADANI oleh FAMA dan LPP.

> Bekalan beras negara dikuasai pengilang besar. Berlaku monopoli bekalan padi kerana setiap kilang tidak ditetapkan kuota belian padi. Mereka boleh beli seberapa banyak di seluruh negara, jadi penetapan kuota itu penting

Musonnef Md Radzi,
Setiausaha PPBMM

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

The Star

HARI: ISNIN
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Forced to scale up prices as costs triple

BUTTERWORTH: Hawkers have been compelled to raise the prices of their dishes due to a threefold increase in the cost of raw materials over the years.

The Star checked several hawker centres here and found that food prices had increased between 50 sen and RM2.

Fried mee mamak seller Nasir Abu Bakar, 64, said five years ago, he sold his food for RM4 per serving but has now had to increase the price to RM6.

"I started to increase prices in 2019, not a steep increase but bit by bit," he said, revealing that it was due to the increased cost of noodles, squid, vegetables and other raw materials needed to prepare the dishes.

He said, for instance, the price of fresh squid before 2019 was only RM28 per kg, compared to RM40 now.

"The price of yellow noodles has also increased from RM1 to RM3 per kg," he said, adding that the workers' salaries and rent have not yet been taken into account.

Nasir, who has been in the business since the 1980s, said that with the current global economic outlook, he foresees the price of raw materials increasing gradually by about 30%.

Hawker Mimi Leong, 58, said that although the cost of raw materials has increased tremendously, she has not had the courage to raise her food prices too much.

She said that over the last four years, she has only raised the price of her food like fried meehoon, fried rice and char kuey teow by 50 sen.

"I have only increased it once so far. If I increase the price anymore, I am afraid my customers will run away," she said, adding that she maintains a portion of her dishes for her customers.

However, she said that if the price of raw materials keeps increasing, she will have no choice but to increase the price of her food again.

"I hope the government can help us by maintaining the price of raw items so that we can sell our food at an affordable price," she said.

Petty trader Ng Ghee Chuan, 39, said the price of food items now is so high compared to what he remembers five years ago.

"Imagine – in 2019, RM50 could feed five to seven people, but now it's only enough for three," he said.

Ng said this might be due to the weakening ringgit, as most of the raw materials such as flour, rice and other items are imported.

Logistic company worker Glory Goh, 42, admitted that food prices have increased tremendously.

"Ten years ago, a plate of mee mamak would only cost you about RM4 or even cheaper at some places, but now it has increased to at least RM7," he said.

Goh urges the government to do something, especially to improve the economy and strengthen the ringgit.

E-hailing rider Daud Ismail, 35, said those on lower salaries like him feel most affected by the hike in food prices.

"I try to ask my wife to cook as much as possible when she is free. I sometimes help her cook, especially now during Ramadan because everything is expensive," he said, adding that cooking at home is the only way to reduce his daily expenses.

Sign of the times: A normal serving of mee mamak now costs RM6 compared with RM4 previously, no thanks to the rising cost of raw materials. — ZHAFARAN NASIB/The Star

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI
DAN KOS SARA HIDUP

BERITA ONLINE

KPDN

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

BERITA ONLINE BERTARIKH 25 MAC 2024			
TARIKH	TAJUK	PAUTAN	MEDIA
25-Mar	Pegawai, agensi usah 'lelap mata' tangani kenaikan harga barang	https://www.bharian.com.my/berita/nasional/2024/03/1226533/pegawai-agensi-usah-lelap-mata-tangani-kenaikan-harga-barang	BERITA HARIAN
25-Mar	Lelaki gagal seleweng 1,300 liter diesel	https://www.utusan.com.my/berita/2024/03/lelaki-gagal-seleweng-1300-liter-diesel/	UTUSAN MALAYSIA
25-Mar	Lelaki ditahan cuba seleweng 1,300 liter diesel	https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/655937/berita/semasa/lelaki-ditahan-cuba-seleweng-1300-liter-diesel	SINAR HARIAN
25-Mar	1,300 liter diesel disita di kebun	https://www.buletintv3.my/nasional/1300-liter-diesel-disita-di-kebun/	BULETIN TV3
25-Mar	Lelaki dicekup seleweng 1,300 liter diesel	https://www.kosmo.com.my/2024/03/22/lelaki-dicekup-seleweng-1300-liter-diesel/	KOSMO
25-Mar	1,300 liter diesel disita KPDN di kawasan kebun	https://www.bharian.com.my/berita/kes/2024/03/1226570/1300-liter-diesel-disita-kpdn-di-kawasan-kebun	BERITA HARIAN
25-Mar	KPDN rampas diesel bernilai RM53,000 di Gua Musang	https://www.hmetro.com.my/mutakhir/2024/03/1072749/kpdn-rampas-diesel-bernilai-rm53000-di-gua-musang	HARIAN METRO
25-Mar	Premis proses makanan ringan guna sijil halal tamat tempoh 16 tahun lalu	https://malaysiagazette.com/2024/03/22/premis-proses-makanan-ringan-guna-sijil-halal-tamat-tempoh-16-tahun-lalu/	MALAYSIA GAZETTE
25-Mar	Sijil halal tamat tempoh sejak 2008, premis makanan ringan diserbu KPDN	https://www.astroawani.com/berita-malaysia/sijil-halal-tamat-tempoh-sejak-2008-premis-makanan-ringan-diserbu-kpdn-463425	ASTRO AWANI
25-Mar	Premis guna sijil halal tamat tempoh diserbu	https://www.kosmo.com.my/2024/03/22/premis-guna-sijil-halal-tamat-tempoh-diserbu/	KOSMO
25-Mar	KPDN PERAK SITA PRODUK MAKANAN RINGAN GUNA LOGO HALAL TIDAK SAH	https://www.bernama.com/bm/am/news.php?id=2281652	BERNAMA

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT

25-Mar	KPDN Perak sita produk makanan ringan guna logo halal tidak sah	https://thesun.my/cerita/berita/kpdn-perak-sita-produk-makanan-ringan-guna-logo-halal-tidak-sah-NF12247578	THE SUN
25-Mar	KBS-MYCC JALIN KER-JASAM BENDUNG KAR-TEL TIPUAN BIDA	https://www.bernama.com/bm/sukan/news.php?id=2281634	BERNAMA
25-Mar	KBS-MyCC jalin kerjasama bendung kartel tipuan bida	https://www.sinarharian.com.my/article/655952/berita/nasional/kbs-mycc-jalin-kerjasama-bendung-kartel-tipuan-bida	SINAR HARIAN
25-Mar	Harga RON95, diesel mel-ambung tinggi jika Ringgit lemah	https://harakahdaily.net/index.php/2024/03/22/harga-ron95-diesel-melambung-tinggi-jika-ringgit-lemah/	HARAKAH DAILY
25-Mar	Indikator baharu dibangunkan, ukur tahap kos sara hidup rakyat - PM	https://berita.rtm.gov.my/nasional/senarai-berita-nasional/senarai-artikel/indikator-baharu-dibangunkan-ukur-tahap-kos-sara-hidup-rakyat-pm	BERITA RTM
25-Mar	MySaveFood programme needs more IPT student vol-unteers	https://www.dailyexpress.com.my/news/231208/mysavefood-programme-needs-more-ipt-student-volunteers/	DAILY EXPRESS
25-Mar	Makanan bazar masih pada harga mampu, munasabah - Persatuan Peniaga	https://www.bharian.com.my/berita/nasional/2024/03/1227325/makanan-bazar-masih-pada-harga-mampu-munasabah-persatuan-peniaga	BERITA HARIAN
25-Mar	Program Jualan Rahmah akan diperluas di Senadin: Lee	https://www.utusanborneo.com.my/2024/03/24/program-jualan-rahmah-akan-diperluas-di-senadin-lee	UTUSAN BORNEO
25-Mar	Tiada keperluan turun kuasa pantau harga barang kepa-da PBT	https://berita.rtm.gov.my/nasional/senarai-berita-nasional/senarai-artikel/tiada-keperluan-turun-kuasa-pantau-harga-barang-kepada-pbt	BERITA RTM
25-Mar	MySaveFood bakal diper-luas ke pasar malam selepas Aidilfitri	https://berita.rtm.gov.my/nasional/senarai-berita-nasional/senarai-artikel/mysavefood-bakal-diperluas-ke-pasar-malam-selepas-aidilfitri	BERITA RTM
25-Mar	Bendung kartel tipuan bida, KBS jalin kerjasama dengan MyCC	https://www.freemalaysiatoday.com/category/bahasa/tempatan/2024/03/22/bendung-kartel-tipuan-bida-kbs-jalin-kerjasama-dengan-mycc/	FREE MALAYSIA TODAY
25-Mar	KDN akan laksana kajian kebolehlaksanaan 'Lemon Law'	https://berita.rtm.gov.my/nasional/senarai-berita-nasional/senarai-artikel/kdn-akan-laksana-kajian-kebolehlaksanaan-lemon-law	BERITA RTM