



**KERATAN AKHBAR
DAN MEDIA ONLINE
UNTUK MAKLUMAN :**

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25 MEI 2022 (RABU)



KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI
DAN HAL EHWAL PENGGUNA

KERATAN AKHBAR DAN MEDIA ONLINE (KPDNHEP)

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Race to set fair pricing

Govt mulling whether to keep chicken price control scheme

KUALA LUMPUR: Putrajaya is racing against time to find fair pricing for chicken before the current ceiling price of RM8.90 per kg expires in about two weeks.

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi said the government was still deciding on whether to maintain the price control scheme, which ends on June 5.

"We are now studying (the situation and deciding) if we will go on with the RM8.90 ceiling price," he told reporters at the ministry's open house yesterday.

"We need to do a proper study," he said, adding that there was still some time left before the scheme ended.

Asked when the supply disruption could be resolved, he said it was still uncertain.

"It will depend on statistics from the industry players themselves," he said, adding that the government was also investigating claims that chicken cartels were manipulating supply and prices.

Nanta noted that the reaction to the abolition of Approved Permits to import chicken had been fairly positive.

On the ban on export of chicken, he said the priority was to meet domestic demand.

"This is not permanent. When there is enough supply, we can let them export chicken again," he added.

In February, Putrajaya capped the prices of chickens and eggs for four months until June 5.

The maximum price of standard chickens was lowered by 20 sen to RM8.90 per kg while the prices of

eggs were also controlled.

The decision to enforce these initiatives was made during the National Council on Cost of Living meeting chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Agriculture and Food Industry Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiang also said the move to halt chicken exports would be reviewed once the country's supply returned to stability.

He pointed out that a total of 3.6 million birds were exported to several countries, including Singapore, Vietnam and Pakistan, every month.

Ronald explained that the country was facing a shortage of chickens due to several factors, including disease and weight that did not meet standards.

"The poultry and egg industry is

one that should meet the needs of the country because we previously achieved 100% self-sufficiency level for poultry and eggs," he told the media at the ministry's Hari Raya open house yesterday.

He said the government had intervened earlier to address the increase in chicken prices by providing subsidies of 60 sen per kg to farmers in February and March and then added another 80 sen in April and May, raising the total subsidy to RM1.40 per kg.

"This was to keep the price of chicken in the market at RM8.90 per kg (ceiling price).

"The intervention measures involve more than RM700mil for six months," he said.

According to Ronald, between 1.8 million and two million birds are consumed per day.

Factor in current operating cost, govt urged

PETALING JAYA: The government should consider current operating costs and let chickens be sold at market price to avoid more sellers having to close down their business, chicken suppliers have pleaded.

One seller, who spoke to *The Star* on condition of anonymity, believed that RM12 per kg was an ideal price but said more studies should be done on the matter.

The chicken farmer, who had been in the industry for almost two decades, said chicken prices only increased by less than 35% in 20 years even though operational costs had increased by up to 150%.

"In 2000, we paid our employees RM1,800 in wages, RM1,500 as the chicken catching fee, RM200 for electricity and around RM500 for medicine.

"But in 2022, our employee's salary is RM4,000, the chicken catching fee is RM2,500, electricity comes up to around RM800 and medication costs around RM2,000.

"The price of chicken at the farm in 2006 was around RM3.80 per kg compared to mackerel, which was RM6 per kg. Now the price of chick-



Hot commodity: Customers buying spring chicken, which is being sold at RM12 per chicken, at a wet market in Putrajaya. — Bernama

en is RM8.90 per kg whereas the price of mackerel is RM25 to RM29 per kg," she said.

"The Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry should have discussed with industry players before imposing a ceiling price.

"A ceiling price should be based on our current operating costs,

including increased transportation and service costs, which have affected us at every level, from farmers to sellers.

"If the government wants us to sell at a low price, please continue giving us the subsidy so that we are not forced to close our business," she said.

Another chicken supplier, who also wanted to remain anonymous, said halting chicken export was not a feasible solution.

"In fact, it may cause many farmers to shut down their operations.

"Farmers will be very upset when we stop exports as it also means we will have a surplus in the market, which will cause prices to drop.

"This is not the correct way to solve the pricing problem. (The rise in the price of chicken) is a world-wide problem, but our prices are still among the lowest because of government intervention.

"The government should be more tolerant and let the market decide the price, which is what other countries are doing," he said.

The supplier, who exports over 20,000 live chickens to Singapore, said the sudden ban on poultry export would also affect the country's reputation.

The government on Monday announced that the export of chicken — now numbering 3.6 million a month — will be halted from June 1 until the price and supply of chicken stabilise.

Sindiket baru sebulan beroperasi tumpas dalam serbuan Ahad lalu

PGA rampas 45,500 liter diesel seludup

Oleh MOHAMAD FAIZAL HASHIM

JOHOR BAHRU — Kegiatan sindiket penyeludupan minyak diesel yang baru sebulan beroperasi berjaya dipatahkan Batalion 5, Pasukan Gerakan Am (PGA) Simpang Renggam dalam serbuan di Jalan Penaga 11, Kawasan Perindustrian Kota Putri, Masai di sini, Ahad lalu.

Dalam serbuan pada pukul 11.45 malam itu, PGA Batalion 5 turut merampas 45,500 liter diesel bernilai RM111,475.

Pegawai Pemerintah PGA Batalion 5, Superintendan Dimin Awang berkata, lima lelaki termasuk tiga warga asing berusia lingkungan 28 hingga 53 tahun berjaya diberkas di lokasi kejadian.

Katanya, ketika serbuan dilakukan, kesemua suspek sedang melakukan kerja-kerja pemindahan minyak diesel dari tangki berkapasiti 1,000 liter ke dalam



TIGA lelaki ditahan disyaki seludup diesel di Kawasan Perindustrian Kota Putri, Masai, Pasir Gudang Ahad lalu.

tangki berkapasiti 20,000 liter.

"Hasil pemeriksaan yang dijalankan mendapati, suspek

gagal mengemukakan sebarang dokumen memiliki, menyimpan dan membawa barang kawalan.

"Siasatan awal ke atas suspek dipercayai baru sahaja sebulan menjalankan kegiatan menye-

ludup minyak bersubsidi tersebut.

"Tangkapan dan rampasan diserahkan kepada pihak Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Hal Ehwal Pengguna (KPDNHEP) Johor untuk tindakan lanjut," katanya dalam kenyataan semalam.

Dalam serbuan itu, PGA telah berjaya membuat rampasan 45,500 liter minyak diesel subsidi, tangki berkapasiti 10,000 liter, tong putih kapasiti 1,000 liter dan tiga mesin pam minyak.

Turut disita ialah dua buah lori jenis Scania P380 dan lori jenis Nissan UD dan sebuah lori tangki treler dengan anggaran keseluruhan nilai rampasan berjumlah RM472,575.

Katanya, sebarang maklumat penyeludupan boleh disalurkan melalui talian hotline 07-7557280 Pejabat Risik/Gerakan Batalion 5 PGA.

Kes disiasat di bawah Akta Kawalan Bekalan 1961.

Misi seludup diesel bersubsidi gagal, lima lelaki ditahan

PASIR GUDANG - Batalion 5 Pasukan Gerakan Am (PGA) Simpang Renggam menahan lima lelaki dipercayai sedang menjalankan kegiatan penyeludupan minyak diesel bersubsidi dalam satu serbuan di Kawasan Perindustrian Kota Putri, di sini, pada Ahad.

Pegawai Pemerintahnya, Superintendan Dimin Awang berkata, penahanan suspek termasuk tiga warga asing itu turut membawa kepada rampasan kira-kira 45,500 liter diesel bersubsidi yang dianggarkan bernilai RM111,475.

"Menerusi serbuan yang dilakukan kira-kira jam 11.45 malam itu, kesemua suspek berusia antara 28 hingga 53 tahun itu gagal mengemukakan sebarang dokumen memiliki, menyimpan dan membawa barang kawalan itu.

"Ketika serbuan, semua suspek ini dilihat sedang melakukan kerja-kerja pemindahan minyak diesel daripada tangki berkapasiti 1,000 liter ke dalam tangki berkapasiti 20,000 liter," katanya dalam satu kenyataan.

Dimin berkata, dalam serbu-



Tiga suspek yang ditahan Batalion 5 PGA Simpang Renggam dalam serbuan di Kawasan Perindustrian Kota Putri, Pasir Gudang pada Ahad.

an sama, antara yang turut dirampas adalah sebuah tangki berkapasiti 10,000 liter, tong putih kapasiti 1,000 liter, dua mesin pam minyak, dua lori dan satu treler dianggarkan bernilai RM472,575 termasuk minyak diesel terbabit.

"Kita percaya tangkapan dan hasil rampasan ini telah berjaya memutuskan satu rangkaian sin-

diket penyeludupan minyak (diesel) bersubsidi di sekitar daerah Johor Bahru.

"Kesemua barang rampasan berserta suspek kemudian diserahkan kepada Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Hal Ehwal Pengguna (KPDNHEP) Johor untuk tindakan lanjut mengikut Akta Kawalan Bekalan 1961," katanya.

Senarai Harga Barang Keperluan	
• Ayam	RM6.99
• Daging Lembu Tempatan	RM36
• Daging Lembu Import	RM28
• Telur Gred A	RM12.50
• Ikan Kembung	RM10.90
• Minyak Masak	RM6.50
• Gula Pasir	RM2.85
• Bawang Besar Holland	RM2.50
• Bawang Putih	RM4.99
• Cili Merah	RM11.90
• Kubis Bulat Tempatan	RM4
• Tepung Gandum	RM2.30

*Harga (RM/kg) Sumber: KPDNHEP



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MyCC dedah keputusan kartel ayam

PUTRAJAYA - Suruhanjaya Persaingan Malaysia (MyCC) dijangka mengeluarkan keputusan cadangan di bawah Seksyen 36 Akta Persaingan 2010 berhubung dakwaan kewujudan kartel yang mengawal harga dan pengeluaran ayam.

Menteri Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Hal Ehwal Pengguna (KPDNHEP), Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi berkata, ia sekiranya tuduhan kartel itu mempunyai asas kuat.

"Pihak yang disiasat kemudian akan diberi ruang untuk mempertahankan diri mereka melalui sesi representasi bertulis dan lisan sebelum suruhanjaya membuat keputusan muktamad," katanya dalam

kenyataan pada Selasa.

Menurutnya, MyCC sedang menyiiasat dakwaan perlakuan antipersaingan merangkumi perjanjian atau penyalahgunaan kedudukan dominan dalam pasaran yang boleh meningkatkan harga barangan dalam pasaran industri ayam.

Beliau berkata, aktiviti penyiasatan dijangka akan tamat pada akhir Jun nanti.

Jelasnya, pihak yang disiasat akan diberi ruang mempertahankan diri sebelum suruhanjaya membuat keputusan.

"Jika didapati melanggar seksyen itu, mereka boleh dikenakan penalti kewangan sehingga 10 peratus dari jualan," katanya.