



LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
ISNIN 1 APRIL 2024

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UKK KPKM

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN KETERJAMINAN MAKANAN
(UNTUK EDARAN DALAMAN KPKM, JABATAN DAN AGENSI SAHAJA)

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
1/4/2024	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	4

Saran beras tempatan satu gred, satu harga - NACCOL

SHAH ALAM: Kerajaan perlu memperkenalkan mekanisme 'Satu Gred Beras Putih Satu Harga' bagi menangani isu manipulasi bekalan beras tempatan di pasaran.

Ketua Petugas Khas Peman-tauan Kluster Makanan Majlis Tindakan Sara Hidup Negara (NACCOL), Datuk Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz Syed Abdul Fasal berkata, menerusi langkah itu, hanya satu harga akan ditetapkan untuk beras tempatan (BPT) dan beras import (BPI).

Menurut beliau, cadangan tersebut dilihat tepat bagi menanganai masalah kartel dalam beras putih yang wujud sehingga kini, menyebabkan masalah kekurangan bekalan makanan rutin itu di seluruh negara.

"Manipulasi berlaku apabila wujud perbezaan harga antara

kedua-dua gred beras tempatan. Misalnya beras tempatan 10 kilogram bernilai RM26 manakala beras import pula sehingga RM35.

"Situasi ini menyebabkan ada pihak mengambil kesempatan dengan menukar pembungkuan sampil beras tempatan dengan beras import untuk mengaut keuntungan.

"Jadi, cadangan terbaik adalah memperkenalkan 'satu gred beras putih satu harga' bagi menanganai manipulasi dan bekalan harga beras import dan tempatan yang masih tidak kesudahan sehingga kini," katanya ketika ditemui selepas meninjau bekalan beras di sebuah pasar raya di sini semalam.

Menurut Ahli Parlimen Bukit Gantang itu, beliau pernah membangkitkan cadangan itu dalam mesyuarat NACCOL se-

belum ini.

Bagaimanapun katanya, perkara itu belum mendapat sebarang maklum balas di peringkat kerajaan.

Dalam pada itu, Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz mempersoalkan bekalan beras di pasaran yang masih tidak selesai selepas 13 hari arahan kerajaan terhadap semua pengilang untuk memproses segera 140,000 tan metrik padi.

Beliau mendedahkan, tinjauannya mendapati hanya lima pasar raya yang menjual beras tempatan.

"Semua daripada 105 pasar raya saya turun tiada beras tersebut walaupun dijanjikan segera untuk memenuhi keperluan para sepanjang Ramadan dan menjelang Hari Raya Aidilfitri," katanya.

Wujudkan satu gred harga bagi beras putih - Syed Abu Hussin

SHAH ALAM - Kerajaan dicadang mewujudkan satu gred harga beras putih di negara ini bagi mengelak sebarang manipulasi beras putih tempatan (BPT).

Pengerusi Task Force Pemantauan Kluster Makanan Majlis Tindakan Kos Luar Hidup (NACCOL), Datuk Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz Syed Abdul Fasal berkata, melalui kaedah ini, BPT dan beras putih import (BPI) ditetapkan dalam satu harga bagi beras 10 kilogram (kg).

"Dalam cadangan awal saya untuk mengatasi masalah manipulasi harga ini ialah dengan letak satu harga bagi satu gred beras.

"Ini kerana ada pihak yang membungkus BPT dalam bungkusan BPI dengan tujuan untuk manipulasi.

"Kalau ada dua gred padahal beras sama ia akan menyebabkan berlaku manipulasi di mana BPT akan dikampit dalam BPI yang lebih mahal.

"Inilah yang berlaku sekarang ini BPT berharga RM26 bagi 10 kilogram (kg) tidak ada di pasaran," katanya selepas membuat tinjauan di beberapa pasar raya sekitar sini pada Ahad.

Mengulas lanjut, Syed Abu Hussin

Hafiz berkata, langkah itu juga boleh meminimumkan permainan dan manipulasi harga oleh kartel yang berada dalam industri ini.

"Satu gred harga bagi beras yang sama merupakan penyelesaian kepada manipulasi ini," katanya.

Sementara itu, ditanya mengenai kewajaran dikekalkan RM26 bagi 10kg sekiranya diwujudkan gred harga bagi beras sama, beliau menegaskan ia tidak munasabah.

"Harga RM26 sudah tidak munasabah sebab pengilang tidak mampu kerana mereka akan rugi.

"Jadi, dalam hal ini perlu ada perbincangan lanjut dengan semua pemegang taruh supaya dapat diberikan harga yang munasabah," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz mendesak Ketua Pengarah Kawal Selia Padi dan Beras, Datuk Azman Mahmood supaya bertanggungjawab kerana didakwa gagal menangani isu bekalan BPT ketika ini.

"Azman perlu bertanggungjawab sepenuhnya kerana beliau sebelum ini beri jaminan 14 juta kampit BPT berharga

FOTO: ASRIL ASWANDI SHUKOR



Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz menunjukkan bekalan BPT yang habis di sebuah pasar raya pada Ahad.

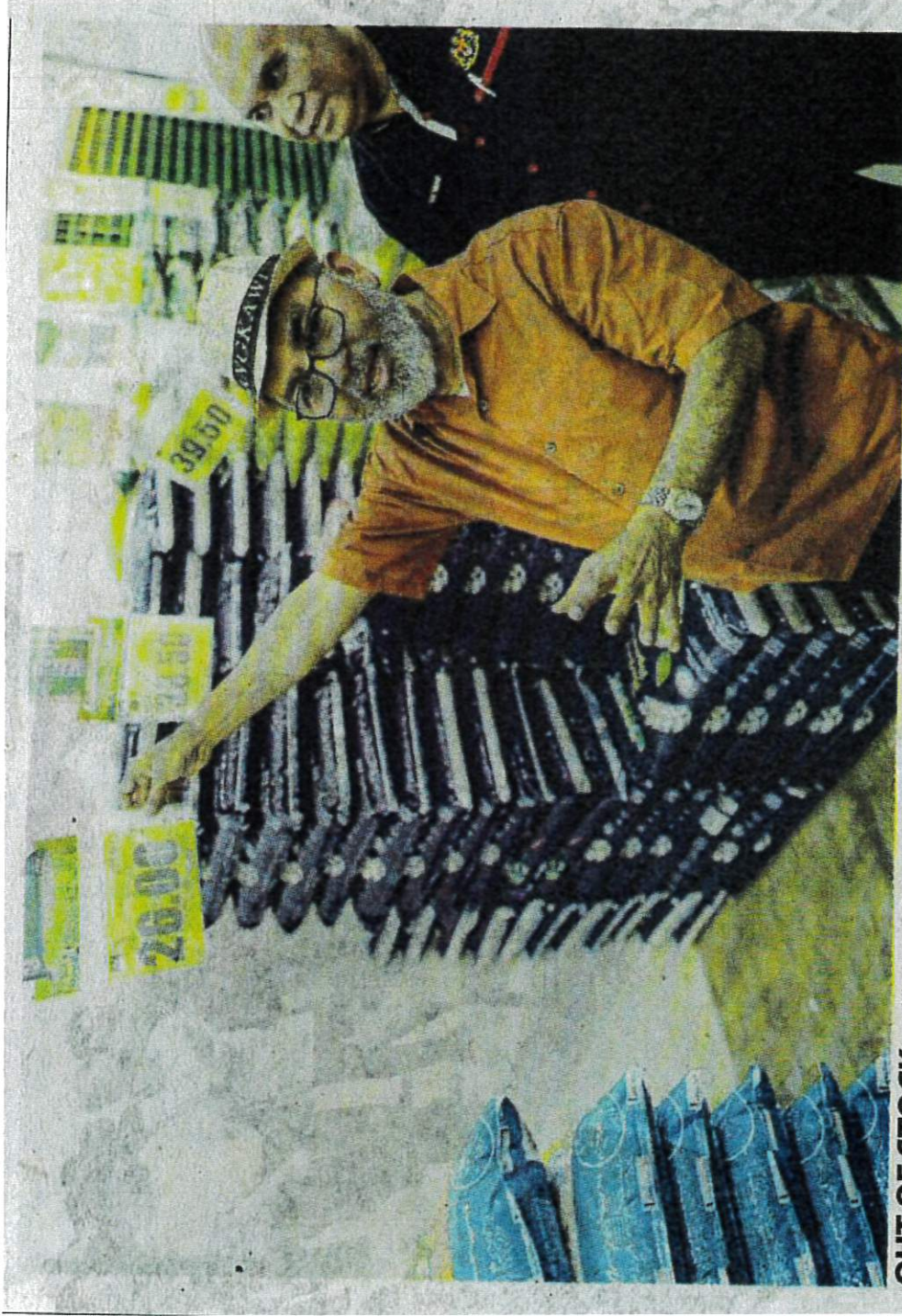
RM26 untuk 10 kilogram (kg) akan berada di pasaran.

"Tapi setelah 12 hari keputusan yang dibuat NACCOL yang dipengerusikan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim, BPT belum ada di pasaran.

"Hasil tinjauan saya di 105 lokasi pasar raya di beberapa buah negeri men-

dapati hanya lima tempat yang mempunyai bekalan BPT, itu pun dalam jumlah yang sangat kecil," katanya.

Tambahnya, Ketua Setiausaha Negara juga perlu mengambil tindakan terhadap Azman kerana kegagalannya itu memberi imej negatif terhadap kerajaan.



OUT OF STOCK ... National Action Council on Cost of Living Task Force (Food Cluster) chairman Datuk Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz Syed Abdul Fasal checking stocks of local white rice during a visit to a supermarket in Shah Alam yesterday. – **BERNAMAPIC**



National Action Council on Cost of Living food cluster task force chairman Datuk Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz (right) and Syed Abdul Faisal (second from right) carrying out checks on local white rice prices at a supermarket in Shah Alam yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

MARCH 20 DIRECTIVE

'LOCAL WHITE RICE SUPPLY UNRESOLVED'

Naccol task force chief says only 5 out of 105 supermarkets selling it

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DESPITE the government's directives to process and distribute available stocks of padi and rice totalling 140,000 metric tonnes, local white rice is still unavailable in many supermarkets.

National Action Council on Cost of Living (Naccol) food cluster task force chairman Datuk Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz and Syed Abdul Faisal yesterday said after checking 105 supermarkets nationwide, only five were selling local white rice.

"There was no rice in other supermarkets despite promises to meet consumer needs during Ramadan and Hari Raya Aidilfitri.

"This is happening despite people wondering what happened to

the stocks of local white rice).

"This means that the supply of local white rice remains unresolved even after 13 days of the government's directive to manufacturers to process 140,000 metric tonnes of padi."

He said this after checking on white rice prices at three supermarkets in the Kota Raja constituency here.

On March 20, a Naccol meeting chaired by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim had decided on four measures to resolve issues related to padi and rice prices. They included the immediate processing and releasing of all stocks of padi and rice bought by manufacturers into the local market.

Syed Abu Hussin wanted Chief Secretary to the Government Tan Sri Mohd Zuki Ali to take action against government officials who failed to comply with Anwar's directive.

"Even though the director-general of padi and rice regulation (Datuk Azman Mahmood) has given his assurance on the availability of 140,000 metric tonnes, which are equivalent to 14 million sacks of rice ready to be distributed, there is none."

The Bukit Gantang member of parliament suggested that the government set a fixed single price grade for local and imported white rice to curb price manipulation.

He said price manipulation of local white rice would continue if a fixed price was not established by the government.

He added that repackaging issues of rice would also occur if there were two prices for local and imported white rice, consequently leading to a hike in prices.

"Manipulation occurs when there is a price difference between these two grades of white rice.

"For example, 10kg of local white rice is priced at RM26 while imported white rice can go up to RM35.

"As long as there are different grades (of rice) despite the same quality, manipulation (among manufacturers) will occur, (and) this is also where local white rice will be mixed with imported white rice to be sold.

"If they are in the same grade with the same price, there won't be any issues of rice mixing or price manipulation."

Sowing seeds for growth

Joint pineapple cultivation project with university to increase yield

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MALAYSIAN Pineapple Industry Board (LPNM) (Johor branch) has allocated more than RM700,000 to Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Johor towards kick-starting its pineapple seed cultivation project.

Johor agriculture, agro-based industry and rural development committee chairman Datuk Zahari Sarp said the allocation was given under the National Economic Recovery Plan (Penjana).

"Johor LPNM received Penjana allocation worth RM9mil from the state government in 2021 and 2022.

"LPNM then started two projects, namely MD2 pineapple expansion project worth RM8mil and MD2 pineapple seed cultivation programme worth RM1mil.

"The agency then helped UiTM Johor in Segamat run the seed cultivation project by providing aid such as MD2 seeds, fertiliser, harvesting centre, cabin, drainage system, electrical fence, farming mechanisation and a tractor, all worth RM742,751," he said when contacted.

Zahari added that the project was unique and had the potential for expansion on a larger scale.

The Johor government, he said, planned to utilise unused land in the state, whether owned by the government or privately, for farming purposes to boost agricultural productivity.

He added that they would like to kick-start the initiative by collaborating with LPNM, UiTM Johor branch and Johor Pineapple Entrepreneurs Association (PPNN).

"Under this partnership, PPNN members will have access to 8ha of UiTM-owned land in Segamat to cultivate MD2 pine-



(From left) Zahari, LPNM director-general Mohd Khairuzamri M. Salleh and Assoc Prof Saunah at the UiTM Johor pineapple farm in Segamat.

apples, supported by guidance from LPNM."

The project would turn the 8ha land into an MD2 pineapple seed bank, which would help increase pineapple production in the state and increase the farmers' income, he added.

"If this project proves successful in generating satisfactory yields, we will expand by seeking permission to use other unused lands, such as those owned by educational institutions, police training centres and military camps."

Zahari said in Segamat alone, there were approximately 80ha of government abandoned land that could not be developed or

farmed due to flood risks, adding that studies were underway to determine suitable crops for cultivation in those areas.

UiTM Johor rector Assoc Prof Dr Saunah Zainon said the university hoped the project would benefit the public in line with the institution's aim of making it more community-centric.

"This is important in our effort to develop our community.

"We hope we can close the gap between the university, government agencies and the community with this project."

"The shared expertise can be used to give back to the people, especially in solving various socio-economic issues," she said.

"We hope we can close the gap between the university, government agencies and the community with this project."

Assoc Prof Dr Saunah Zainon