LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
ISNIN 31 OKTOBER 2022

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UKKMAFI

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

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
31/10/2022	BERITA HARIAN	NASIONAL	19

Produk ikan 'Hokkaido Dried Scallops' yang dirampas MAQIS di pintu masuk Lapangan Terbang Labuan, Jumaat lalu. (Foto ihsan MAQIS)

MAQIS rampas produk ikan dari Hong Kong

Konsainan dibawa melalui kargo lapangan terbang tiada permit import

Oleh Juwan Riduan
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Labuan: Tindakan sebuah syarikat tempatan membawa masuk produk hasilan ikan 'Hokkaido Dried Scallops' dari Hong Kong tanpa permit membawa padah apabila konsainan yang dibawa itu ditahan di pintu masuk Lapangan Terbang Labuan, Jumaat lalu.

Pengarah Jabatan Perkhidmatan Kuarantin dan Pemeriksaan Malaysia (MAQIS) Labuan, Nazrul Azman Mat Rahim berkata, pihaknya melakukan pemeriksaan terhadap konsainan itu yang dibawa masuk melalui kargo lapangan terbang.

Katanya, hasil pemeriksaan mendapati konsainan yang dibawa itu tidak mempunyai permit import yang dikeluarkan oleh MAQIS.

Boleh dipenjara 6 tahun

"Secara keseluruhannya MAQIS menahan 110.23 kilogram (kg) produk hasilan ikan yang dianggarkan bernilai RM62,057.43.

"Kes disiasat mengikut Seksyen 11(1), Akta Perkhidmatan Kuarantin dan Pemeriksaan Malaysia 2011 (Akta 728 yang memperuntukkan hukuman penjara sehingga enam tahun atau denda tidak melebihi RM100,000 atau kedua-duanya sekali," katanya dalam kenyataan media, semalam.

Nazrul berkata, tindakan penguatkuasaan undang-undang akan terus diperluaskan di semua pintu masuk negara bagi memantau dan memeriksa setiap keluaran pertanian yang masuk ke negara ini.

"Hal ini bagi memastikan tumbuhan, haiwan, karkas, ikan, keluaran pertanian dan mikro organisma yang diimport ke negara ini bebas daripada ancaman perosak dan penyakit.

"Selain ia bebas daripada bahan cemar serta mematuhi syarat dan peraturan yang ditetapkan," katanya.

Headline	Fishermen`s market to be built in Paitan		
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Fishermen's market to be built in Paitan

PAITAN: The Malaysian Fisheries Development Authority (LKIM) will develop a fishermen's market here to boost the income of fishermen in this sub-district by selling their catch directly to consumers.

Agriculture and Food Industry Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ronald Kiandee said the initiative is being funded by existing allocations of RM200,000.

"The market will be more organised and centred under one roof with better infrastructure and using proper equipment all prepared by LKIM.

"The ministry will continue to look at the needs of fishermen in rural areas to give them the opportunity to sell their catch directly to consumers without the involvement of middlemen to indirectly boost their income," he said at the groundbreaking ceremony for the market here on Sunday, in the presence of LKIM director-general Yusoff Othman.

Ronald said the Paitan Fishermen's Market, expected to be completed at the end of next year, will be LKIM's 12th market in Sabah and the 136th in Malaysia.

He added that the transactions at the 135 fishermen's markets in Malaysia had exceeded RM44.1 million with sales of over 3,000 metric tons of catch since January this year till September. — Bernama

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
31/10/2022	KOSMO	NEGARA	16

Stok kembung dijangka pulih dua minggu lagi

Musim ikan bertelur punca bekalan kurang

Oleh SAFINA RAMLI

BEKALAN ikan terutama kembung di pasaran tempatan dijangka pulih dalam tempoh dua minggu lagi.

GEORGE TOWN – Bekalan ikan kembung yang mengalami pengurangan sejak awal bulan ini dijangka pulih dalam tempoh dua minggu lagi.

Pengerusi Persatuan Nelayan Kebangsaan (Nekmat), Abdul Hamid Bahari berkata, pengurangan bekalan hasil laut itu disebabkan musim peralihan ikan-ikan yang sedang bertelur pada masa ini.

"Bekalan ikan ada, namun berkurang kerana ikan pada masa ini berada pada musim peralihan monsun, maksudnya sekarang sedang bertelur.

"Bekalan ikan dijangka pulih dalam tempoh dua minggu lagi dan kita akan lihat berlaku lambakan ikan seperti ikan kembung di kawasan utara pada masa itu," katanya ketika ditemui di persidangan Malaysia Tolak Tambak di sini kelmarin.

Sebelum ini, akhbar melaporkan bekalan ikan di beberapa negeri di utara tanah air mengalami kekurangan sehingga menyebabkan harga ikan terutama ikan kembung melambung.

Pengerusi Lembaga Kemajuan Ikan Malaysia (LKIM), Datuk Syed Abu Hussin Hafiz Syed Abdul Fasal berkata, isu berkenaan berlaku apabila beberapa jeti pendaratan utama di Kedah dan Perak mengalami kekurangan bekalan ikan hingga 50 peratus.

Menurut Abdul Hamid, nelayan terutama nelayan pantai berdepan dengan masalah pengurangan hasil ikan susulan musim peralihan monsun itu.

"Sebelum ini nelayan pantai boleh peroleh sehingga satu tan ikan termasuk ikan kembung sehari, namun sekarang berkurang.

"Ada nelayan yang peroleh hasil sekitar 20 hingga 30 kilogram, mereka terpaksa juga mengira harga kos operasi. Sebab itu harga ikan meningkat pada masa ini," katanya.

Dalam pada itu katanya, sebagai persediaan menghadapi risiko banjir, Nekmat menyiapkan 100 tan stok ikan sejuk beku yang siap untuk dibekalkan kepada penduduk yang terjejas dengan bencana banjir nanti.

"LKIM turut sediakan stok ikan sejuk beku ini sebagai persediaan menghadapi banjir agar bekalan ikan kepada orang ramai tidak terjejas nanti," tambahnya.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
31/10/2022	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	33

Bekalan ikan kembung pulih dua minggu lagi

GEORGE TOWN: Bekalan ikan kembung yang berkurangan sejak awal bulan ini dijangka pulih dalam dua minggu lagi.

Pengerusi Persatuan Nelayan Kebangsaan (Nekmat), Abdul Hamid Bahari berkata, kekurangan bekalan ikan itu disebabkan musim peralihan monsun iaitu ketika ini ikan-ikan sedang bertelur.

"Bekalan ikan ada, namun berkurang kerana ikan pada masa ini berada pada musim peralihan monsun, maksudnya sekarang sedang bertelur.

"Bekalan ikan dijangka pulih dalam tempoh dua minggu lagi dan kita akan lihat berlaku lambakan ikan seperti ikan kembung di kawasan utara pada masa itu," katanya ketika ditemui di persidangan Malaysia Tolak Tambak di sini semalam.

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"Sebelum ini nelayan pantai boleh peroleh hasil sehingga satu tan ikan termasuk ikan kembung sehari, namun sekarang hasil berkurang.

"Ada di antara nelayan yang peroleh hasil sekitar 20 hingga 30 kilogram, mereka terpaksa mengira harga kos operasi jadi disebabkan itu harga ikan meningkat pada masa ini," katanya.

Dalam pada itu tambah beliau, sebagai persediaan menghadapi risiko banjir, Nekmat menyiapkan 100 tan stok ikan sejuk beku untuk dibekalkan kepada penduduk yang terjejas dengan bencana itu.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
31/10/2022	THE SUN	NATION	11

'Stock up on seafood'

Erratic weather has made it hard for fishermen to go out to sea

By ALLISON LAI and N. TRISHA
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PETALING JAYA: There's still over seven weeks to Chinese New Year, but consumers are urged to start stocking up on seafood for their reunion feasts as the erratic weather has made it difficult for fishermen to go out to sea.

This is the advice from several fishermen associations from around the country.

Sekinchan Fishermen and Fish Traders Welfare Association Chia Choon Theng said the weather had turned erratic even though the northeast monsoon had not started, which caused deep sea trawlers to reduce their trips out to sea from weekly to once every two weeks, or just once a month.

A trip to sea by a deep sea trawler usually lasts five to seven days.

He advised customers to wrap seafood in layers of old newspapers to keep them fresh.

Although Deepavali has just ended and Christmas has not arrived, Chia and his fellow fishermen have started thinking about fish that fetches high prices during Chinese New Year, which is about 10 weeks away.

It is the thick-bodied, white-grey pomfret which is larger than the silver pomfret and has a finer meat texture than the common black pomfret.

Difficult catch: Chinese Pomfret can only be caught when there is fast-flowing current.

Called the Chinese Pomfret, Bawal Tambak or Tao Tai Chong in Cantonese, fishmongers and fishermen interviewed said it is difficult to find this fish now, and warned that they may become scarcer during Chinese New Year.

Penang fishmonger Oh Puey Ping, 28, said Chinese Pomfret can only be caught during the fast-flowing currents of spring tides, around the first and 15th of every lunar month.

That leaves fishermen with no more than six possible trips left before Chinese New Year, weather permitting.

"The small ones can go for RM60 per kg now and (fish that are above) 600g (can sell for) about RM80 per kg.

"During Chinese New Year, it can go up to between RM100 and RM150 per kg in some places," she said, when met at the Taman Sahabat market in Teluk Kumbar.

Penang's Seberang Prai Fishermen Association chairman Mahadi Md Rodzi said he does not think Chinese Pomfrets could be found in the markets any more right now.

"Many fishermen have contracts with restaurants, which means if we catch them, they go to the restaurants first.

"You need a different net for pomfrets. They are not easy to catch and you have to wait a long time after setting out the nets," he said.

In Pahang, Deepsea Fishermen Association chairman Mohd Yusery Mohd Yusoff urged consumers to start stocking up on their favourite seafood now.

His members ply the South China Sea, and they usually face the dangerous storms at the end of the year.

"The weather is unstable right now, so anyone wanting their favourite festive dishes should start stocking up now.

"Otherwise, tiger prawns that cost around RM60 to RM70 per kg now may go up to RM150 or more later," he said.

Help moderate soaring pork price, govt urged

By KHOO GEK SAN
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PETALING JAYA: Livestock farmers are urging the government to step in to help moderate the price of pork as this commodity is expected to see another increase next month due to disease outbreaks and higher operation costs.

Pork traders say that current farm prices for live pigs, which is trading at RM13.50 per kg, is expected to go up next month.

According to the Federation of Livestock Farmers' Associations of Malaysia (FLFAM), the price hike was induced by the spike in operating costs coupled with the outbreak of African swine fever (ASF) in several states.

The surge, described as the "highest increase in history", was due to the unstable price of animal feed and the swine fever outbreak.

The Penang representative for FLFAM as well as the chairman of the Penang Pig Farmers Association, Wong Fu Sheng, said the price of pig feed, which used to be RM800 per tonne, now costs RM2,000 per tonne.

"Raw materials are costly, and operating costs are high too; thus, total costs have gone up by 50% to 60%," he added.

ASF is destroying pig farms, and there is no vaccine to protect the pigs, with the only control measure currently being culling of infected pigs, and disinfection of the farm.

"It takes six to nine months to clear the farm and repopulate them with (other) animals," he said.

Malaysia Pork Meat Traders' Association chairman Chow Poh Yue hoped the government would intervene to prevent pork prices from skyrocketing.

"The government should try to manage soaring pork prices. Everything is going up now, and hawkers are crying foul, while the people are also struggling."

He claimed that pig farms had been raising prices indiscriminately, and the government should step in, especially since the Chinese New Year is just around the corner (Jan 22, 2023).

According to pork traders, this is the ninth increase this year, and it's time for the government to intervene.

Chow also questioned why local pork (animals raised in Malaysia) prices are higher than imported ones.

"Why are pork prices in Asian countries increasing? Denmark's price (for live pigs) are RM400 per 100kg, Thailand is RM1,300 per 100kg, while Malaysia is at RM1,350 per 100kg."

Chow warned that if local farms keep increasing prices, consumers and businesses will turn to imported frozen pork.

He said consumers who had felt the pinch have been buying less local pork over the last few months.

"We used to slaughter 120 pigs daily, now only 30 pigs. Due to ASF, the market is seeing a shortfall of 30,000 live pigs a month," he said, adding that if the situation is prolonged, some 3,000 pork retailers may have to close shop.

Pan Malaysia Koo Soo Restaurants and Chefs Association president, Wong Teu Hoon, said pork belly prices increased from RM23.50 per kg in January to RM30 in August, leading restaurant owners to adjust menu prices.

"We can't keep raising prices as there will come a point where consumers won't be able to take it. For now, we have to adjust by using cheaper ingredients to manage rising pork prices," he said.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
31/10/2022	THE SUN	NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS	4

Chicken, fish, eggs snapped up at Pahang carnival

KUANTAN: A sale at the Pahang Keluarga Malaysia Aspirations Tour event, held at the Darul Makmur Stadium, saw bargain hunters snapping up the fresh food on offer.

Bernama found that the stalls selling fresh food such as chicken, fish and eggs sold out by noon yesterday while the stalls for essential goods like rice, sugar and cooking oil saw a steady stream of buyers.

MG Coop Mart marketing manager Abdullah Jantan said they brought in a supply of 1,500 chickens on Friday but on Saturday, had to add about 300 more birds to meet demand while all of the 1,200 trays of eggs at the event were sold yesterday.

"I really didn't expect the response to be so encouraging, that I had to add more to the stocks."

He added that a chicken weighing between 1.8kg and 2kg sold for RM10 while grade E and grade B eggs retailed for RM9.50 and RM10.90 respectively.

Nor Salam Mohd Zin, 33, a draughtsman living in Nilai, Negri Sembilan, said as he had just returned to his village here, he did not waste the opportunity to shop for necessities at bargain prices.

"The goods here are up to 30% cheaper than usual. This is a good initiative to help the people when prices are soaring," he said.

He also expressed hope that sales like this could be conducted in rural areas, Bernama reported.

Civil servant Khairiyah Wan Yahaya, 33, said the sale was most helpful.

"The savings in buying goods here is RM20 to RM30."

For lecturer Zarina Dolma'min, 43, essential items such as the 5kg bottled cooking oil sold at RM25 at the event would indeed help families save on daily expenses.

"I hope the new government that is formed after this will continue with this kinds of programmes to help the less fortunate buy basic necessities."

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
31/10/2022	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	12

Selesaikan isu gred telur, elak rakyat ditipu

PETALING JAYA: "Tindakan segelintir pihak melabelkan telur biasa kepada telur premium adalah perbuatan menipu rakyat maka ia perlu dibanteras sehabis-habisnya".

Presiden Lembaga Pelindung dan Kebajikan Pengguna Malaysia (LPKPM), Dr. Lee Nan Sang berkata, pihak berkuasa tidak boleh mendiamkan diri sebaliknya perlu melakukan tindakan segera untuk memerangi aktiviti penipuan rakyat.

Menurut beliau, setiap gred telur mempunyai kelebihan dan khasiat tertentu dan sekiranya bahan masakan tersebut dijual dengan harga tidak setimpal dengan 'keistimewaan' ia adalah perbuatan salah.

"Ini kerana telur premium ada kriteria tertentu, misalnya telur Omega 3, telur kolesterol rendah, telur Selenium Plus dan sebagainya.

"Sementara itu telur ayam biasa tidak mempunyai kelebihan itu. Saya mengesa para penternak atau peniaga, janganlah cuba menipu pengguna dengan melabelkan telur ayam biasa dengan label ayam telur premium.

"Pihak LPKPM mengambil berat perkara ini. Saya berharap pihak berkuasa mengambil langkah yang serius dan munasabah untuk memantau perkara ini daripada terus berlaku," katanya ketika dihubungi *Utusan Malaysia*.

Terdahulu, *Mingguan Malaysia* melaporkan, terdapat segelintir pihak sewenang-wenangnya meletakkan label premium pada telur ayam biasa yang dijual di pasaran untuk mendapat keuntungan berlebihan.

Perkara tidak bermoral yang sudah berlaku sejak sekian lama terjadi ekoran Kementerian Pertanian dan Industri Asas Tani (MAFI) dan Jabatan Veterinar (JPV) tiada prosedur khusus bagi memantau aktiviti pelabelan sebegini, dalam menentukan jenis gred telur itu premium atau tidak.

Bagaimanapun, Nan Sang mengakui bahawa masalah melibatkan bekalan ayam dan telur amat sukar untuk dititiknoktahkan kerana ia melibatkan pelbagai pihak untuk merungkaikan.

"Perkara ini tidak habis-habis sejak setahun lepas. Pengguna berharap agar perkara ini dapat diselesaikan dan tidak berulang lagi.

Sementara itu, Yang Dipertua Persatuan Keselamatan Pengguna Kuala Lumpur (PKPKL), Samsudin Mohamad Fauzi berkata, isu telur memalukan negara kerana ia menunjukkan kelemahan pentadbiran.

"Ini penipuan secara halus. Saya pun hairan kenapa isu rakyat sebegini tidak diberi perhatian, kenapa sekarang telur pun menjadi isu di dalam negara kita. Saya memang kesal, takkan isu telur pun tak boleh nak ditangani?

"Jangan sampai satu hari nanti, hanya bangsawan sahaja mampu makan telur sedangkan dahulu kalau tiada duit orang kata makan nasi, kicap dan telur tetapi tidak boleh pada ketika ini. Ia amat memalukan negara pada masyarakat luar," ujarnya.