



LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN  
SELASA 15 JULAI 2025

BIL	TAJUK KERATAN AKHBAR	KEMENTERIAN / JABATAN / AGENSI
1.	SUPPLY OF EGGS NOT AFFECTED BY SUBSIDY REDUCTION: MINISTER, NATIONAL, THE SUN – 3	KEMENTERIAN PERTANIAN DAN KETERJAMINAN MAKANAN (KPKM)
2.	MR CL3, MR CL4 ATASI MASALAH PADI ANGIN, NASIONAL, SINAR HARIAN – 7	INSTITUT PENYELIDIKAN DAN KEMAJUAN PERTANIAN MALAYSIA (MARDI)
3.	VARIETI PADI MR CL3, MR CL4 DIPERKENAL, NEGARA, KOSMO – 12	
4.	NEW PADI VARIETIES TACKLE WEEDY RICE, NATION, THE STAR – 9	
5.	MARDI PERKENAL DUA VARIETI BAHARU BENIH PADI, DALAM NEGERI, UTUSAN MALAYSIA – 6	
6.	2 VARIETI BAHARU PADI DIPERKENAL, NASIONAL, BERITA HARIAN – 14	
7.	FLOODS WIPED OUT RM158M OF PADI IN 2024, NATION, NEW STRAITS TIMES - 7	LEMBAGA KEMAJUAN PERTANIAN MUDA (MADA)
8.	RISING TO THE CHALLENGE OF RISING SEAS AND SEAWATER BREACHING PADI FIELDS, NATION, NEW STRAITS TIMES – 7	LAIN-LAIN
9.	MUSIM DURIAN MACAM HARI RAYA, NEGARA, KOSMO – 13	

UKK KPKM

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

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
15/7/2025	THE SUN	NATIONAL	3

## Supply of eggs not affected by subsidy reduction: Minister

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Malaysia's chicken egg supply has remained stable and sufficient despite the subsidy reduction by five sen per egg since May 1, said Agriculture and Food Security Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu.

He said this proved that the reduction has not disrupted supply.

"In fact, it reflects the growing sustainability and resilience of the local production system," he said in a Facebook post yesterday.

The government had previously announced the end of egg price controls, with subsidies cut from 10 sen to five sen per egg from May and set to be fully removed next month.

The ministry had said the decision was made after considering the industry's commitment to ensuring that egg production remains sufficient.

It also noted that prolonged price controls and subsidies are unsustainable for the long-term viability of local producers and the country's financial position.

Re-targetting egg subsidies is part of the government's broader effort to ensure more efficient use of public funds and promoting the sustainability of local food production. – Bernama



TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
15/7/2025	SINAR HARIAN	NASIONAL	7

## MR CL3, MR CL4 atasi masalah padi angin

Mohamad (tiga dari kanan) memeriksa padi baharu Clearfield MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pusat Benih Padi FELCRA Seberang Perak pada Isnin.



**PASIR SALAK** - Industri padi dan beras negara terus diperkasa apabila dua jenis padi baharu, MR CL3 dan MR CL4 diperkenal bagi menangani cabaran utama pengeluaran terutama melibatkan serangan padi angin.

Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan, Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu berkata, kedua-dua jenis baharu itu merupakan hasil kerjasama strategik selama lebih 20 tahun antara Institut Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Pertanian Malaysia (MARDI) dan syarikat BASF.

“Kaedah pengkomersialan jenis ini dilaksanakan melalui Sistem Pengeluaran Clearfield yang merangkumi tiga komponen iaitu jenis padi, racun rumpai khas trek dan panduan penggunaan teknologi.

“Ketiga-tiga komponen ini digabungkan untuk menjamin kelestarian teknologi dan menangani padi angin,” katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian dalam ucapannya sempena Majlis Pengisytiharan Varieti Padi Clearfield Baharu MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pusat Benih Padi FELCRA

Plantation Services Sdn Bhd Seberang Perak di sini pada Isnin.

Mohamad berkata, MR CL3 dan MR CL4 mempunyai kelebihan utama iaitu tempoh matang awal antara 99 hingga 102 hari, potensi hasil melebihi tujuh tan sehektar serta ketahanan terhadap penyakit karah daun dan karah tangkai.

“Padi jenis ini sesuai digunakan dalam program-program di bawah KPKM seperti penanaman lima kali dua tahun dan SMART SBB, selaras dengan matlamat meningkatkan hasil pengeluaran serta kesejahteraan pesawah,” katanya.

Tambah Mohamad, kerjasama strategik sektor awam dan swasta merupakan kunci dalam memacu reformasi menyeluruh industri padi negara bagi memastikan keterjaminan makanan lebih kukuh pada masa hadapan.

“Usaha ini mencetuskan teknologi inovatif sesuai dengan cabaran semasa, malah menjadi model kerjasama awam-swasta yang perlu diperluaskan,” kata beliau.

## Varieti padi MR CL3, MR CL4 diperkenal

**PASIR SALAK** – Institut Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Pertanian Malaysia (MARDI) memperkenalkan dua varieti baharu padi yang memiliki ketahanan penyakit lebih baik selain mengeluarkan lebih banyak hasil.

Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM), Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu berkata, varieti baharu MR CL3 dan MR CL4 itu hasil kerjasama strategik MARDI dan Syarikat BASF Sdn. Bhd. yang bermula sejak 20 tahun lalu.

Katanya, usaha itu bukan sahaja mencetuskan teknologi inovatif yang sesuai dengan cabaran semasa, malah menjadi model kerjasama antara sektor awam dan swasta dalam pembangunan industri padi dan beras negara.

"Kedua-dua varieti ini mempunyai ketahanan terhadap penyakit karah daun dan karah tangkai serta dapat dimanfaatkan dalam program inisiatif KPKM yang sedang dijalankan seperti penanaman lima kali dua tahun dan SMART Sawah Berskala Besar (SMART SBB).

"Selain itu, kelebihan MR CL3 dan MR CL4 ialah matang awal iaitu selama 99 hari dan 102 hari dengan potensi hasil melebihi tujuh tan sehektar," katanya pada Majlis Pengisytiharan

Varieti Padi Clearfield MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pusat Benih Padi Felcra Berhad, Seberang Perak di Kampung Gajah di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, kaedah pengkomersilan varieti baharu itu dilaksanakan melalui Sistem Pengeluaran Clearfield yang merangkumi varieti padi, racun rumpai khas Trek dan panduan penggunaan teknologi.

Katanya, ketiga-tiga komponen itu digabungkan bersama bagi menjamin kelestarian teknologi dan mencapai matlamat bagi menangani masalah padi angin.

"Padi angin antara cabaran utama pesawah di negara ini kerana kesan serangannya menyebabkan kerugian hasil tuaian yang tinggi iaitu di antara 20 hingga 80 peratus.

"Keadaan ini bukan sahaja mengurangkan pendapatan pesawah, malah secara tidak langsung memberi kesan kepada pengeluaran padi negara," katanya.

MARDI dan BASF meneruskan kerjasama dalam penghasilan varieti padi MR CL3 dan MR CL4 selepas kejayaan MR 220CL1 dan MR 220CL2 pada 2010 menerusi penyelidikan teknologi Clearfield khusus bagi mengawal serangan padi angin.



**MOHAMAD** (dua dari kanan) melakukan gimik perasmian Varieti Padi Clearfield Baharu Mardi MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pasir Salak semalam.

# New padi varieties tackle weedy rice

**PASIR SALAK:** The Agriculture and Food Security Ministry, through the Malaysian Agricultural Research and Development Institute (MARDI), has introduced two new padi varieties to address the weedy rice issue in the country.

Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu said the development of the new MR CL3 and MR CL4 varieties was the result of a strategic collaboration between MARDI and BASF (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd over the past 20 years.

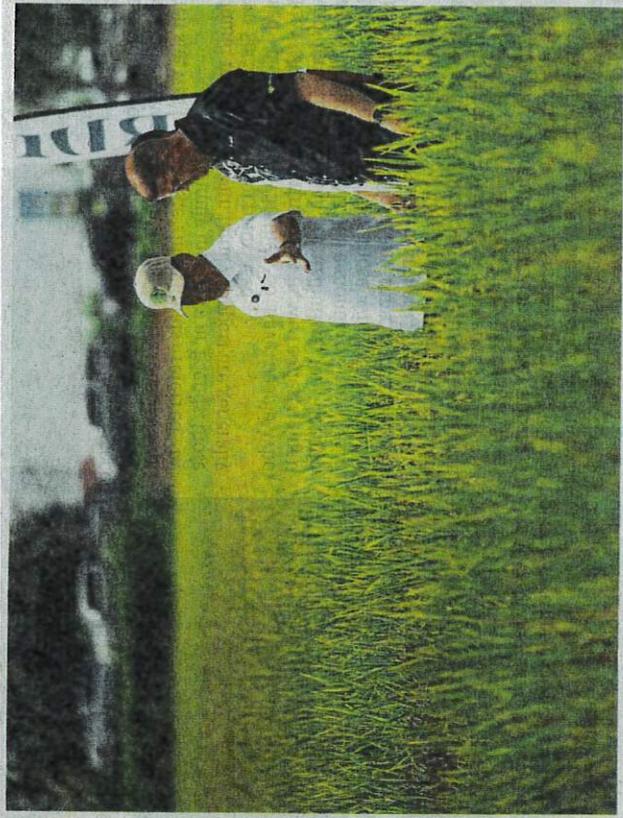
"MR CL3 and MR CL4 mature earlier, at 99 days, and have a yield potential of over seven tonnes per hectare," he said during the launch of the new Clearfield padi varieties at the Felcra Bhd Seed Centre here.

Also present were ministry secretary-general Datuk Seri Isham

Ishak; Perak Rural Development, Plantation, Agriculture and Food Industry Committee chairman Datuk Mohd Zolkafly Harun; MARDI Governing Board chairman Dr Azman Ismail; and MARDI director-general Datuk Dr Mohamad Zabawi Abdul Ghani.

Mohamad said both varieties are also resistant to leaf and neck blast diseases and can be utilised under current KPKM initiatives, such as the five padi planting seasons in two years programme and the Large-Scale SMART Padi Field (SMART SBB) programme.

As for the commercialisation of the new varieties, he said it would be carried out through the Clearfield Production System, which includes padi varieties, imidazolinone herbicide (Trek) and stewardship guidelines, to



**A more resistant crop:** Mohamad (left) inspecting the new Clearfield rice varieties at the Felcra Bhd Seed Centre, Seberang Perak. He is accompanied by Robert Upton, BASF head of business management South-East Asia. — Bernama

tackle the weedy rice issue. Mohamad added that the MR CL3 and MR CL4 varieties were specifically bred to be resistant to imidazolinone herbicides,

Bernama reported. Weedy rice, also known as "padi angin" in Malaysia, is a problematic weed that can significantly reduce crop yields.

Earlier, Mohamad also officiated the launch of the new Integrated Agricultural Development Area Complex in Seberang Perak.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
15/7/2025	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	6

# MARDI perkenal dua varieti baharu benih padi

Oleh ASLIZA MUSA  
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**PASIR SALAK:** Institut Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Pertanian Malaysia (MARDI) memperkenalkan dua varieti baharu padi yang memiliki ketahanan penyakit lebih baik dan mengeluarkan lebih banyak hasil.

Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM), Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu berkata, varieti baharu MR CL3 dan MR CL4 itu adalah hasil kerjasama strategik MARDI dan Syarikat BASF Sdn. Bhd. bermula sejak 20 tahun lalu.

Katanya, usaha itu bukan sahaja mencetuskan teknologi inovatif yang sesuai dengan cabaran semasa, malah menjadi model kerjasama antara sektor awam dan swasta dalam pembangunan industri padi dan beras negara.

“Kedua-dua varieti ini mempunyai ketahanan terhadap penyakit karah daun dan karah tangkai serta dapat dimanfaatkan di dalam program inisiatif



**MOHAMAD Sabu pada majlis pengisytiharan varieti padi Clearfield MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pusat Benih Padi Felcra Berhad, Seberang Perak di Kampung Gajah, Pasir Salak, Perak, semalam. - UTUSAN/MUHAMAD NAZREEN SYAH MUSTHAFA**

KPKM yang sedang dijalankan seperti penanaman lima kali dua tahun dan SMART Sawah Berskala Besar (SMART SBB).

“Selain itu, kelebihan MR CL3 dan MR CL4 ialah matang awal iaitu selama 99 hari dan 102 hari dengan potensi hasil melebihi tujuh tan sehektar,”

katanya pada Majlis Pengisytiharan Varieti Padi Clearfield MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pusat Benih Padi Felcra Berhad, Seberang Perak di Kampung Gajah, di sini semalam.

Menurut Mohamad, kaedah pengkomersilan varieti baharu itu dilaksanakan melalui Sistem

Pengeluaran Clearfield merangkumi varieti padi, racun rumpai khas Trek dan panduan penggunaan teknologi.

Katanya, ketiga-tiga komponen itu digabungkan bagi menjamin kelestarian teknologi dan mencapai matlamat untuk menangani masalah padi angin.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
15/7/2025	BERITA HARIAN	NASIONAL	14



Mohamad pada Majlis Pengisytiharan Varieti Padi Clearfield Baharu MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pusat Benih Padi FELCRA Berhad, Pasir Salak, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

## 2 varieti baharu padi diperkenalkan

**Pasir Salak:** Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM) melalui Institut Penyelidikan dan Kemajuan Pertanian Malaysia (MARDI) memperkenalkan dua varieti baharu padi untuk menangani isu berkaitan padi angin.

Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan, Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu, berkata dua varieti baharu itu, MR CL3 dan MR CL4 adalah hasil kerjasama strategik di antara MARDI dan BASF (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd sejak 20 tahun lalu.

“MR CL3 dan MR CL4 mempunyai kelebihan matang lebih awal iaitu selama 99 hari dengan potensi hasil melebihi tujuh tan sehektar,” katanya ketika berucap pada Majlis Pengisytiharan

ran Varieti Padi Clearfield Baharu MR CL3 dan MR CL4 di Pusat Benih Padi FELCRA Berhad, di sini, semalam.

Yang turut hadir Ketua Setiausaha KPKM, Datuk Seri Isham Ishak; Pengerusi Lembaga Pengelola MARDI, Dr Azman Ismail; Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Pembangunan Luar Bandar, Perladangan, Pertanian dan Industri Makanan Perak, Datuk Mohd Zolkafly Harun dan Ketua Pengarah MARDI, Datuk Dr Mohamad Zabawi Abdul Ghani.

Mohamad berkata, kedua-dua varieti itu juga mempunyai ketahanan terhadap penyakit karah daun dan karah tangkai serta dapat dimanfaatkan di bawah program inisiatif KPKM seperti penanaman padi lima kali dua

tahun dan Program SMART Sawah Berskala Besar (SMART SBB).

Katanya, kaedah pengkomersialan varieti itu akan dilaksanakan melalui Sistem Pengeluaran Clearfield yang merangkumi varieti padi, racun rumpai imidazolinone (Trek) dan garis panduan penggunaan yang bertujuan mengawal masalah padi angin.

Beliau berkata, varieti MR CL3 dan MR CL4 adalah padi yang dibiakkan khusus untuk mempunyai ciri rintangan terhadap racun rumpai imidazolinone.

Terdahulu, Mohamad turut merasmikan bangunan baharu Kompleks Projek Pembangunan Pertanian Bersepadu (IADA) di Seberang Perak. BERNAMA

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
15/7/2025	NEW STRAITS TIMES	NATION	7

## Floods wiped out RM158m of padi in 2024

**ALOR STAR:** In 2024, floods wiped out RM158.7 million worth of padi in Kedah's Mada region, raising alarm over the escalating cost of climate volatility on the nation's food security.

The Muda Agricultural Development Authority (Mada) said floods last year destroyed 57,323 tonnes of rice across 2,047 hectares of padi fields.

But it is not just the dramatic floods — creeping temperatures are an invisible threat to yields, agency leaders said.

"Flood damage is obvious, but rising temperatures will quietly eat into yields.

"When it gets too hot, it affects chlorophyll formation and flowering in the rice.

"Once that happens, output will decline, but for now, it is under control," Mada chairman Datuk Dr Ismail Salleh said.

Citing a Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia study, he said that a 1°C increase in average temperature could reduce returns by RM442 per hectare.

Another long-term study projects yield reductions of up to 34.8 per cent by 2060 in granary



Datuk Dr Ismail Salleh



Datuk Mahfuz Omar



Rising temperatures will quietly eat into padi yields. NSTP FILE PIC

states like Kedah, Perak and Kelantan if climate patterns persist.

Mada is focusing on fortifying the fundamentals of soil health and water management to cushion the impact, said Ismail.

"Whether it's floods or heat spells, degraded soil means poor harvests.

"We're boosting fertility with microbial and organic inputs to make the crops more resilient," he said.

The agency is upgrading irrigation and drainage where possible, bracing for more extreme swings between too much and too little water.

While most Mada-controlled

areas are shielded from saltwater intrusion, Ismail said that coastal padi zones in Kuala Muda and Sungai Petani were showing signs of soil salinity.

"We have about a decade, according to the Malaysian Meteorological Department (Met-Malaysia) forecasts, to put adaptation strategies in place before harsher climate patterns take hold.

"We have to adapt before harsher climate patterns really set in. That means investing in better drainage, smart irrigation systems and soil resilience measures now," he added.

Farmers Organisation Author-

ity (LPP) chairman Datuk Mahfuz Omar said climate-linked disasters were forcing a paradigm shift in farming.

"Floods, droughts, even seawater intrusion, these are no longer once-in-a-generation events. They're happening regularly, so we need cross-ministerial coordination and long-term planning to cope."

Mahfuz said farmers under the LPP are adjusting their routines, altering crop calendars or choosing different, more resilient crops in between padi seasons to avoid the worst flood months.

He said in Kedah, 816 LPP-member farmers suffered RM2.2 million in losses this year due to floods and drought, affecting over 3,400ha of farmland.

Nationwide, 37,912 LPP-member padi farmers have enrolled in Agribank's Padi Crop Takaful Scheme introduced last year — a sign that farmers recognise the need for climate risk management.

"Preparedness is no longer optional. We have to reduce the risk of suffering losses to climate change and we need to learn from the past events" Mahfuz said.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
15/7/2025	NEW STRAITS TIMES	NATION	7

## Rising to the challenge of rising seas and seawater breaching padi fields

**ALOR STAR:** Che Ani Md Zain, 60, a long-time Jerlun padi farmer and part-time coastal fisherman, is increasingly witnessing a troubling phenomenon – seawater entering padi fields.

He said the sea has encroached further on land in the past few years, flooding low-lying areas along the coast.

"If our riverbanks and embankments (bunds) aren't improved, tides will keep pushing further inland.

"Areas in the north that never had seawater might experience it in 10 years if nothing is done."

Che Ani is among farmers struggling with rising sea levels as a result of climate change.

Mohd Sabri Mansor, 66, has farmed in Kampung Sungai Yan his entire life, tending fields right next to the Straits of Malacca.

He said the sea has pushed farther inland in recent years.

"Water levels used to rise but remained by the riverbanks. Now the saltwater seeps into our fields.

"We don't understand why it's happening, but our soil has suddenly turned brackish."

Sabri said high-tide floods used to hit the padi fields once a year.

"Now it happens three or four times a year. There is no pattern anymore."

At his age, Sabri has scaled back to farming 2 *relong* (0.5ha), but



Padi farmers in Kuala Sungai Yan with a makeshift irrigation system to prevent saltwater intrusion.  
NSTP PIC BY AHMAD MUKHSEIN MUKHTAR

even that small inherited lot is at risk whenever the ocean swells.

Not far from Sabri's plot, Aziz Hashim, 64, recounted how he lost an entire plot to saltwater inundation.

"All the seedlings turned yellow and died. I had to wash the salt out and start over," Aziz Hashim said.

The replanting set him back

thousands of ringgit.

"This kind of loss is happening more often now. It's unpredictable, and we're not ready for it," he said.

Azizan, who oversees about 10 *relong* (2.5ha), said farmers in his village are anxious every time the full moon approaches, a period known for king tides.

Many have begun checking tide

timetables as regularly as the weather forecast.

In response to these creeping tides, some innovators are taking matters into their own hands.

Ahmad Husni Mohd Isa, who leads the Kedah Malays Cooperative's farming division in the area, has devised a makeshift irrigation system to prevent saltwater intrusion.

"Without it, this whole village's harvest could be gone," Husni said, gesturing towards the system built from plastic pipes and wooden planks.

Husni believes global phenomena are manifesting on their shores.

Ice caps melting half a world away contribute to higher sea levels here, he said, and the gravitational tug of the moon now brings markedly higher tides.

"It may sound far-fetched, but there's more water now. When the moon pulls, more water comes in, and we can see the effects."

The community knows that improvisation can only go so far. Husni said authorities have been supportive, with short-term measures like maintaining old embankments, but more robust infrastructure is needed.

"We're not fighting climate change; we're preparing for it. The sea is rising, so we have to rise to the challenge too."

He recalled a bold idea floated in the 1990s by the late former Kedah menteri besar Tan Sri Sanusi Junid, who suggested growing padi on rooftops.

"People thought it was crazy back then, but by 2035, who knows?"

"We might be planting rice on roofs or on floating platforms if that's what it takes."

## Musim durian macam hari raya

**PONTIAN** - Suasana hujung minggu yang meriah seperti hari raya menyebabkan seorang pekerja juruukur bahan dari Puchong, Selangor sanggup pulang ke daerah ini bagi membantu keluarganya menjual durian.

Dinie Yusra Md. Idrus, 31, berkata, kehadiran penggemar raja buah termasuk dari Singapura membuatkan gerai bapanya, Md. Idrus Md. Yassin, 52, di Pekan Nanas menjadi tumpuan.

"Pada musim durian, kami dapat 'bonus' dengan menjual buah pajakan kebun durian di Pagoh, Muar dan kebun peninggalan datuk di Kampung Maju Jaya di sini.

"Hari minggu dan cuti umum paling sibuk sebab ramai peminat durian datang ke Pekan Nanas yang terkenal sebagai 'syurga durian' di Pontian.

"Terdapat banyak gerai menjual durian di sepanjang jalan Kampung Sawah, Kampung Maju Jaya dan Kampung Melayu Raya yang menjadi tarikan peminat raja buah," katanya.

Menurut Dinie Yusra, bapanya menjual pelbagai jenis durian termasuk 101 dan D13 sejak 10 tahun lalu dan mampu meraih RM40,000 dalam dua bulan.

Katanya, durian kampung dan durian kahwin kampung dijual

RM15 hingga RM18 sekilogram, IOI RM22, manakala D3 RM18 hingga RM22 atau RM100 bagi lima kilogram.

Walaupun musim durian menghampiri penghujung, masih ramai pelanggan datang ke gerainya yang turut menjual cendol.

"Jualan durian kami pernah mencapai satu tan pada hujung minggu. Ayah berulang-alik ke Pagoh setiap hari bagi memastikan bekalan durian mencukupi," katanya.

Pekan Nanas yang mudah diakses dari lebuh raya memberi kelebihan kepada peniaga durian di kawasan berkenaan.



**DINIE YUSRA** menunjukkan durian yang dijual di gerai bapanya di Pekan Nanas.