



LAPORAN LIPUTAN MEDIA HARIAN
ISNIN 5 MEI 2025

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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
5/5/2025	SINAR HARIAN	NASIONAL	8

KPKM perbanyak keluaran telur gred khas lebih murah

KUALA TERENGGANU - Kementerian Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan (KPKM) akan memperbanyak keluaran telur ayam gred khas yang lebih murah susulan penamatan subsidi bagi produk itu bermula 1 Ogos ini.

Menteri KPKM, Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu berkata, langkah itu memberi peluang kepada rakyat mendapatkan bekalan pada harga lebih murah sekali gus menstabilkan harga telur ayam.

"Kita juga nak memperbanyak keluaran telur ayam khas yang lebih murah (seperti pada) bulan Ramadan baru-baru ini (yang) dijual RM5 sepapan.

"Kali ini, tak tahu harganya macam mana tetapi kita yakin tidak akan naik melambung," katanya.

Pada 30 April lepas, KPKM ketika mengumumkan penarikan subsidi berkenaan turut memaklumkan beberapa langkah intervensi akan dilaksanakan oleh kementerian itu bersama Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Kos Sara Hidup bagi meminimumkan impak terhadap kos sara hidup rakyat susulan keputusan itu.

Antaranya kerajaan memberi jaminan bahawa pihak industri bersetuju memperkenalkan telur ayam gred khas pada harga munasabah.

Mohamad berkata, rakyat juga boleh mendapatkan bekalan telur ayam pada harga yang lebih kompetitif melalui inisiatif Jualan Agro Madani dan Jualan Rahmah di seluruh negara.

Selain itu, beliau berkata, keputusan kerajaan menamatkan sepenuhnya pemberian subsidi dan kawalan harga telur ayam serta mengurangkan kadar subsidi daripada 10 sen kepada 5 sen sebij yang berkuat kuasa 1 Mei lepas, dibuat secara libat urus bersama pihak berkepentingan.

"Kita juga buat secara *soft landing*, tak tarik secara mengejut. Maka saya yakin harga telur ayam tidak naik melambung," katanya. - *Bernama*



MOHAMAD SABU

**PENARIKAN
SUBSIDI TELUR**

No plan to raise food prices despite end of egg subsidy, say Johor eateries

By VENESA DEVI
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JOHOR BARU: The abolishment of the egg subsidy – taking place in August – is not likely to raise food prices here, say restaurant owners and associations.

“I have not increased the price of food in my restaurants for a long time despite the rising cost of ingredients, and I do not plan to start now,” said Rifayudheen Ahmad Khan, who runs three restaurants in Johor Baru and Pasir Gudang.

Furthermore, he said, the removal of the subsidy is not expected to affect the operating costs of eateries that much.

“We will still stick to the same price as we do not want to burden our customers,” added Rifayudheen, 37.

The Agriculture and Food Security Ministry has made it known that price controls on eggs would be lifted in the coming months, with the subsidy reduced from 10 sen to five sen per egg from May 1 onwards. The subsidy will then be fully abolished come Aug 1.

Robin Jian, 63, the owner of a restaurant in Johor Baru, declared that he would absorb any additional costs.

He said that while there had been price increases over the past few years for a number of basic ingredients, he had always opted to absorb the cost instead of burdening his customers.

“So, we will do the same this time. I plan to maintain prices for as long as I can,” he said, adding that he had yet to see a significant spike in egg prices so far.

Johor Indian Muslim Entrepreneurs Association secretary-general Hussein Ibrahim noted that the subsidy removal is much more likely to affect families than restaurants and other businesses.

“For now, the reduction of the subsidy from 10 sen to five sen has not caused any effect. And I believe the full removal of the subsidy in August will not make much of a difference either.

“I believe most restaurant operators will opt to absorb the extra cost rather than raise food prices,” he added.

Johor Baru Business and Hawker Association president Roland Lim said businesses are observing the matter closely, adding that it is too soon to know the extent of the impact on prices from the complete removal of the subsidy.

“Even with the reduction of the subsidy since early this month, it has not caused much impact.

“In fact, the price of eggs went down slightly recently because of consistent supply. As such, the chances of this leading to higher food prices here are not likely, but we will have to wait and see,” he said.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	HARIAN METRO	LOKAL	17

Kuala Lumpur: Pengurangan subsidi telur ayam mulai 1 Mei lalu tidak menjejaskan harga runcit buat masa ini apabila tinjauan di beberapa kedai runcit dan pasar raya mini mendapati harganya kekal stabil.

Tinjauan Harian Metro di sekitar ibu kota semalam mendapati purata harga telur gred A bagi 30 biji (sepapan) dijual pada harga RM13 hingga RM13.50, manakala gred B antara RM12 hingga RM12.50, gred C RM10 ke RM11, Gred D RM9 hingga RM10.

Pembantu kedai runcit, Muhammad Zaki Isa berkata, tiada arahan daripada pembekal untuk menaikkan harga buat masa ini.

Katanya, dia menjual telur mengikut harga pasaran dan tiada kenaikan dikenakan setakat ini.

"Saya ada dengar pengurangan subsidi tapi tak berapa tahu sangat bagaimana pelaksanaannya.

"Pembekal kata harga kekal dulu, mungkin mereka tunggu arahan selanjutnya. Kalau naik pun, kami peniaga kecil terpaksa ikut," katanya.

Bagi penjual kek dan roti, Linda Norainon Saroni berkata, buat masa ini dia masih mengekalkan harga dan tiada peningkatan walaupun subsidi dikurangkan.

"Saya selalu guna telur gred AA dan harga memang antara RM14 hingga RM15, malah sejak bulan lalu hingga sekarang harga kek saya masih biasa belum ada kenaikan.

"Harga telur saya harap tak naik mendadak selepas ini sebab untuk kami pe-

PENGURANGAN SUBSIDI TELUR

'Tiada arahan pembekal untuk naikkan harga'



KERAJAAN mengumumkan bahawa subsidi telur ayam akan dikurangkan daripada RM0.10 kepada RM0.05 sebiji mulai 1 Mei dan akan ditamatkan sepenuhnya pada 1 Ogos 2025.

niaga bakeri memang paling banyak menggunakan bahan mentah seperti telur," katanya.

Menurutnya, harga telur tidak banyak berbeza berbanding kedai runcit dan pasar raya, tetapi bahan untuk membuat kek lain

yang dilihat naik ketara seperti 'Ovallette'.

Sementara itu, peniaga nasi lemak, Azizah Yusof, turut menyatakan bahawa dia tidak bercadang menaikkan harga makanan berasaskan telur.

"Kalau naik harga telur

nanti, mungkin kena fikir. Tapi setakat ni, telur rebus dan telur mata masih RM1 sebiji.

"Setakat ini, harga telur masih stabil dan senang didapati berbanding sebelum ini nak dapatkan telur sepapan pun sukar, namun

kami peniaga berharap dengan pengurangan subsidi harga telur dijual tak terlalu tinggi," katanya.

Kerajaan baru-baru ini mengumumkan bahawa subsidi telur ayam akan dikurangkan daripada RM0.10 kepada RM0.05 se-

biji mulai 1 Mei dan akan ditamatkan sepenuhnya pada 1 Ogos 2025.

Langkah ini diambil selepas mengambil kira komitmen pihak industri untuk memastikan pengeluaran telur ayam kekal mencukupi dan terjamin.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	BERITA HARIAN	NASIONAL	15

Kerajaan tingkat pengeluaran telur gred C

Harga lebih murah beri peluang rakyat dapat bekalan selepas tamat subsidi

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Kuala Terengganu: Kerajaan akan meningkatkan pengeluaran telur gred C yang lebih murah bagi menampung permintaan pasaran.

Menteri Pertanian dan Keterjaminan Makanan, Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu, berkata telur keluaran khas yang mula diperkenalkan pada harga RM5 sepapan

(30 biji) Ramadan lalu mendapat sambutan baik.

Beliau berkata, harganya lebih murah memberi peluang kepada rakyat mendapatkan bekalan telur berkenaan, sekali gus menstabilkan harga telur terutama selepas penamatan subsidi pada Ogos depan.

"Kita juga nak memperbanyakkan keluaran telur khas lebih murah, dijual pada Ramadan lalu pada harga RM5 sepapan



Mohamad (lima dari kiri) memotong pulut kuning bersama barisan kepimpinan Barisan Nasional dan PH pada majlis Rumah Terbuka PH Negeri Terengganu di Kuala Terengganu, semalam. (Foto Ghazali Kori/BH)

"Kali ini, tak tahu harganya macam mana, tetapi kita yakin tidak akan naik melambung," katanya ketika ditemui selepas Rumah Terbuka Pakatan Harapan (PH) Negeri Terengganu, di sini semalam.

Mohamad berkata, selain bekalan telur khas, rakyat boleh mendapatkan bekalan telur pada harga yang lebih berpatutan melalui jualan Agro MADANI dan Jualan Rahmah di seluruh negara termasuk di semua outlet Lembaga Pemasaran Pertanian

Persekutuan (FAMA) dan Lembaga Pertubuhan Peladang (LPP).

Larang eksport telur ayam

Katanya, subsidi telur yang dikurangkan daripada 10 sen kepada lima sen sebiji bermula 1 Mei dan seterusnya ditamatkan sepenuhnya mulai 1 Ogos ini serta penamatan subsidi ayam pada 2023 dapat menjimatkan perbelanjaan kerajaan sebanyak RM3.8 bilion yang boleh digunakan untuk pembangunan lain.

"Sekarang ini, keadaan makin reda dan kita dapati bila subsidi ayam diselarikan, ditarik didapati harganya tidak naik (dan) kita harap telur pun jadi begitu," katanya.

Beliau berkata, kementerian juga kekal melarang eksport telur ayam ke luar negara kecuali syarikat yang terikat perjanjian sebelum ini.

Katanya, tindakan berkenaan diambil untuk memastikan bekalan telur di pasaran tempatan tidak terjejas.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	NEW STRAITS TIMES	BUSINESS TIMES	5



'EGG-NOMICS' INSIGHT

THE removal of the egg subsidy will boost poultry stocks and free about RM1 billion in public funds for 'more practical' needs, say industry experts.

» REPORT BY FAIQAH KAMARUDDIN ON PAGES 4-5

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	NEW STRAITS TIMES	BUSINESS TIMES	4 & 5

SUBSIDY REMOVAL

MODEST PRICE IMPACT PROJECTED

Research house expects increase of only two to four sen per egg, mainly driven by cost pass-through rather than fundamental changes in supply or demand

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THE partial removal of the egg subsidy effective this month, ahead of the end of price controls in August, offers some relief to investors and poultry stocks, said industry observers.

They said the decision on the removal of egg subsidy stems from a stabilised supply and current oversupply in the market.

Shares of most poultry companies, such as PWF Corp Bhd, Lay Hong Bhd and Leong Hup International Bhd, rose after the egg subsidy was reduced by half beginning May 1.

Last Friday, PWF rose to 82 sen from 79.5 sen on a volume of 445,500 shares, valuing the company at RM260.65 million.

Lay Hong edged up one sen to 34.5 sen, with 3.8 million shares changing hands, pushing its market capitalisation to RM261.5 million.

Leong Hup recorded the highest trading activity among poultry counters, gaining 1.5 sen to close at 64 sen with 12.3 million shares traded.

The company now has a market capitalisation of RM2.34 billion.

QL Resources Bhd, the largest among poultry counters, remained unchanged at RM4.80 despite 3.4 million shares traded, maintaining a market cap of RM17.52 billion.

PRICE DOWNTREND

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid said average egg prices have been on a downward trend.

As of February, he said the average prices of grades A, B and C eggs dropped to RM4.40, RM4.20 and RM4 per 10 eggs, respectively.

"This represents a decline of 11.2 per cent, 13 per cent and 11.8 per cent year-on-year, respectively. Clearly, this opens the window of opportunity to remove the subsidies."

Afzanizam said companies in the egg production industry seem to be performing well despite the decline in average selling prices.

He pointed out that Leong Hup recorded a net profit of RM428.93 million for the year ended Dec 31, 2024, up from RM301.74 million the previous year.

"Agriculture and Food Security Minister Datuk Seri Mohamad Sabu indicated that his ministry is reviewing the current subsidy structure. Rationalisation would allow monthly savings of RM100 million for the government.



"In a grand scheme of things, the timing to roll out such rationalisation also matters."

MOTIVATION AND DIVERSIFICATION

Nusantara Academy for Strategic Research senior fellow Dr Azmi Hassan said removing the subsidy can motivate the industry to be more competitive and diversify egg offerings.

He said the previous price ceiling limited the industry's ability to grow.

"Overall, I believe it's a positive step for the industry. For consumers, yes, there will be a price increase, but we also cannot rely on subsidies forever. It costs the government nearly RM1 billion a year to subsidise eggs."

"This move benefits all parties. The government can redirect that RM1 billion to more practical and important needs."

He said the move can reshape the industry as producers are able to turn a profit without the price ceiling, allowing them to innovate and introduce a wider range of egg varieties.

Overall, I believe it's a positive step for the industry. For consumers, yes, there will be a price increase, but we also cannot rely on subsidies forever.

DR AZMI HASSAN
Nusantara Academy for Strategic Research senior fellow

"Previously, the price gap hindered competitiveness and innovation. With this change, profit margins will improve, but it depends on how the industry responds and innovates, moving forward."

The end of this egg subsidy, which if we can resist it more properly, the end of the price cap of eggs, will create a more competitive and efficient industry with more variety of eggs for consumers to choose from."

Azmi cautioned that the government should move carefully when withdrawing other food subsidies, as food prices are a key factor in calculating inflation.

"If subsidies are removed too quickly, food prices will spike, driving inflation higher. So, the government must carefully assess which food subsidies to end, and when."

IMPACT ON MARGINS

Tradeview Capital fund manager Neoh Jin Man said the removal of egg subsidy could affect the profit margins of producers that have

been reliant on subsidies.

"While they may raise prices to offset their losses, the oversupply in the market could hamper the move."

Neoh said the subsidy removal is unlikely to create clear beneficiaries, adding that pure egg producers, such as Two Seng Capital Bhd, TPC Plus Bhd and LTKM Bhd, are likely to be among the hardest hit.

"We also do not anticipate any positive spillover effects. In fact, the combination of oversupply and subsidy withdrawal may prompt producers to rationalise output over the medium term, potentially leading to reduced logistics volumes."

In a statement last Wednesday, the Agriculture and Food Security Ministry said that nearly RM2.5 billion was spent on egg subsidies between February 2022 and December 2024.

The previous subsidy was set at 10 sen per egg, with ceiling prices capped at 42 sen, 40 sen and 38 sen for grades A, B and C, respectively. This translated into retail prices of



CAUTIOUS MODE

Ringgit seen to trade at 4.30-4.35 against greenback

KUALA LUMPUR: The ringgit is likely to trade in a cautious mode this week as investors focus on domestic and United States monetary policy decisions, said an economist.

Bank Muamalat Malaysia Bhd chief economist Dr Mohd Afzanizam Abdul Rashid said all eyes will be on the Federal Open Market Committee and Bank Negara Malaysia Monetary Policy Committee meetings.

"We sense that the US Federal Reserve may incline to ease its policy rate as the uncertainties over tariff shocks have weighed heavily on business and consumer sentiments."

"On that note, the ringgit would stay cautious as traders and investors assess the possible policy response from the monetary authorities."

Kenanga Investment Bank Bhd expects the ringgit to trade within 4.30-4.35 against the US dollar this week, with markets remaining cautious amid ongoing global economic uncertainty.

"Trade negotiations, particularly between the US and China, will remain a critical swing factor for the US dollar. Domestically,

Bank Negara is expected to hold its ground, but any downward revision to Malaysia's growth outlook may attract attention."

It said positive outcomes from the special parliamentary sitting could also lend additional support to the ringgit.

The ringgit ended last week stronger against the US dollar, closing at 4.2560/2600, from 4.2085/3700 in the preceding week.

It also firmed against a basket of major currencies. The ringgit improved against the euro to 4.8297/8342 from 4.9596/9670, strengthened vis-a-vis the yen to 2.9437/9467 from 3.0431/0481 and appreciated against the British pound to 5.6639/6692 from 5.8128/8214.

The ringgit was traded higher against Asian currencies last week. It gained against the Indonesian rupiah to 258.8/259.3 from 259.66/260.2 and rose against the Singapore dollar to 3.2862/2885 from 3.3228/3280. It also strengthened versus the baht to 12.8697/8903 from 13.0195/0450 and advanced against the Philippine peso at 7.6577/5 from 7.77/7.78. Bernama

RM12.60, RM12 and RM11.40 per tray of 30 eggs.

MODEST PRICE INCREASE?

TA Securities Holdings Bhd said based on Veterinary Services Department data, retail egg prices ranged from 42 sen to 46 sen each between July and October 2022, when subsidies were not in place.

Since eggs continue to be the most affordable source of protein, the firm expects the price impact from the full subsidy removal in August to be modest.

"It estimates an increase of only two sen to four sen per egg, mainly driven by cost pass-through rather than fundamental changes in supply or demand."

As such, the firm forecasts retail

egg prices to remain range-bound around 41 sen to 45 sen per egg in the near term, similar to 2022 levels when the five sen subsidy was in effect.

TA Securities noted that annual egg consumption averages 11.6 billion units, translating to about 968 million eggs per month.

On the supply side, production reached 16.7 billion eggs in 2023, reflecting a 15.8 per cent year-on-year increase, indicating a healthy oversupply in the market.

The poultry egg self-sufficiency ratio has consistently exceeded 100 per cent, it added.

TA Securities expects supply to remain resilient despite the subsidy withdrawal, with demand continuing to hold firm.

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Kangar

Kawasan perairan Perlis tidaklah sebesar perairan lain namun dengan panjang pantainya hanya sekitar 10.98 batu nautika dari Pos Batu Putih hingga ke Sanglang, ia tetap kaya dengan pelbagai khazanah laut yang menjadi rezeki dan punca pendapatan nelayan di negeri itu.

Namun, terdapat segelintir nelayan yang dilihat begitu tamak dan rakus menggunakan bubu naga yang sememangnya diharamkan penggunaannya di seluruh kawasan perairan di negara ini.

Tidak dinafikan penggunaan bubu naga menjanjikan hasil laut yang banyak, tetapi ia boleh mendatangkan kesan buruk jangka panjang terhadap hasil laut.

Ini kerana bubu berkenaan turut memerangkap dan merosakkan anak ikan, benih kerang dan udang yang masih kecil dan sedang disemai di perairan berkenaan.

Seorang nelayan yang juga Pengerusi Persatuan Nelayan Kawasan Kuala Perlis, Asri Jab, 52, berkata, nelayan di Kuala Perlis memang terdapat segelintir nelayan tempatan atau negara jiran yang datang ke perairan ini untuk menangkap menggunakan bubu naga.

"Perkara ini sudah lama berlaku, walaupun ditegur dan dinasihati namun masih ada segelintir nelayan 'tidak makan saman' dan terus menggunakan alat

Tamak kaut hasil laut

Nelayan resah segelintir individu masih guna bubu haram di Perlis

penangkapan ikan itu.

"Bubu naga menjadi alat perikanan yang sangat dilarang kerana mata pu-katnya tidak mengikut spesifikasi yang dibenarkan Ja-

batan Perikanan negeri.

"Apabila hasil laut ini terperangkap dalam bubu itu, ia memang tidak dapat keluar kerana biasanya ikan menjadikan kawasan pesisir pantai sebagai lokasi pembiakan.



Anak ikan yang sedang membiak akan termasuk dalam bubu naga dan mati yang kemudiannya dibuang"

Asri

"Apabila bubu naga digunakan di kawasan ini, anak ikan yang sedang membiak akan termasuk dalam bubu naga dan mati yang kemudiannya dibuang," katanya ketika ditemui di Pejabat Persatuan Nelayan Kawasan Kuala Perlis di Kuala Perlis.

Bubu naga adalah sejenis

bubu atau alat jebak menangkap ikan yang berbentuk panjang menyerupai naga dengan pintu selang seli di hujungnya.

Terdapat 20 pintu masuk sebah bubu serta kerucut sepanjang satu meter sebagai tempat berkumpulnya udang yang tertangkap.

Dalam pada itu, Asri berkata, situasi ini menyebabkan proses pembiakan ikan terbantut atau terhenti manakala hasil laut di kawasan itu semakin kurang dari semasa ke semasa.

"Biasanya bubu naga ada

dijual di kedai peralatan menangkap ikan untuk digunakan di kolam namun ada nelayan mengambil jalan mudah dengan menyalahgunakan penggunaan bubu naga ini berbanding penggunaan jala yang sering digunakan nelayan secara kebiasaannya.

"Tanpa kemudahan yang canggih, nelayan akan meletakkan kayu pancang sebagai penanda kawasan mereka meletakkan bubu naga ini.

"Jika dilihat dari atas memang tidak nampak bubu naga, tetapi jika menyelam

kita akan nampak ia diletakkan dalam pelbagai bentuk secara lurus dan panjang," katanya.

Asri berkata, aktiviti menangkap ikan menggunakan bubu naga ini adalah salah mengikut Akta Perikanan 1985 dan sekiranya ada di antara 2,333 ahli persatuannya itu didapati terbabit dengan kegiatan berkenaan, mereka boleh dikenakan tindakan termasuk menggantung segala lesen perikanan, subsidi minyak dan elau sara hidup.

"Jangan disebabkan ketamakan itu, kita sendiri akan terima akibat termasuk lesen, subsidi minyak atau elau sara hidup boleh digantung," katanya.

Seorang lagi nelayan, Zakaria Sulaiman, 52 dari Sanglang berkata, kegiatan menggunakan bubu naga ini seharusnya dibanteras kerana dalam jangka masa panjang ia boleh menyebabkan hasil laut di Perlis berkurangan dan punca pendapatan nelayan juga akan merosot.

"Tidak semua nelayan terbabit dengan kegiatan ini dan hanya segelintir sahaja, jadi semua pihak harus memainkan peranan dalam mencegahnya daripada terus berleluasa.

"Laut Perlis kecil sahaja, tetapi jika segala khazanah hasil laut yang kecil atau belum matang turut dikaut untuk kepentingan diri masing-masing, lambat laun laut Perlis ini akan hilang hasilnya dan tiada lagi tangkapan yang boleh dibawa ke darat," katanya.

Ikuti penjelasan pihak berkuasa berhubung isu ini dalam terbitan Harian Metro esok



ANGGOTA Maritim Malaysia Zon Kuala Perlis melakukan rampasan bubu naga. Gambar kecil, penanda kawasan yang diletakkan bubu.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	HARIAN METRO	BISNES	22

JUMLAH EKSPORT DURIAN MALAYSIA KE CHINA

Diunjur meningkat 15 hingga 20 peratus tahun ini

Beijing: Jumlah import durian China dari Malaysia dijangka meningkat antara 15 dan 20 peratus tahun ini didorong oleh permintaan pengguna yang mampan walaupun berdepan cabaran berkaitan cuaca baru-baru ini Malaysia, kata Dewan Perniagaan dan Industri Malaysia di China (MayC-ham).

Pengerusinya Loh Wee Keng berkata, permintaan daripada pengguna di China terus mengatasi bekalan terutamanya bagi jenis premium seperti Musang King dan D24.

"Walaupun hujan lebat di Malaysia mengakibatkan buah gugur sebelum waktunya, saya menjangkakan keseluruhan jumlah eksport tahun ini meningkat 15 hingga 20 peratus lebih tinggi berbanding tahun lepas.

"Malah permintaan kekal kukuh dalam pasaran China," katanya kepada Bernama.

Katanya, durian Musang King dari Malaysia terus menarik minat yang tinggi, khususnya dalam kalangan pelanggan buah-buahan premium di China.

"Ketika ini, amat mustahil untuk mendapatkan Musang King Gred A di bawah RM30 sekilogram pada harga ladang.

"Pada luar musim seperti Mei, harga boleh meningkat kepada RM80 sekilogram. Bagi D24 pula, harga paling rendah adalah kira-kira RM15 sekilogram," katanya.

Menurut Kementerian Pertanian China, negara itu mengimport 19.25 juta kilogram durian dari Malaysia berjumlah A\$212.05 million (RM1 billion) antara Januari dan Disember 2024.

Loh berkata, 15 tahun lepas, harga ladang bagi Musang King sejuk beku adalah kira-kira RM25 sekilogram dan boleh turun serendah RM12 sekilogram ketika musim puncak.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	HARIAN METRO	LOKAL	7

Kuala Lumpur: Populasi anjing liar perlu dikawal supaya tidak menjadi ancaman kepada komuniti setempat, sekali gus terdedah dengan risiko jangkitan penyakit rabies.

Ini kerana anjing liar yang tidak divaksin boleh menyebabkan jangkitan rabies atau penyakit anjing gila apabila haiwan itu menyerang manusia.

Pakar Perubatan Kesihatan Awam, Fakulti Perubatan Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Profesor Dr Sharifa Ezat Wan Puteh berkata, penyakit itu boleh merebak daripada anjing menerusi virus Lyssavirus.

Kawal populasi anjing liar elak risiko rabies

“Virus itu mudah berjangkit pada manusia apabila terkena air liur haiwan yang dijangkiti termasuk anjing terutama yang berkemungkinan tidak divaksin.

“Anjing liar berkemungkinan boleh mencederakan orang ramai terutama kanak-kanak dan warga emas,” katanya ketika dihubungi, semalam.

Menurut Dr Sharifa Ezat, anjing liar yang dijangkiti virus rabies boleh menjadi agresif dan berkemungkinan menyerang manusia.

“Virus rabies boleh merebak ke otak, otot badan dan sel saraf tunjang. Malah ia boleh membawa maut sekiranya tidak dirawat,” katanya.

Sementara itu, Penganalisis Keselamatan

dan Politik Pusat Pengajian Perang Saraf Media dan Informasi Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) Dr Noor Nirwandy Mat Noordin berkata, keselamatan penduduk harus diutamakan dalam isu anjing liar.

“Menjadi tanggungjawab pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) bagi memastikan sebuah kawasan komuniti bebas daripada ancaman keselamatan termasuk daripada anjing liar.

“Garis piawai dan pemantauan berkesan perlu dibangunkan oleh PBT bagi memastikan elemen pengusiran anjing liar menepati prosedur operasi standard (SOP),” katanya.

Virus rabies boleh merebak ke otak, otot badan dan sel saraf tunjang

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	11

Harumanis membanggakan Perlis

Oleh **ASYRAF MUHAMMAD**
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KANGAR: Raja Perlis, Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin Jamalullail menzahirkan rasa bangga dengan perkembangan industri memulam harumanis di negeri ini yang kian pesat berkembang.

Baginda bertitah, sehingga kini, Perlis merekodkan lebih 2,600 pengusaha harumanis dengan keluasan tanaman menecah 1,745 hektar.

Titah baginda, pencapaian itu bukan sahaja memberi limpahan ekonomi kepada rakyat malah turut memperkukuh imej Perlis sebagai negeri pertanian yang dinamik.

“Beta yakin usaha berterusan untuk memodenkan dan memperkasa sektor ini memainkan peranan penting dalam menjamin keselamatan makanan, memacu ekonomi, mencipta pekerjaan dan memelihara alam sekitar agar manfaatnya dapat dinikmati oleh rakyat,” titah baginda ketika menyempurnakan Majlis Perasmian Festival *Mango & Agricultural Industry* (Permai) 2025 di dataran bersebelahan Kompleks Dewan Undangan



TUANKU Syed Sirajuddin Jamalullail berkenan menyerahkan hadiah kepada salah seorang penerima pada Majlis Perasmian Festival Permai 2025 di Kangar, Perlis. - UTUSAN/IZLIZAN OTHMAN

Negeri (DUN) di sini, semalam.

Berangkat sama Raja Muda Perlis, Tuanku Syed Faizuddin Putra Jamalullail dan Raja Puan Muda Perlis, Tuanku Dr. Hajah Lailatul Shahreen Akashah Khalil serta Menteri Besar, Mohd. Shukri Ramli.

Festival Permai 2025 berlangsung tiga hari sehingga semalam, meriah dengan menarik kehadiran lebih 50,000 pengun-

jang dari seluruh negara.

Festival anjuran kerajaan negeri iaitu gabungan Hari Peladang, Penternak dan Nelayan (HPPN) dan Festival Manga Harumanis Negeri Perlis yang dijenamakan semula itu sarat dengan pelbagai pengisian program menarik dan unik.

Dalam pada itu, Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin turut menyambut baik pelbagai inisiatif moden

diperkenalkan termasuk pmodenan sistem pengurusan ladang, penerapan teknologi Revolusi Industri 4.0 (IR4.0) dan langkah ke arah Pensijilan Amalan Pertanian Baik Malaysia (MyGAP) yang menyumbang kepada pertanian mampan serta keselamatan makanan negara.

“Para petani, penternak dan usahawan tani kini wajar menguasai penggunaan kecerdasan

buatan (AI) dalam operasi harian contohnya menggunakan pembelajaran mesin untuk pemantauan kesihatan tanaman, merumput automatik dan penyemburan pintar serta menggunakan jentera berkuasa AI seperti dron dan agribot bagi pengurusan efisien,” titah baginda.

Tuanku Syed Sirajuddin turut menyarankan rakyat Perlis khususnya para petani agar meningkatkan usaha mempromosi produk-produk dan hasil pertanian mereka.

Titah baginda, langkah tersebut supaya produk berkenaan terus dikenali dan diiktiraf daripada segi kualiti serta keunikannya berbanding hasil pertanian di tempat lain.

“Beta berharap semua pihak iaitu petani, usahawan tani, agensi kerajaan dan swasta agar terus berganding bahu dalam memperkukuh ekosistem pertanian.

“Kerajaan negeri juga diharapkan terus memajukan sektor pertanian, di samping menyumbang kepada usaha Kerajaan Persekutuan dalam mencapai strategi berkaitan sekuriti makanan negara,” titah baginda.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	31

Bantah projek kelapa jadi tapak rumah

DUNGUN: Seramai 96 peserta tanah kelompok projek kelapa pandan di Kampung Tebing Tembah, Paka dekat sini, membantah tindakan kerajaan negeri yang didakwa mahu menarik balik tanah itu untuk dibangunkan sebagai rancangan tanah berkelompok (RTB) tapak rumah.

Pengerusi Penyelaras Projek Kelapa Pandan Kampung Tebing Tembah, Abd. Wahid Kásim berkata, peserta terlibat kecewa apabila projek tanaman yang diusahakan di kawasan seluas 40 hektar sejak 2006 terpaksa diserahkan kepada kerajaan negeri.

Katanya, setiap peserta menanam kelapa pandan di kawasan seluas kira-kira 0.4 hektar seorang dan pada masa ini mereka memperoleh pendapatan antara RM1,000 hingga RM2,000 sebulan.

Katanya, peserta mendapat hasil daripada tanaman tersebut dengan menjual buah kelapa, air nira, anak benih dan produk-produk hiliran berasas-

kan kelapa.

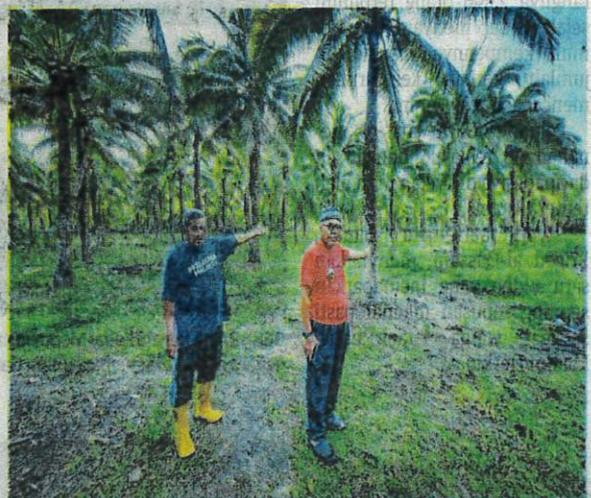
“Tapak projek ini dahulu adalah kawasan paya bakau dipenuhi semak samun dan peserta membanting tulang membersihkan kawasan tersebut sebelum diusahakan tanaman kelapa pandan.

“Apabila kawasan telah bersih dan peserta dapat mengutip hasilnya, tiba-tiba kerajaan negeri ingin merampas tanah ini untuk diserahkan kepada pihak lain untuk tapak rumah,” dakwanya ketika ditemui.

Abd. Wahid mendakwa, keputusan kerajaan negeri menarik balik tanah itu juga dilakukan secara mengejut tanpa perbincangan dengan peserta terlebih dahulu.

Katanya, pihaknya telah menghantar memorandum kepada Menteri Besar, Datuk Seri Dr. Ahmad Samsuri Mokhtar dan Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri (ADUN) Paka, Datuk Satiful Bahari Mamat berhubung bantahan terhadap tindakan itu.

Seorang peserta projek, Ab. Ghani Tek, 69, berkata, dia



ABD. Wahid Kasim (kanan) dan Ab. Ghani Tek menunjukkan kawasan projek tanaman kelapa pandan yang diusahakan di Kampung Tebing Tembah, Dungun, Terengganu. - UTUSAN/ZAID MOHD. NOOR

akan hilang pendapatan apabila tanah tersebut diambil semula kerajaan negeri.

Katanya, selain menanam kelapa pandan, dia turut memelihara ternak lembu di kawasan sama untuk menambah pendapatan.

“Tanah yang kami usaha-

kan ini tidak sepatutnya diusik kerajaan negeri memandangkan masih terdapat banyak tanah kosong lain termasuk di kawasan seluas 750 hektar di tapak rancangan Bandar Baharu Durian Mentangau, tidak jauh dari kampung ini,” katanya.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	UTUSAN MALAYSIA	DALAM NEGERI	31

Harga burung ketitir cecah RM30,000 seekor

KOTA BHARU: Penggemar burung ketitir mampu meraih pendapatan lumayan jika burung peliharaan mereka menjuarai pertandingan seni suara spesies itu.

Sabri Abdul Latiff, 51, yang berasal dari Pattani, Thailand berkata, harga unggas itu yang memenangi pertandingan bakal melonjak tinggi apabila ada dalam kalangan peminat sanggup membayar nilai tertentu, semamata mahu mendengar suaranya.

Katanya, setakat ini harga burung ketitir peliharaannya yang paling mahal dijual bernilai RM12,000 bagi peringkat usia enam hingga lapan bulan (BB1).

“Harganya melonjak selepas memenangi pertandingan di Muar, Johor pada 2023. Kali ini mungkin boleh jual dengan harga lebih mahal kerana menang di peringkat Asia Tenggara, baru-baru ini.

“Harga minimum burung kategori BB1 adalah RM10,000 manakala RM15,000 bagi kategori peringkat usia sembilan hingga 11 bulan (BB2). Bagi kategori remaja pula (peringkat usia 12 bulan ke atas) harganya antara RM20,000 hingga RM30,000.

“Penjagaan burung ketitir ini sebenarnya mudah sahaja dan tidak melibatkan kos tinggi. Saya pelihara sebanyak 30 ekor burung ketitir dan hanya membelanjakan RM300 sebulan,” katanya ketika ditemui selepas Majlis Perasmian Festival Unggas ASEAN 2025 di Taman Orkid Tengku Anis, Pengkalan Chepa di sini, kelmarin.

Tambah Sabri, untuk pertandingan seni suara, dia cuma perlu menjaga pemakanan burungnya dengan memastikan ia mendapat zat vitamin mencukupi.

Katanya, dia telah berada di Kelantan sejak Khamis lalu untuk membuat persediaan awal berikutan pertandingan kali ini merupakan yang terbesar pernah disertai selama 25 tahun.

AS the world population edges closer to 10 billion by 2050, one of the biggest challenges we face is how to grow enough food without harming the planet even more than we already have with destructive chemicals. The answer may lie not just in what we plant, but in how we nourish those plants.

For years, farmers have relied on synthetic fertilisers to boost crop yields. But this quick fix comes at a cost. Studies show that traditional fertilisers are highly inefficient. Up to 90% of phosphorus and 70% of nitrogen can be lost through leaching, evaporation, and runoff before crops even absorb them. These losses pollute rivers, damage ecosystems, and contribute to climate change by releasing greenhouse gases.

Meanwhile, a growing problem often goes unnoticed. Known as micronutrient deficiencies or "hidden hunger", this issue affects over two billion people around the world. Even when people have enough to eat, their diets can lack key nutrients like iron, zinc, and vitamin A. The

Feeding crops with intelligence



Photo: 123rf

root cause often lies in poor soil health and unbalanced fertiliser use.

In response, scientists are developing controlled-release fertilisers, or CRFs. These smart fertilisers deliver nutrients gradually, matching the needs of plants as

they grow. Unlike conventional fertilisers that release everything at once, CRFs use modern technology, including biodegradable coatings and natural carriers like nanocellulose, to release nutrients over time. This not only improves crop uptake but also reduces the

need for repeated applications.

Artificial intelligence (AI) is also playing a growing role in agriculture. Precision farming tools powered by AI now help farmers decide when and where to apply fertiliser by analysing satellite images, soil sensors, and weather forecasts. This approach, often called smart dosing, helps cut down on overuse and nutrient loss while boosting farm productivity.

Several Malaysian research institutes and universities, including Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, are actively exploring new approaches to sustainable fertiliser development. Early research shows potential in using agricultural and food waste to create ecofriendly fertilisers that support both soil health and crop growth while reducing environmental impact.

This type of innovation is timely for Malaysia. Our self-sufficiency in key crops like corn, ginger, and coconut remains below 70%.

With rising food imports and changing weather patterns, adopting smarter fertilisation practices is no longer a luxury but a necessity.

Malaysia's national development plans already support sustainable agriculture. Controlled-release fertilisers and AI-driven farming practices offer practical solutions that align with national policies and help us move toward greater food security.

As the world faces growing pressure from climate change and population growth, the way we fertilise our crops is set to change. With help from science and technology, the fertiliser of the future may be smarter, cleaner, and more efficient, helping us to feed the planet without harming it.

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A 'game changer' for agriculture

Engineer invents low-cost watering system to optimise plant growth



Advocating for change: Tan standing beside his marigold flower plants at his home in Kajang, Selangor. — SAMUEL ONG/The Star



Real-life adoption: A farm worker at the Gurdwara Sahib Machap Babe Ke in Johor installing Tan's WaterSave Planting System to grow crops. — Photo courtesy of Tan Boon Hong

By **BENJAMIN LEE**
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KAJANG: The marigold plants outside his home are standing tall at over one metre, far surpassing their average height of 60cm.

Civil engineer Tan Boon Hong attributed this to his very own innovation of a low-cost system in which rainwater is stored underground as an oasis or water reservoir for plants to drink from.

"With my system, the plants get constant access to water and are able to naturally optimise their own growth," he said.

In an interview, Tan said the idea to develop his "WaterSave Planting System" came about after he noticed how water was wasted using traditional watering methods.

"Traditional methods will wet the surface of the soil, which then attracts the roots of the plant to grow somewhat upwards as roots grow towards the source of nutrients or water.

"This results in less optimal growth as the roots will be left in dry, hard soil when the top soil layer dries naturally over the course of the day, affecting their ability to do photosynthesis and grow."

With his method, Tan said that an even-level hole is dug to cover the area where crops are to be grown on top of it.

Then an impermeable membrane, which can be as simple as a plastic sheet, is placed to cover the entire bottom of the hole and the walls of the hole.

Finally, an even layer of sand is placed throughout the membrane before soil is then added back on and seeds or crops are planted on the soil.

"Rainwater that lands on the soil flows down until it reaches the membrane where it stays as a reservoir for weeks, thanks to the sand being unable to absorb the water.

"The plant's roots then naturally head downwards until it reach-

es the sand layer, giving it constant access to a water source whenever it needs."

"This makes it cheaper and easier to grow plants as you need not install pipes or sprinklers," said Tan, 62. Neither is there a need to hire extra hands to water the plants everyday.

This proposed method reduces or even cuts out the need for additional watering altogether.

Tan, who is a former president of the Natural Farming Association Malaysia, said the system also makes the plants grow faster and produce better yields than traditional farming methods.

He explained that his idea for the system began in 2019 when he used a terrarium box to grow plants. By 2022, he developed it into the WaterSave Planting System, which he used in his farm in Kajang.

Seeing his plants growing well without being watered gave him the assurance that he was on the right track.

This prompted him to apply for a grant from the All-Party Parliamentary Group Malaysia - Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) last year.

Using this grant, Tan introduced his system to an Orang Asli community in Semenyih where he taught them how to use it to grow long beans to earn a living.

"The depth and size of the hole depends on the plant. Different species need different levels of water, so it required some engineering and agricultural input.

"But once it was set up and I trained the farmers, they could easily maintain their farm.

"They didn't even need to water the land for months. The long beans not only grew faster but much bigger and of higher quality," he said.

Tan's system caught the eye of his fellow engineering graduate Keith Kee from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

Kee helped Tan to submit an

application for an international green technology competition named the Greentech Pitch Day, which is run by the international environmental, social and governance (ESG) consulting firm CorpStage.

On March 29, Tan's WaterSave Planting System won the competition, edging out thousands of other ESG-related proposals from across the world.

Tan has also implemented his system in other projects such as in building a farm for the Gurdwara Sahib Machap Babe Ke in Johor last month.

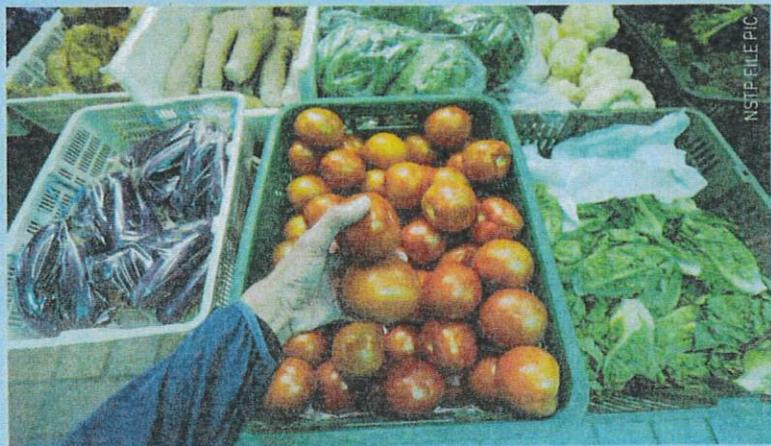
And thanks to Kee's connections, Tan's system is being explored for use in floral landscaping at properties in Singapore by a real estate company.

"I am also looking at more local community awareness programmes so I can educate home gardeners on how to implement it. I believe this can be a big game changer in the agricultural industry," Tan added.

TARIKH	MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT
5/5/2025	NEW STRAITS TIMES	BUSINESS TIMES	4

PPI MARCH CONTRACTION

Consumers may face limited price hikes, says research house



KUALA LUMPUR: Consumers will likely face limited pass-through of price pressures after the producer price index (PPI) in March contracted for the first time since late last year.

A research house said the economy could encounter inflationary headwinds stemming from government initiatives such as subsidy cuts, higher minimum wages and rising utility costs.

However, potential delays in policy implementation, particularly subsidy rationalisation amid tariff-related disruptions, may contain inflation at a more moderate level.

Malaysia's producer prices signalled a slower momentum, contracting 1.9 per cent year-on-year in March from a growth of 0.3 per cent in February. This marks the first con-

traction since November 2024.

MIDF Research said the downward price pressure stemmed from double-digit year-on-year decline for mining sector (-15 per cent), mainly dragged down by the fall in prices for natural gas (-16.2 per cent) and crude petroleum extraction (-14.5 per cent).

Prices for manufacturing recorded a faster year-on-year decline of 1.8 per cent (February: -0.3 per cent), marking seven consecutive months of deflation.

This was driven by lower costs for computer, electronic and optical products (-5.1 per cent) and production of coke and refined petroleum products (-16.2 per cent).

Electricity and gas supply prices fell slightly faster by 0.5 per cent (February: -0.3 per cent).

However, agriculture, forestry and fishing sector prices slowed down by 9.9 per cent (February: 15.2 per cent) from double-digit growth experienced in the previous five months.

Water supply prices grew softer by 0.7 per cent (February: 2.9 per cent).

On a monthly basis, PPI inflation fell by 0.6 per cent month-on-month in March (February: 0.1 per cent). The main drivers of the weaker price pressure were declining prices for the mining sector, manufacturing, agriculture, forestry and fishing, and water supply.

PPI inflation dropped across all stages of processing, including crude materials for further processing and intermediate materials, supplies and components, and finished goods.