LETTERS

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Don't reduce retail price of sugar

WE refer to reports that the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumerism is mulling issuance of more approved permits to import sugar in a move to break the sugar monopoly and reduce the price of the commodity. The retail price in Malaysia is RM2.95 a kg for white coarse sugar and RM3.05 for white granulated sugar, the lowest in the region.

We all know that excessive consumption of sugar is directly linked to various illnesses. There are about 2.5 million adults with diabetes in Malaysia and many do not know that they have diabetes. Those with Type 2 diabetes often do not have any symptoms until they develop a heart attack, stroke, kidney failure or go blind.

Reducing the retail price of sugar will only benefit eateries.

What will happen to all the effort of tirelessly educating consumers on the perils of excessive sugar intake?

The Malaysia Consumers Movement recommends that the government considers imposing additional taxes on profits of sugar refiners. This will help provide additional revenue to the government.

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