

FROM SEPT 1

# SUGAR TO COST 10 SEN LESS PER KG

Reduction reflects  
downward trend  
in global raw sugar  
prices

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**D**OMESTIC Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry Datuk Saifuddin Nasution Ismail said the new price of coarse grain sugar will be RM2.85 per kg and fine granulated sugar will be RM2.95 per kg from Sept 1.

According to him, the move reflected the downward trend in

global raw sugar prices.

"As we all know, sugar is a controlled item under the Control of Supplies Act 1961 and Price Control and Anti-Profitteering Act 2011 to ensure supplies are enough and sold at controlled prices.

"The last price adjustment was on March 1, last year," he said after the ministry's monthly assembly here yesterday.

Saifuddin urged traders to be responsible and not raise the prices of controlled items without getting written permission from the relevant authorities, including supply control officers.

Saifuddin hoped that the lower sugar price could reduce the chain reaction impact on the prices of food and beverages in



Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Saifuddin Nasution Ismail (standing, first row, fifth from right) his deputy Chong Chieng Jen (second row, fourth from right) with staff during the monthly gathering in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

the market.

He said half the consumer complaints involved the prices of food and beverages.

"Nonetheless, the decision to lower sugar prices should not be perceived as the government supporting high sugar consumption."

Instead, he said the decision was made because the government was sensitive to the high cost of living faced by the people.

Until this month, the sugar prices in Malaysia were among the lowest in Asia with Thailand as the second largest sugar producer offering the lowest price in Asia.

On the restructuring of the ministry's portfolio, Saifuddin said Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad had given a written reply three days ago.

"Four agencies under my ministry previously are now under

the Entrepreneur Development Ministry.

"They are the Cooperatives Commission of Malaysia, Malaysia Cooperative College, Perbadanan Nasional Bhd and Bank Rakyat.

"Three other agencies – Companies Commission of Malaysia, Intellectual Property Corporation and Malaysian Competition Commission – will remain under this ministry," he said.