

Sugar price hike still minimal

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administrator

MO, 14/3/2017, KUALA LUMPUR – The recent sugar price hike imposed by the Government was minimal, says the Domestic Trade, Consumerism and Cooperatives Minister, adding that the welfare of the people was still paramount.

Sugar is still cheaper in Malaysia than it is in Thailand, Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainuddin said at the Parliament lobby on Tuesday.

“We import 100% of our raw sugar, and 50% of it is from Thailand.

“There, the retail price for it is RM3.20 per kilogram,” he said, adding that the 3.8% sugar hike imposed in Malaysia is minimal and has little impact on food price.

The Government recently announced that the price of coarse granulated white sugar would be capped at RM2.95 per kg, from RM2.84 per kg, effective March 1.

Hamzah said Malaysians should realise how much effort the Government puts into looking after the welfare of the people.

Government took many factors into consideration including calculating everything down to five decimal points before deciding to impose the price hike.

In a way, Malaysians should see the silver lining behind the price increase and take it as an opportunity to reduce sugar intake as recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Malaysian individuals still consume a much higher amount of sugar than per recommended by WHO in a year.

Hamzah added that traders who are found to breach the Anti Profiteering Act will face relevant punishment.



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