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Junid-Supermarkets

FAIR-PRICE SUPERMARKET TAG FOR OUTLETS OFFERING LOW PRICES

KUALA LUMPUR, Dec 17 (Bernama) -- Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad wants supermarkets that sell goods at low prices to be given the "fair-price supermarket" tag, Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Megat Junid Megat Ayob said today.

Following the Prime Minister's call, Megat Junid said his ministry's enforcement division would be checking on supermarkets throughout the country and accord the recognition to those that sold goods at low prices.

The ministry would give publicity to such supermarkets because consumers benefit from lower prices, he told reporters at his office.

The minister said four hypermarket chains -- Giant, Extra, Makro and Carrefour -- had so far been found to be selling certain goods below the ceiling price fixed by the government.

Megat Junid said the Cabinet at today's meeting also gave the approval for milk manufacturers to buy palm olein at the same price as that fixed for cooking oil manufacturers.

On the reported failure in negotiations to buy sugar from Fiji, he said that according to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry, Malaysia had decided to buy the commodity from Australia as the raw sugar price charged by Fiji was higher.

On diesel price, Megat Junid said there was no increase for motorists buying it at petrol stations as the price was controlled by the government.

However, the price paid by industrial consumers purchasing diesel directly from oil firms had risen from 57 sen to 64 sen a litre, as in this case the parties fix the price themselves. -- BERNAMA

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