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Ministry check on profiteering during exhibition

SIK, Mon. - The Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry has set up a task force to handle the problem of profiteering during the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition.

Its Minister, Datuk Seri Megat Junid Megat Ayub, said the task force would look into the problem to ensure prices of goods and service on the island during the exhibition did not rise.

He said the task force would be headed by the Ministry's Secretary-General, Datuk Mohd Noor Abdul Rahim.

Megat Junid said this in response to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement voicing his concern that businessmen in Langkawi would take advantage and cheat customers during the exhibition.

Dr Mahathir reportedly said that he particularly feared prices of food items would be raised by unscrupulous businessmen during the show, to be held from Dec 2 to 7.

The Prime Minister had raised the issue of profiteering at a briefing by organisers on preparations for this year's Lima.

Megat Junid said anyone caught profiteering would be severely dealt with.

On food supplies to the island during Lima, he said the ministry would ensure these would be adequate.

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