

LOWERING COST OF FOOD

PM to announce 'good news' for Menu Rahmah traders on Tuesday

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim is expected to announce good news for traders who provide Menu Rahmah, on Tuesday.

Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Minister Datuk Seri Salahuddin Ayub said the good news would involve lower cost of food ingredients, especially for the 1,700 Menu Rahmah traders registered with the ministry.

"The ministry is doing engagement sessions to ensure that

this is achieved and resolved quickly.

"These will continue so that major supermarkets can offer Rahmah benefits to all Menu Rahmah sellers," he said after conducting Aidilfitri price checks at the Lotus's Selayang hypermarket yesterday.

He said the registered traders could be issued with cards or special identification tags.

"Once they show these cards, they can go to the supermarkets

and buy essential items at lower than market price."

He said based on the proposal, traders could buy items like rice, chicken, fish, vegetables, onions, ginger and chillies at lower prices.

"The finer details on the items and mechanism are under discussion and will be announced by the prime minister soon.

"God willing, this will be among the positive outcomes in the package of good news set to

be announced by him on Tuesday. We have conducted engagements with several industries, some of which have agreed to the terms.

"If an agreement is reached, the prime minister will announce some good news for Menu Rahmah traders."

Salahuddin said a clinic in Selayang was the first in the country to offer the Rahmah physiotherapy package for the underprivileged group.

He said this marked the first medical-related package under the Rahmah umbrella offered to the lower-income groups.

"The Rahmah initiative started with meals and now it has included medical services starting with physiotherapy.

"Congratulations to BeVital Group Sdn Bhd clinic for offering physiotherapy packages for the Bottom 40 income group and asnaf at RM20 and RM5 a session, respectively," he said.