

Egg prices reduced by three sen nationwide

> In line with efforts to pass on savings from implementing targeted subsidies to people, new retail prices for Grade A, B and C eggs are 42, 40 and 38 sen each respectively: PM

KUALA LUMPUR: The government has decided to reduce the retail prices of Grade A, B, and C eggs by three sen each across the country in line with efforts to pass on the savings from implementing targeted subsidies to the people.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim said that the new retail prices for Grade A, B, and C eggs are 42 sen, 40 sen and 38 sen each respectively, effective yesterday.

"The subsidy coverage for the people's food needs of 10 sen per egg involves an expenditure of RM100 million, while the allocation for chicken egg subsidies in 2023 amounted to RM927 million," he said in a statement yesterday.

Anwar said the retail prices for eggs in Sabah, Sarawak and Labuan would also be streamlined according to the gazetted areas and zones.

He said this measure aligns with a drop in the input costs of egg production, particularly the basic ingredients for chicken feed.

"I want to emphasise that the government will continue to more proactively and effectively address issues related to the cost of living while striving to mitigate any negative impact on the people's daily lives."

On the issue of diesel smuggling cases, Anwar said the Domestic Trade and Cost of Living Ministry had launched *Ops Tiris* on March 1, 2023 to combat the misappropriation of subsidised diesel to benefit parties not eligible for subsidies.

As of Dec 31, 2023, a total of 6.44 million litres of diesel estimated to be worth RM14.12 million have been seized.

Anwar said due to the positive results and developments of the operation, *Ops Tiris* 3.0 has been launched with an expanded scope covering other controlled goods, namely refined white sugar, 1kg polybag cooking oil, RON95 petrol and liquefied petroleum gas.

"As of June 14, controlled goods worth RM12.96 million have been seized, with diesel accounting for the bulk of smuggled and

misappropriated controlled items."

He said the price of pure palm cooking oil in bottled packaging has been maintained at RM6.90 (1kg), RM13.30 (2kg), RM19.60 (3kg) and RM30.90 (5kg) since the *Madani* government took over leadership, although world crude palm oil prices have exceeded the threshold price of RM3,890 per tonne.

Anwar said the government still bears around RM7 billion in subsidies related to diesel in Peninsular Malaysia.

He added that subsidies were not abolished and the diesel subsidy rationalisation is to ensure more efficient management of subsidies so that they are not misused, and reach the appropriate groups, Bernama reported.

"The main goal of the diesel subsidy rationalisation policy is to ensure that subsidy wastage no longer continues while ensuring that the savings are returned to the wider population."

Anwar said savings from the implementation of targeted subsidies would certainly be returned to the people for education, health, public transport and others.

He said the *Madani* government would also remain committed to combating diesel smuggling while striving for a balance between the government's efforts and issues of supply and cost of living.