

Govt Spends RM200 Million For Price Standardisation Programme In Sabah
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TAWAU, Feb 11(Bernama) -- The government has spent RM200 million to carry out the Price Standardisation Programme (PPH) in Sabah since last year, Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob said today.

He said the amount included RM67.5 million which was spent last year and RM90 million, allocated this year, for transportation of essential food items to the islands and remote areas in Sabah.

"Prior to this, the island residents, as well as those staying in the remote areas, had to buy the food items at a much higher price as they had to also bear the transportation cost of the goods to their place.

"However, through the PPH programme, the transportation cost is borne by the government.

This is to ensure that the people on the islands and remote areas are also able to buy the food items at the same price as those in the town area," he told reporters after visiting the Point of Sale at Pulau Sebatik, about 20-minutes ride by speed-boat from Tawau, here today.

Accompanying him were Kalabakan Member of Parliament Datuk Abdul Ghapur Salleh and Sebatik Assemblyman Abdul Muis Picho.

Ismail Sabri said that there were currently 90 points of sale in Sabah and the number would be increased when the need arose.

He said there were more points of sale in Sarawak, compared with Sabah, as there were more remote areas in Sarawak which were inaccessible by road.

"In Sarawak, there were people who had to pay RM148 for a 14kg cylinder of cooking gas before the price standardisation programme because the supply was transported by air, and if by land, it took at least a day.

"Since the programme was implemented, the people are now paying RM26 for their supply of the 14kg cooking gas," he added.

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