

Government To Provide Free Insurance Coverage For Hawker, Petty Trader Association Members
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KUANTAN, July 17 (Bernama) -- More than one million members of hawker and petty trader associations throughout the country will soon receive free insurance coverage from the government said Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

He said the insurance scheme was among several measures taken by the ministry to ensure the welfare of members from hawkers and petty trader associations throughout the country.

"The insurance scheme will be managed by Bank Rakyat with the government undertaking all costs involved," he told reporters after meeting Pahang State hawkers and petty trader associations here Tuesday.

He said apart from that, the ministry had also set up a Hawker and Petty Trader Consultative Council at national and state levels where he would act as chairman at national level.

He said for the state level council, the state executive councilor responsible for welfare of hawkers and petty traders would be appointed as the chairman.

"The ministry will also be providing training and skill programmes to hawkers and petty traders throughout the country as provided by the Malaysia Companies Commission," he said.

Ismail Sabri said the training and skills programme would be held at district level to facilitate members of the association to attend.

According to him, the ministry would also be organising a national convention in September to discuss a special five-year programme for hawkers and petty traders.

Replying to a question on the issue of cooking oil which was frequently raised during each Ramadan and other festivals, Ismail Sabri urged the association to set up its own cooperative.

"With the establishment of a cooperative, members could obtain products such as cooking oil from the cooperative without having to scramble with members of the public at supermarkets and facilitate association members," he said.

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