

KPDNKK Studying Mechanisms to Act Against Unethical Traders Who Abuse GST
Bernama
May 2, 2014

GEORGE TOWN, May 2 (Bernama) -- The Domestic Trade, Cooperative and Consumerism (KPDNKK) is studying mechanisms to take action against unethical traders who raise the price of goods and services to make hefty profit with the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) next year.

Its secretary-general, Datuk Seri Alias Ahmad, said the study was made based on the Price Control and Anti-Profiteering Act 2010 to ensure that traders could not raise the price of goods and services at their whims and fancy when the GST started to take effect.

"These new mechanisms must be able to identify unethical traders who violate the Act and action will be taken under the existing laws which have been fine-tuned to protect the rights of consumers," he told reporters after opening the price reduction campaign at Sunshine Supermarket here today.

He said the new mechanisms would also function to monitor prices, be it minimum, maximum or permanent charges for the goods and services, as well as the chain of supply from the manufacturers right to the retailers.

Earlier in his speech, he said 400 supermarkets had participated in the price reduction campaign since its commencement last January.

Alias said through the campaign, the price of selected items would be reduced between 15 and 70 per cent.

Meanwhile, he said the ministry had also forged close cooperation with 20 non-governmental organisations (NGO) to educate consumers in a more effective manner.

"The cooperation with the NGO, which began in February, will enter its second phase this month. So far, we have managed to lure participation from 38,000 consumers, especially students and housewives, through various of our programmes, awareness talks and financial management workshops," he said.

Alias said consumers were also advised to compare the price of goods and services

using the consumer portal at www.1pengguna.com.

-- BERNAMA

Copyright © 2014 BERNAMA

Source: <http://www.bernama.com/bernama/v7/newsindex.php?id=1035281>