

## **LKIM To Blacklist Fishmongers Who Raise Fish Prices Citing GST**

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JOHOR BAHRU, April 10 (Bernama) -- The Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia (LKIM) today warned it will blacklist fishmongers who raise the prices of fish by citing the Goods and Services Tax introduced on April 1.

"Fresh fish is zero-rated under GST. No fishmonger must cite the GST to raise the prices of their fish," said LKIM chairman Datuk Irmohizam Ibrahim.

He said LKIM, along with the National Fishermen's Association (Nekmat) and the Federal Agricultural Marketing Authority (FAMA), would monitor the market to curb manipulation by fishmongers.

Irmohizam, who is the MP for Kuala Selangor, spoke to reporters after presenting the RM300 cost-of-living allowance to each of 305 fishermen in Kampung Pasir Gudang Baru here.

He advised fishermen and consumers to report the errant fishmongers to the Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Ministry.

"I have been informed that fish prices have gone up in several markets. I regard this matter as serious because we do not want the people to suffer and then put the blame on government policies," he said.

Irmohizam also announced the setting up of three more fishermen's markets in Johor, one of them in Kampung Pasir Gudang Baru, to sell fresh fish directly to consumers to raise the income of coastal fishermen.

He said a total of 50 fishermen's markets would be set up in the country this year at a cost of RM200,000 each. Last year, 48 of these markets were established.

He also said that Kampung Pasir Gudang Baru, popular for mussel breeding, had the potential to develop into a location for grilled mussel to draw seafood lovers and tourists.

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