

**RELA Members To Assist KPDNKK To Carry Out Enforcement Duties - Ahmad Zahid
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KUALA LUMPUR, Oct 25 (Bernama) -- The services of 3.6 million People's Volunteer Corps (RELA) is to assist the enforcement unit of the Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Ministry (KPDNKK) said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi.

The initiative was a smart partnership between the Home Ministry and KPDNKK under the Blue Ocean Strategy to compensate the lack of enforcement officers in the KPDNKK.

"I was informed that there was a shortage of enforcement officers in the ministry. We are therefore offering the services of the 3.6 million RELA members to assist the ministry.

"Since the 3.6 million RELA members are also consumers, they will be committed to carry out their enforcement duties," he said when launching the 2015 National Consumers Day, here Sunday.

Ahmad Zahid who is also the Home Minister said a number of Acts would be amended to implement such a move and the draft of the amendments would be submitted to the Attorney-General's office before being tabled in Dewan Rakyat.

"I am confident the amendments can be accepted to safeguard consumers. I also believe RELA members, once accepted, can be the 'eyes' and 'ears' of the ministry and the government," he said adding that there are only 2,300 KPDNKK enforcement officers throughout the country.

Commenting on an increase in the prices of goods, Ahmad Zahid said it would not be fair to solely blame the government.

"I feel in the current uncertain financial situation, not only Malaysia but other ASEAN countries as well as at the global level are experiencing a similar situation. Certainly, there will be parties blaming the government, ministries and leaders. But it is only their assumption.

"In actual fact, prices are determined by the market forces and among factors involved are traders and wholesalers," he said.

Ahmad Zahid therefore, urged consumers to work closely with non-governmental organisations and consumer associations to safeguard their rights.

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