

## PM Ismail Sabri conducts spot check on prices of goods

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Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob today conducted a random spot check on prices of goods at a supermarket here. - NSTP/ GENES GULITAH

KUALA LUMPUR: Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob today conducted a random spot check on the prices of goods at a supermarket here.

Speaking to reporters after conducting the spot check, Ismail Sabri said he did not deny that there was an increase in the prices of chicken and other raw materials imposed by traders before the removal of the goods subsidies.

"For chicken, we still give subsidies today until June 30. I don't understand why wholesalers sell it at RM8.90. Before June 30, the price is still subsidised by the government, so wholesalers should not have set it at RM8.90 for retailers.

"The chicken prices set by wholesalers should be lower because retailers also need to make a profit," he said at Quill City Mall here.

The prime minister said he would carry out more spot checks to ensure that there was no profiteering by traders before the abolition of subsidies for chicken and several other goods on July 1.

Ismail Sabri also said he would hold a special meeting tomorrow with the Agriculture and Food Industries Ministry (Mafi) and the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry (KPDNHEP) to discuss issues related to chicken supply and the new ceiling price for chicken in the market, besides the increase in the prices of other raw items such as fish.

"I hope Mafi would take action (on the matter) and KPDNHEP imposes a stiff penalty if there is excessive profiteering (among traders)."

During the spot check, Ismail Sabri listened to the grouses of the people shopping at the supermarket.

He said most of them complained about the increase in the prices of goods. -- BERNAMA