

22 November 2007

KUALA LUMPUR: **The Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations** wants the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry to blacklist and post on its website or publish in newspapers the names of traders who raise the price of flour, which is a price-controlled item.

Its president Datuk N. Marimuthu said the Government should also impose the maximum fine on errant traders to deter others.

Posting the names on the website will enable consumers to boycott the errant traders, he said yesterday.

A RM200 or RM300 fine does not hurt their pockets. They may even increase the price further, he said when asked to comment on some traders increasing the price of flour despite the government's decision to retain the price at RM1.35 per kilo.

The Price Control Act provides for a maximum fine of RM15,000 or two years' jail or a compound fine of RM7,500 for individual offenders and RM25,000 for companies.

The increase in flour price was reported to have caused a sharp rise in the price of burger buns to RM7 for a packet of 40 early this month from RM5 previously, causing the price of burgers to go up.

Bernama