

## The Star : Fomca compiling its own list of goods for stockpile

Written by Administrator

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PUTRAJAYA: Fomca is compiling its own list of essential items to be included in the Government's proposed stockpile of goods.

Its president, Datuk N. Marimuthu, said Fomca would be conducting a comprehensive study on the goods that must be stocked in case of a shortage in the country. Saying that the items on the stockpile list needed to be debated before being finalised, he said Fomca's study would take into consideration the demand and supply for each item.

Based on preliminary information, Marimuthu said goods that have to be stocked would be raw materials for foodstuff, cooking oil and petrol.

Fomca council members need to meet to discuss and compile the list by next week before it is submitted to the Government, he said in an interview.

He was commenting on the Government's proposal to set up a national stockpile of essential goods to ensure that prices and supply are kept stable.

Marimuthu suggested that the stockpile of goods would last between four and six months.

The national stockpile plan should be implemented and managed properly otherwise the shortage will be seen again because of unscrupulous retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers out to make a quick buck, he said, suggesting that instead of a council, the Government should set up an independent price commission that would check on prices daily and not only when shortages are reported.