



Covid-19 Antigen Rapid Test Kits are gazetted as controlled items. FILE PIC

ENSURING ADEQUATE SUPPLY

GOVT TO LOOK INTO COVID TEST KIT PRICE

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Govt also working to ensure RTKs meet medical standards, says minister

KUALA LUMPUR

THE government is looking into the need to review the ceiling price for Covid-19 Antigen Rapid Test Kits (RTKs).

Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi said the government had gazetted RTKs to ensure an adequate supply.

"The government takes into account the needs and interests of consumers, especially from the aspect of adequacy of supply in

the market, as well as getting face masks and self-test kits at prices that are not burdensome.

"Enforcement, inspection and monitoring by my ministry's Enforcement Division is always done on relevant items at every level, such as manufacturers, wholesalers and traders."

He said this during the ministers' question time in the Dewan Rakyat.

He said this in response to a question from Cha Kee Chin (PH-Rasah) on whether the ministry would review and reduce the ceiling prices for face masks and self-test kits, as well as set ceiling prices for oximeters and thermometers, which have become essential items.

Responding to Cha's suggestion regarding ceiling prices for oximeters and thermometers, Nanta said this would be imple-

mented if necessary.

To a supplementary question on the government's efforts to control the quality of product like face masks and self-test kit Nanta said the ministry was evaluating the matter to ensure that the quality was of medical standards.

"Not only are prices monitored but also we want quality (standards) to be met.

"We are looking into it and will gazette the standards on quality later.

"In relation to the Covid-19 test kit earlier, the (medical standards) are under the jurisdiction of the MDA (Medical Device Authority) under the Health Ministry.

"So this ministry will continue to work with MDA to monitor the matter to ensure these devices are of quality." **Bernama**