

Price increases of daily necessities, anti-competitive behaviour being monitored

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We refer to the online letter by Mr Jeffery Law, "Will unscrupulous businesses raise prices with more handouts from the Budget?". (Feb 26).

The Budget Initiatives introduced by the Ministry Of Finance, such as the \$1.7 billion in household transfers this year, are targeted at helping Singaporean households cope with the cost of living. Businesses should not use this as an excuse to raise prices indiscriminately.

The Consumers Association of Singapore (CASE) works with the Retail Price Watch Group (RPWG) to keep a close watch on any excessive price increases of daily necessities and anti-competitive behaviour from businesses in Singapore.

As a consumer watchdog, CASE actively monitors the consumer marketplace for unfair practices committed by businesses.

Should consumers notice specific instances of unfair practices by businesses in the market, they may highlight the matter to CASE for further investigation.

The RPWG advocates healthy competition amongst businesses.

In a competitive market, businesses that raise prices excessively will lose customers to businesses that are able to increase productivity and offer products with better value.

We therefore encourage consumers to exercise their choice and find the best value for money when making their purchases.

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