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Tariff cut on raw sugar imports from Aust

20 Indonesia's Trade Minister Enggartiasto Lukita said there would not be an increase in the raw sugar import quota this year but the policy would provide options for importers to buy more from Australia, in addition to Thailand, the biggest sugar exporter to Indonesia.

"The raw sugar tariff [for Australia] will be 5 per cent, the same rate we apply to Thailand, so [Australian sugar] can be more competitive.

It is important because we don't depend only on one country," he said at a press conference during the visit of Australian Minister for Trade, Tourism and Investment Steven Ciobo to the ministry on Wednesday.

Indonesia depends on raw sugar imports, mostly from Thailand, to fulfill its household and industrial needs.

This year, the ministry estimates that the country will import 3.5 million tonnes of sugar out of the national demand of 6.2 million tonnes. To lessen its dependence on imported sugar, Indonesia will introduce various incentives for local sugar industry players and planters. - The Jakarta Post