

Action taken on 89 traders over halal certification

A TOTAL of 89 business owners were found to have falsely claimed that their products were halal-certified, says Chong Chieng Jen.

The Deputy Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister said 3,539 checks were conducted by enforcement officers from January to October this year.

"We have taken action against them, which included confiscating their products and issuing them with compounds," he said during Question Time.

Chong was responding to a question by Datuk Shamsul Anuar Nasarah (BN-Lenggong), who asked about the government's measures in addressing the issue of non-Muslim companies misleading Muslim customers by using Islamic marketing and packaging themes.

Shamsul also asked if the government would introduce a new law to curb such cases in the future.

Chong said companies were only allowed to use the halal logo or market their products using words such as "Muslim-friendly" or "syariah-compliant" if they obtained the halal certification from the Islamic Development Department (Jakim) or state religious authorities.

"That is why we have increased enforcement to track down any offenders.

"We are serious about this issue as it is an offence for anyone to falsely claim their products as halal-certified under the Trade Description (Certification and Marking of Halal) Order 2011," he said, adding that the government would cooperate with Jakim and state religious authorities on enforcement.

Chong said the government also carried out inspections of slaughterhouses, factories, supermarkets and restaurants, under special joint operations across the country.



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Reports by MARTIN CARVALHO, HEMANANTHANI SIVANANDAM, RAHIMY RAHIM and TARRENCE TAN

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Read more at <https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2019/12/04/action-taken-on-89-traders-over-halal-certification#CAfRucYegusz6pGW.99>