

KPDNHEP records RM17m compound collection



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The total collection is made in the period of 4 years through 2,850,628 inspections by the ministry's Enforcement Division, says minister

by DASHVEENJIT KAUR/ pic by MUHD AMIN NAHARUL

OVER RM17 million compound collections were recorded for three years from 2016 until last year, according to the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs (KPDNHEP).

Minister Datuk Seri Saifuddin Nasution Ismail said the total collection was made in the period of four years through 2,850,628 inspections by the ministry's Enforcement Division.

"The number of inspections increased every year from 793,279 in 2016 to as much as 838,369 last year," he told reporters after launching the Integrated Enforcement Management System (IEMS) in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

Saifuddin Nasution said the IEMS was developed as a result of the increasing number of premises and compound inspections issued manually by the Enforcement Division between 2016 and 2019.

"The Phase 1 development of the system is the improvement over methods of inspection and compounding, which in turn helps to implement a comprehensive enforcement management based on the 11 Acts enacted under the KPDNHEP," he added.

The 11 Acts include Control of Supplies Act 1961, Hire Purchase Act 1967, Weights and Measures Act 1972, Copyright Act 1987, Direct Sales and Anti-Pyramid Scheme Act 1993, Consumer Protection Act 1999, Optical Discs Act 2000, Price Control and Anti-Profitteering Act 2011, Trade Description Act 2011, Franchise Act 1998 and Anti-Money Laundering and Anti-Terrorism Financing and Proceeds of Unlawful Activities Act 2001.

The IEMS is fully operational throughout Malaysia effective yesterday, including at KPDNHEP headquarters and 72 branches of the Enforcement Division nationwide.

"This initiative is seen to have a positive impact on online enforcement management as it enables the compound to be issued electronically and systematically.

"It also enables reporting to be obtained and updated within 24 hours compared to one to two weeks previously, thus increasing productivity and competency of our enforcement officers," Saifuddin Nasution said, adding that the adoption of the system will alleviate negative perceptions and increase public confidence.

On an average, according to KPDNHEP's statistics, the Enforcement Division performs 712,657 inspections per annum.

Meanwhile on the festive season maximum price control scheme for the upcoming Chinese New Year celebration, the ministry has extended price monitoring from 10 to 14 days, and three new items were added, totalling 16 items on watchlist compared to 13 items last year.

The new items are red chilli, tomato and potato from China apart from chicken, eggs, vegetables, dried goods, seafood and pork.

The minister said prices of the 16 items will be monitored for 14 days until Feb 2, 2020.

The retail price for garlic, however, has risen to RM9 per kg compared to RM7 per kg last year, as well as for pork and lard which has risen to RM16 per kg compared to RM15 previously.

"The maximum pricing for producers, wholesalers and retailers has been determined through price justification and suitability for the efficient enforcement of a price control scheme that will benefit consumers and traders," Saifuddin Nasution said.

He also warned of stern action that will be taken against traders who violate the Price Control and Anti-Profitteering Act 2011, adding that 29,543 inspections were carried out last year with many offences involving the failure to display the pink price tag or price, and pricing above the maximum.

Over 2,300 ministry's enforcement officers will be deployed to ensure that local traders will comply with the festival's price control scheme.