

## 223,000 face masks worth RM446,000 seized in Kota Damansara



A total of 223,000 face masks were seized during the raid. - Pix courtesy of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry seized 223,000 units of three-ply face masks after raiding a premises in Kota Damansara, Petaling Jaya yesterday.

A statement said the operation was led by a group of enforcers from the ministry's Putrajaya tactical and raiding section.

The raid followed a tip off from members of the public, who complained about face masks being sold discretely online at higher prices on Facebook.



Ministry enforcement director Datuk Iskandar Halim Sulaiman said the estimated value of the seized items were RM446,000.



**The face masks were sold online, above market price. - Pix courtesy of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry**

"From the raid, we discovered that the culprits were selling the face mask at RM3.50 per unit. This is against the set price for item in the market which is RM2.00 per unit.

"Their method of selling was through online method, where customers can place their orders via WhatsApp and the item will be delivered to them either via postage or cash-on-delivery (COD) method," he said in a statement.

Iskandar Halim told the New Straits Times that one person was caught in the operation.

"Our group of enforcers managed to caught a lone ranger, as he is the only individual behind the face mask online-sale operation.

"The raid took place at around noon yesterday," he said when contacted.

Under this section, an individual could be fined up to RM100,000 or jailed up to three years or both; or subsequently be fined up to RM250,000 or five years jail or both for the second or subsequent offence.

A corporation or company can be fined up to RM500,000 and up to RM1 million for the second or subsequent offence, if the offender is not an individual.

The public are encouraged to lodge a report to the ministry through their Enforcement Command Centre hotline at 1-800-886-000 or 03-8882-6088/6245 or on their official website at <http://e-aduan.kpdnhep.gov.my>





The total items seized were worth about RM446,000. -Pix courtesy of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry

<https://www.nst.com.my/news/crime-courts/2020/03/578286/223000-face-masks-worth-rm446000-seized-kota-damansara>