

## No more Touch 'n Go surcharge for parking soon

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Touch 'n' Go users will no longer have to pay the 10% surcharge at parking lots soon, Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Deputy Minister Chong Chieng Jen said yesterday.

Chong told the Dewan Rakyat that new agreements signed with merchants will exclude the surcharge while provisions in existing agreements will be eliminated in stages.

He said the government could not eliminate the surcharge immediately as it was bound by existing contracts. The surcharge is passed on to users.

Apart from the surcharge, Touch 'n' Go card holders also have to pay 50 sen every time they top up the value on their cards.

In response to a question from Datuk Seri Dr Wee Ka Siong (BN-Ayer Hitam), Chong explained that the surcharge was a contractual obligation between Touch 'n' Go and car park operators with dual parking systems.

Chong pointed out that the surcharge was not imposed at car parks that use only the Touch 'n' Go option.

On the reload charge, he said more than 2,880 of the 11,168 reload locations do not impose the 50 sen charge.

He also disagreed with Wee's assertion that Touch 'n' Go was a monopoly. He pointed out that there were other players in the e-money market such as MCash, Boost, GrabPay and Alipay.