

Four fined for smoking in prohibited areas at Kuching Airport

KUCHING: The Magistrates' Court here on Monday fined four men RM2,500 each, in default three-month imprisonment, after they pleaded guilty to smoking in a prohibited area at Kuching International Airport (KIA) in June this year.

Magistrate Ling Hui Chuan imposed the sentence under Section 16(2) of the Control of Tobacco Products for Public Health Act 2024, read together with Section 16(3), which carries a maximum fine of RM5,000.

According to the case facts, the incident occurred during

'Ops Rokok', conducted by the Kuching Health Office enforcement team around the airport and Petra Jaya area.

The accused were initially issued notices of offence and given two months to settle via compound payment, but failed to respond, leading to the matter being brought to court.

During proceedings, prosecuting officer Mohd Fairos from the Inspection and Legal Unit of the Kuching Health Office urged the court to impose appropriate penalties as a warning to the public and to emphasise compliance with

designated no-smoking areas for public health.

In related cases, a man was fined RM3,000, in default three-month imprisonment, for smoking in a prohibited area at a restaurant here.

Another man was fined RM2,500, in default three months' imprisonment, under Regulation 11(1) of the Tobacco Product Control Regulations 2004, read together with Regulation 11(3), for smoking in a no-smoking area at KIA in February last year.

The regulation carries a maximum fine of RM10,000 upon conviction.