

Minor among three fined for smoking offences

KUCHING: A minor was fined RM300 in default three days' imprisonment by the Magistrates Court here yesterday for smoking in public.

Magistrate Mason Jaro Lenya Barayan convicted the boy on his own guilty plea to a charge under Section 17(1) of the Control of Smoking Products for Public Health Act 2024 read together with Section 17(2) of the same Act.

The Section provides for a maximum fine of RM500, upon conviction.

The brief case facts stated that the boy was caught smoking by Kuching Health

Office enforcement personnel sometime in June last year.

In separate proceedings, Magistrate Nursyaheeqa Nazwa Radzali fined two men RM700 each in default three week's jail for lighting up in gazetted 'No Smoking' zones.

The duo, aged 21 and 52, were charged under Section 16(2) of the Control of Smoking Products for Public Health Act 2024 read together with Section 16(3) of the same Act, which carries a maximum fine of RM5,000.

The 21-year-old was caught smoking at a supermarket, while the 52-year-old was caught at an eatery. Both offences took place

in June 2025.

Both courts were informed that the three accused had each been issued a notice of offence and given two months to seek compounds at any Health Office.

They failed to do so, resulting in matters being brought to court.

During proceedings, prosecuting officer Mohd Fairos Ibrahim from the Kuching Health Office Legal and Inspectorate Unit urged the magistrates to impose appropriate sentences as a lesson to the accused and the public, and to encourage compliance with smoking laws in the interest of public health.