



## **Raids are not solutions**

***Kuala Lumpur, 6 November 2019*** - The Malaysian Vape Chamber of Commerce (MVCC) today said that the enforcement action undertaken by the Ministry of Health (MOH) recently does not provide a solution for the future of the Malaysian vape industry and the thousands of local entrepreneurs and workers within the industry.

This statement came after many industry players were impacted by the raids and seizures conducted by MOH throughout the country resulting in losses totalling millions of Ringgit. <https://kpkesihatan.com/2019/11/01/kenyataan-akhbar-kp-kesihatan-1-november-2019-tindakan-penguatkuasaan-terhadap-penjualan-nikotin-tanpa-lesen/>

Syed Azaudin Syed Ahmad, President of MVCC said, "This is not a solution and we urge the Government to give consideration to the vape industry that has been waiting for the introduction of regulations for the industry since 2015 where the Government has decided to regulate the industry with new laws."

"Currently, we are putting the fate of the Malaysian vape industry, which is valued at approximately RM2 billion and thousands of local entrepreneurs and workers, in the hands of the Government as it is in the process of developing new regulations for the industry. The vape industry is willing to comply with the new regulations, especially in relation to the sale of regulated nicotine vape," he added.

Syed said that the vape industry is aware that the recent enforcement action was carried out due to concerns in relation to the use of nicotine vape by the underage.

"The industry is ready to work with the Ministry of Health to discuss measures that can ensure the product is not used by or sold to those who are underage. We urge the government to include MVCC in discussions relating to drafting new laws for the industry given that it isn't just about measures to prevent underage from accessing the products but also about product standards, licensing and taxation, which will require input from the industry," he added.

## MEDIA STATEMENT

Concurrently, Syed Azaudin recommends that, “While waiting for the Government to introduce new laws for the vape industry next year, an understanding should be established between the Government and the vape industry to ensure the industry is not impacted continuously and a direction can be given to the industry and local entrepreneurs while making preparation towards the new regulations that will be introduced.”

Syed Azaudin also said that the industry welcomes the recent comment made by the Deputy Health Minister, YB Dr Lee Boon Chye, who said that MOH will study the manner nicotine vape product is regulated in the United Kingdom.

He said “We agree with this direction. The regulations currently in place in the United Kingdom clearly have shown effectiveness in regulating the vape industry and can be emulated here in Malaysia.”

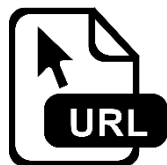
\*end\*

+++++

**For more information, please contact**

*Encik Syed Azaudin Syed Ahmad  
President MVCC  
(018 9000 589)*

*Please visit our website and Facebook page for more information on MVCC*



<https://vapemalaysia.org/>



<https://www.facebook.com/DewanPerniagaanVapeMalaysia>