

160 eateries shut down in enforcement operations

MBPJ also issued 1,612 compound notices to restaurants and stalls

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THE Petaling Jaya City Council closed down 160 restaurants and food stalls up to October this year during their inspection and enforcement operations. Some 1,612 compound notices were also issued during this period.

The compound notices were centred around four main reasons: poor restaurant cleanliness, no typhoid jab, food handlers with poor hygiene and not wearing apron/covering hair.

The most summonses issued under the restaurant category were to 306 food handlers without typhoid jabs.

Poor cleanliness and maintenance of the restaurants resulted in 141 summonses.

Some 129 summonses were issued to food handlers with poor hygiene while 124 summonses were slapped on food handlers who did not wear aprons and cover their hair.

Petaling Jaya mayor Datuk Mohd Azizi Mohd Zain said, "The restaurants were graded throughout the inspection sessions and 780 restaurants were issued grade 'A'.

Meanwhile, 463 restaurants were graded 'B' and 144 received grade 'C'. Under the hawker stalls category, some 1,117 compound notices were issued to night and morning markets, and Ramadan bazaars. Summonses were issued to 691 stalls without business licences

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An MBPJ health officer inspecting a food storage area at a restaurant.

while 314 summonses were issued to those without typhoid jabs.

Seven hawker stalls were shut down due to poor cleanliness.

Only 16 stalls were issued grade 'A' while 95 stalls were graded 'B' and 75 stalls went under grade 'C'.

Under the 24-hour restaurant category, 55 summonses were issued.

From September this year, the council had made it mandatory for

all 24-hour restaurants to close their business for two hours from 4am to 6am to carry out cleaning works.

About 70% of the restaurants adhered to the closure notice.

According to previous reports by *StarMetro*, Mohd Azizi had ordered 24-hour restaurants to stop operating between 1am and 3am for cleaning purposes.

In the reports, the restaurant

associations were said to have requested for the hours to be delayed and the mayor agreed.

The mayor had implemented the ruling because he was dissatisfied with the cleanliness of these restaurants.

The report also stated that all hotel business outlets and fast food operators were exempted from this ruling due to their good cleanliness track record.