

Mechanism to detect GST dodgers

KUALA LUMPUR: The Government is identifying a new mechanism to detect traders who avoid paying the Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Second Finance Minister Datuk Johari Abdul Ghani said the mechanism would link the cash register machines of traders to the system of the Customs Department.

"In one system, we can place a dongle in the cash register so that each time the trader punches in the cash register, it will be linked to the Customs system.

"But we may not do it with all traders as it is very expensive, so we have to have specific targets," he said when winding up debate on the Supply Bill 2017 at the committee level for his ministry in Parliament yesterday.

Johari 10/11
Johari said that among the problems faced by Customs was traders asking customers whether they would like to bear the GST or not.

He said when a consumer chose not to pay the GST, the trader would not issue an invoice and the transaction was not recorded as a declaration to Customs.

"For the long term, we want to ensure no traders use this method, and if there is, consumers should report the practice to the authorities," he added.

In this regard, Johari said the Government would be conducting a study on goods subjected to GST and zero-rated goods according to the demands and requirements of the people. — Bernama