

Pet dogs found living in squalor

Woman horrified over discovery at shop

PETALING JAYA: A businesswoman who wanted to buy a pet shop here was horrified to discover that the dogs were kept in small and dirty cages.

"There was an emaciated Rottweiler in a cage with faeces and urine," she said. "The cage was far too small for it and the poor dog had to stoop and lower its head whenever it stands."

She said there were about six other smaller dogs, such as the schnauzers, cramped inside cages in a smelly and dingy room.

The sale did not come with the animals. "So, I offered to buy the dogs and the owner said she could sell me a rottweiler for RM600 as she wanted the others for breeding purposes," said the businesswoman, adding that the animals were unkempt and their nails were long.

She said the dogs were kept in a room at the back of the shop, adding that the owner was initially reluctant to show them to her when she went there for a viewing.

"However, she relented after some coaxing."

Selangor Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) deputy director Dr Fadzilah A'ini Abdul Kadir said a check would be conducted on the shop and that action would be taken if there was evidence of cruelty.

"There are no legal restrictions pertaining to breeding but breeders must ensure that their animals are kept in a proper environment and are well taken care of," she said.

Canine welfare project Malaysian Dogs Deserve Better (MDDDB) adoption coordinator Christine Lai stressed that "it is time the authorities review their definition of cruelty".

SPCA head animal inspector Cunera Kimlon and PAWS kennel manager Edward Lim agreed that the onus was on the department to ensure that backyard-breeding was disallowed.

Several rescue groups have come forward to offer fostering the dogs if the DVS removes them from the shop.



Stunted growth: The Rottweiler in a cramped cage which is placed in a dark and dirty room.