

[BAT lauds bid to tackle smuggling](#)

## TIGHTER CONTROLS

# BAT lauds bid to tackle smuggling

**KUALA LUMPUR:** British American Tobacco (M) Bhd (BAT) views the additional measures announced in the 2023 Budget to address cigarette smuggling as a step in the right direction.

Managing director Nedal Salem said in a statement this would strengthen efforts in combating the tobacco black market, where 56.1 per cent of cigarettes sold in Malaysia were tax-evaded products.

He said it would also help address revenue leakages of RM5 billion annually.

On Friday, the government said it remained committed to addressing revenue leakages from cigarette smuggling and announced tightening controls on the importation of cigarettes.

This will be done via the introduction of a single-entry point policy in the northern region and enhancing controls at landing points, including private jetties.

In addition, the finance minister also announced special reward scheme for enforcement to stop smuggling activities.