

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## Kementerian kaji semula hukuman langgar Akta Racun 1952

**Petaling Jaya:** Kementerian Kesihatan sedia mengkaji semula bentuk hukuman kepada pengamal perubatan dan ahli farmasi yang melanggar Akta Racun 1952, tetapi tidak akan menarik balik Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) pindaan akta berkenaan.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, berkata adalah salah dakwaan mengatakan pengamal perubatan atau ahli farmasi akan terus dikenalkan hukuman, termasuk penjara sekiranya gagal mengeluarkan preskripsi atas permintaan pesakit.

Beliau menjelaskan sebelum satu preskripsi boleh dikeluarkan, pesakit mesti terlebih dulu menjalani sesi konsultasi dengan pengamal perubatan berdaftar.

"Konsultasi adalah asas untuk preskripsi dikeluarkan kepada pesakit. Ini bermaksud pesakit tidak sewenang-wenangnya boleh berjumpa dengan pengamal perubatan berdaftar dan menuntut apa saja preskripsi dikeluarkan.

"Akta Racun 1952 memperuntukkan seorang pengamal perubatan berdaftar, pengamal pergigian berdaftar atau pegawai veterinar boleh membekalkan racun (ubat) untuk tujuan rawatan pesakitnya atau pelanggannya," katanya selepas melancarkan buku panduan kesihatan mental di sini, semalam.

Bagaimanapun, Dr Dzulkefly berkata, KKM tetap dengan pendiriannya tidak akan menarik balik cadangan pindaan Akta Racun 1952, menerusi RUU 2019 yang dibentangkan kali pertama di Dewan Rakyat, pada 25 November lalu.

Mengulas lanjut, Dr Dzulkefly berkata, pindaan itu sudah mengambil kira pandangan semua pihak, termasuk Jabatan Peguam Negara, Yang Dipertua Dewan Rakyat dan Ahli Parlimen serta Persatuan Perubatan Malaysia (MMA) sebelum pindaan undang-undang dibuat.

Katanya, isu desakan menarik balik RUU Akta Racun 1952 tidak wajar timbul kerana kementerian sudah banyak kali mengadakan perbincangan dengan pihak berkepentingan berhubung pindaan itu.

Beliau berkata, cadangan MMA supaya kementerian menarik balik pindaan Akta Racun 1952 tidak sepatut timbul kerana KKM sudah banyak kali mengadakan perbincangan dengan pihak berkepentingan mengenai rang undang-undang terbabit.

Dalam perkembangan lain, Dr Dzulkefly berkata, beliau akan menghadap Sultan Johor, Sultan Ibrahim Iskandar, hari ini bagi memaklumkan perkembangan terkini pelbagai isu, termasuk kerja penambahbaikan Unit Rawatan Rapi Hospital Sultanah Aminah, Johor Bahru, yang terbakar, tiga tahun lalu.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 36

RUANGAN : MELAKA

# Kedai tayar degil dikompaun

**Terdapat takungan air di dalam tayar disyaki menjadi sarang aedes**

NOR FARHANA YAACOB

MELAKA TENGAH

Pemilik sebuah kedai tayar di Taman Teknologi Cheng di sini dikenakan kompaun sebanyak RM1,500 kerana beberapa takungan air di dalam tayar disyaki menjadi sarang pembiakan nyamuk aedes.

Exco Kesihatan dan Anti Dadah, Low Chee Leong berkata, sikap tidak bertanggungjawab peniaga itu yang

menjadikan tanah lapang sebelah premisnya sebagai lokasi puluhan longgokan tayar terpakai turut mencautkan pemandangan.

Beliau berkata, pemilik premis itu dikenakan tindakan di bawah Seksyen 8(3)(aa) Akta Pemusnah Serangga Pembawa Penyakit (APSPP) 1975 dan diarahkan menutup premis selama 14 hari.

"Sebanyak 21 premis diperiksa di sekitar daerah Melaka Tengah hari ini dan 11 daripadanya didapati positif pembiakan nyamuk aedes," katanya di sini semalam.

Hadir sama, Timbalan Pengarah Kesihatan Negeri (Kesihatan Awam), Dr Amirullah Mohd Arshad.

Chee Leong berkata, dua lagi premis tayar termasuk di Batu Berendam



Chee Leong menunjukkan jentik-jentik yang dikesan dalam tayar yang dilonggokkan oleh sebuah premis kedai tayar di sebuah tanah terbiar di Taman Teknologi Cheng semalam.



dan Cheng dikenakan notis di bawah Seksyen 8 APSPP 1975 dan penutupan operasi selama tujuh hari untuk kerja pembersihan.

"Pemeriksaan yang dilakukan mendapati kebanyakan pemilik premis mengambil jalan mudah dengan melonggokkan tayar yang tidak lagi digunakan di luar premis seperti

lorong belakang, tanah terbiar dan bahu jalan.

"Kita mendapati pengusaha kedai tayar gagal menguruskan tayar terpakai dengan membiarkan atau melonggokkannya di luar premis tanpa mengambil sebarang langkah pencegahan.

"Jika kesalahan berulang atau kegagalan men-

jelaskan kompaun, tindakan pendakwaan akan diambil dan jika sabit kesalahan boleh didenda tidak melebihi RM10,000 atau penjara tidak melebihi dua tahun," katanya.

Dalam perkembangan lain, Chee Leong berkata, sebanyak 1,970 kes denggi dilaporkan tahun ini bermula Januari hingga 30

November lalu.

Menurutnya, angka itu menunjukkan peningkatan sebanyak 221.9 peratus membabitkan 1,358 kes.

"Lebih membimbangkan enam kes kematian akibat denggi dilaporkan melibatkan empat kes kematian di Melaka Tengah manakala satu lagi di Jasin dan Alor Gajah," katanya.

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NATION

# Not issuing prescription a misconduct, says ministry

By LOH FOON FONG  
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**PETALING JAYA:** The Health Ministry will take into consideration doctors' act of not issuing prescription slips upon request by patients as one of misconduct instead of a criminal offence requiring a jail and fine sentence, says Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

The Health Minister said the ministry would look into amending the proposed amendment of the Poisons Act 1952.

"It can be (not considered an offence) but a breach or misconduct that can be duly handled by the Malaysian Medical Council," he said, adding that the ministry had engaged with doctors on mandatory prescription upon request.

Dzulkefly said this at a press conference after launching a new mental health handbook aimed at helping Malaysians recognise the signs and symptoms of mental health issues and seek professional help early.

He was also asked if the proposed amendment would be withdrawn.

"In drafting Bills, there are amendments to amendments. It could have been an oversight in putting the offence with other major offences, but I am more than happy to look at it again," he said.

The Poison (Amendment) Bill 2019 tabled at the Dewan Rakyat on Monday, among others, proposed penalising private doctors, dental surgeons, and veterinarians with a maximum fine of RM3,000, up to a year's imprisonment or both if they

refuse to provide prescription slips upon request by patients examined.

In response, the Malaysian Medical Association on Friday urged the government to withdraw the Bill with immediate effect.

Calling it a harsh law that should only be meted out for severe offences, its president Dr N. Ganabaskaran said it was an issue of medical ethics rather than crime.

On another issue, Dzulkefly said he would be having an audience with the Johor Ruler today to make a submission on the fire issue at Sultanah Aminah Hospital three years ago which led to the deaths of six patients.

He said he was aware of Tunku Mahkota of Johor Tunku Ismail Ibni Sultan Ibrahim's visit to the hospital and that he was required to see

Sultan Ibrahim Ibni Almarh Sultan Iskandar today.

"I'd be able to share with him efforts and the hiccups we have had from 2016, and from the previous administration and this administration, what efforts have been taken and how much we have spent.

"I am more than happy to meet the Sultan to make a submission to him," Dzulkefly added.

On Monday night, Tunku Ismail expressed his disappointment over the Federal Government's lack of efforts to repair the intensive care unit of HSA following the fire.

Asked about the legal suit brought by one of the victims' family members against the government over the case, Dzulkefly said he would not comment on it since it was now a court case.

AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

## Health Ministry launches 'Mental Health Handbook'

■ BY ELLY FAZANIZA  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Malaysians will now be able to identify when someone is on the verge of having a mental breakdown and seek professional help early with the help of a handbook titled the *Mental Health Handbook*, which was launched by the Health Ministry yesterday.

The handbook contains advice on how to recognise the early warning signs and symptoms of mental illness, as well as treating and managing the condition.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said one in three Malaysians have mental health problems.

"As such, validated knowledge for the community is one of the most important steps to promoting greater understanding of mental health issues," he said in his opening remarks during the launch.

The handbook, a private-public effort, will provide a credible resource to guide Malaysians in dealing with mental health issues, he added.

Malaysian Psychiatric Association president Dr Hazli Zakaria said understanding the barriers to the way one

could seek help would ensure prompt access to mental health services.

The book, which has been written for easy-reading and is supplemented with visuals, touches on four mental disorders - depression, anxiety, bipolar and schizophrenia.

Additionally, information is provided on how to reach out to someone with mental health problems, steps to manage one's mental well-being, and a directory listing of mental health services in Malaysia.

The book can be accessed at <https://www.myhealthmylife.com.my>.

On a separate note, Dzulkefly said that he would have an audience with the Sultan of Johor tomorrow to update the ruler on repairs to the Sultanah Aminah Hospital intensive care unit (ICU), which was razed in a fire three years ago, killing six patients.

Johor Tunku Mahkota Tunku Ismail Sultan Ibrahim had earlier expressed disappointment over the lack of effort by the federal government to repair the ICU.

On a legal suit filed by a victim's family against the government over the incident, Dzulkefly gave an assurance that the findings would be disclosed soon.