

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 20A

RUANGAN : LOKAL

## Tiada peniaga jual gula-gula berasap

**Kuala Lumpur:** Selepas penjualan *ghost smoke* diharapkan baru-baru ini, tiada lagi peruncit ataupun mana-mana pihak menjual gula-gula itu di pasaran tempatan.

Timbalan Menteri Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Hal Ehwal Pengguna, Chong Chieng Jen berkata, penguat kuasa Kementerian menga-

mbil tindakan segera selepas Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) mengeluarkan arahan untuk mengharamkan penjualan *ghost smoke*.

"Kajian makmal dibuat Bahagian Keselamatan dan Kualiti Makanan, KKM mendapati tiada apa-apa bahan kimia dipercayai boleh memudaratkan pengguna.

"Gula-gula *ghost smoke* itu yang mengeluarkan asap ketika kanak-kanak makan seperti merokok.

"Oleh itu, KKM mengeluarkan arahan mengharamkan penjualannya dan penguat kuasa kita menjalankan operasi dengan segera.

"Setakat ini, tak ada lagi peruncit menjual gula-gula

*ghost smoke* ini di pasaran negara," katanya pada sidang Dewan Rakyat di sini, semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika menjawab soalan Datuk Che Abdullah Mat Nawi (Pas-Tumpat) yang ingin tahu berkenaan isu *ghost smoke* dan langkah pencegahan penjualannya khususnya dalam kalangan murid.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 10

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

## RESULTS IN 2 WEEKS

## 'MMEA officer's death unlikely due to Zika virus'

**GEORGE TOWN:** The Health Ministry is doubtful the death of a Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (MMEA) officer in Manjung is due to the Zika virus.

Health Ministry director-general Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said it was highly unlikely that the 30-year-old man died due to the mosquito-borne virus.

"He was suspected to have dengue and leptospirosis as well, so it (the death) is highly unlikely to be because of the Zika virus.

"We are still investigating," he said after launching the Malaysia-Ireland Training Programme for Family Medicine at the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland and University College Dublin Malaysia Campus here yesterday.

The deceased, identified as Lieutenant Maritime Mohamad Ikmal, was found vomiting and suffering from diarrhoea on Sept 26.

He was admitted to hospital the following day before being transferred to the Intensive Care Unit at Manjung Hospital here on Sept 29.

The infection was registered with the state Health Depart-

ment on Oct 12.

It was learnt that the deceased, who served on board the MMEA vessel *KM Nusa Maritim* in Terengganu, was pronounced dead at 4.45am on Friday.

The Health Ministry expects the results on the cause of his death to be made known in two weeks' time.

Dr Noor Hisham said Malaysia still faced a shortage of doctors trained in family medicine.

He said these doctors were capable of managing chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular and mental health issues at an affordable cost at their clinics. Currently, there are only 700 such doctors, with the majority of them serving in the private sector.

"The country needs at least 8,000 more family medicine specialists to fulfil the needs of the population, with the target ratio of one specialist to 4,000 people.

"While we strive to ensure we have a sufficient number of doctors required to meet the size of our growing population, we must also ensure they are sufficiently trained and of good quality."



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 1

RUANGAN : NATION



The preferred choice  
when buying  
medication these days

Hospital: **No**  
Clinic: **No**  
**Pharmacy: Yes**  
Because of price? **Yes**

See report by EDDIE CHUA and TAN SHIOW CHIN on page 4



**AKHBAR : THE STAR**  
**MUKA SURAT : 4**  
**RUANGAN : NATION**

## Many companies turning to pharmacies due to high medicine prices at private clinics

Companies eventually realised that they could save as much as 40% by buying direct from independent pharmacies, especially for their workers who are on long-term medication.

**Three different prices:** The price of long-term medication obtained from a private hospital (left) compared with a regular walk-in customer and corporate discount (right) at the local pharmacy store.

"As such, pharmacists dispensing these

"I may have only one patient taking a particular medication, so I only buy one box a month just for this patient, for

[illegible]

He added that private GPs rely on the profit from medications to sustain their business, as the consultation fees (currently RM10-35 per consultation) are too low for doctors to make a living.