



PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION IN MALAYSIA

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

16 March 2020, 12 pm – A total of **125 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **553 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Based on preliminary investigation, of these 125 additional confirmed cases, 95 cases are related to the *Tabligh* gathering in Seri Petaling mosque.

Currently twelve (12) confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units requiring ventilation support.

Phase of the Outbreak in Malaysia

Malaysia is currently experiencing a drastic increase in the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in the past one week. Based on the current situation, MOH would like to inform that Malaysia is currently in the **late containment phase** of the infection. In this phase, the main goal is to reduce the spread of the infection in Malaysia from becoming more serious.

Concurrently, MOH is preparing to enter the mitigation phase. Some of the measures that have been undertaken are:

1. Designate Sungai Buloh Hospital as the dedicated admitting hospital for confirmed COVID-19 cases;

2. To strengthen the capacity and capabilities of laboratories for COVID-19 testing;
3. Identify quarantine centres throughout the country; and
4. Collaborate with Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and private healthcare facilities in managing COVID-19 cases.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

Every Malaysian has an important role to play in ensuring that Malaysia can successfully control the COVID-19 infection in the country. MOH has issued numerous health advisories to the general public daily. Therefore, MOH requests the help of all Malaysians in managing the current COVID-19 situation. The public can fulfil their duties as responsible citizens by:

1. Constantly maintain a high level of personal hygiene at all times, **wash hands** frequently with soap and water, or use hand sanitisers. This has been shown to be effective in preventing disease transmission;
2. Practice **good cough etiquette** – cover mouth and nose with tissue when coughing or sneezing, dispose tissue appropriately after use and wash hands immediately. This has also been shown to prevent spread of infection to other individuals;
3. **Postpone organising events** involving mass gathering of people;
4. **Not attend events** involving mass gathering of people;
5. **Practice social distancing** of at least 1 metre from other individuals; and
6. **Postpone travel overseas** particularly to regions and cities that have been declared with COVID-19 infection in the People's

Republic of China (as announced earlier), the Republic of Korea, Japan, Italy and Iran. This is to reduce the risk of infection.

Malaysians are requested to refrain from sharing or disseminating unverified news or information that may cause anxiety to the public. MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation, and the public will be continuously updated on the latest information.

Thank you.

YB DATO' SERI DR ADHAM BIN BABA
Minister of Health Malaysia

16 March 2020 @ 5 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States

State	No. of Cases
Perlis	8
Kedah	31
Pulau Pinang	15
Perak	18
Selangor	144
Negeri Sembilan	42
Melaka	14
Johor	52
Pahang	19
Terengganu	4
Kelantan	18
Sabah	57
Sarawak	21
WP Kuala Lumpur & Putrajaya	106
WP Labuan	4
TOTAL	553