

AKHBAR : KOSMO
MUKA SURAT : 14
RUANGAN : NEGARA

22 kes baharu H1N1 dikesan di STAR Ipoh, seorang lagi pelajar dirawat di hospital

PUTRAJAYA – Sebanyak 22 kes baharu disyaki Influenza A (H1N1) dikesan di Sekolah Tunku Abdul Rahman (STAR), Ipoh, Perak sehingga kelmarin, kata Menteri Kesihatan, Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad.
Menurutnya, ini menjadikan jumlah kumu-

Pelajar STAR Ipoh dijangkiti influenza bukan sakit misteri



22 kes baharu disyaki Influenza A (H1N1) dikesan di Sekolah Tunku Abdul Rahman (STAR), Ipoh, Perak sehingga kelmarin, kata Menteri Kesihatan, Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad. Menurutnya, ini menjadikan jumlah kumulatif dilaporkan di sekolah tersebut seramai 102 orang termasuk seorang guru yang mem-

latif dilaporkan di sekolah tersebut seramai 102 orang termasuk seorang guru yang mem-

punyai jangkitan saluran pernafasan seperti demam, sakit tekak dan batuk.
"Terdapat seorang lagi murid STAR dimasukkan ke hospital swasta ketika ini dan masih menunggu keputusan makmal dan keadaan pelajar itu dilaporkan

stabil.
"Seramai 51 pelajar lagi masih diasingkan di asrama sekolah dan pemantauan ke atas mereka diteruskan," katanya selepas melancarkan Bulan Pemakanan Malaysia di sini semalam.
Kelmarin, media melaporkan empat sampel

daripada 79 pelajar yang dikesan mengalami kluster demam dan batuk di STAR disahkan positif Influenza A H1N1.
Sebelum ini, tular dalam media sosial berhubung dakwaan wujud 'penyakit misteri' yang mengancam pelajar sekolah berkenaan.

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 12

RUANGAN : NATION

'Ayer Ganda water can be used except for drinking'

IPOH: Villagers can still use water from Ayer Ganda for their daily needs except for consumption, says Dr Lee Boon Chye.

The Deputy Health Minister said the water from the plant was still safe for washing and bathing, but he advised villagers not to consume the water until further notice.

"We have already started building a new water pipe to supply fresh water to the affected villagers. The project will be completed in six months," he told a press conference after visiting Kampar Hospital yesterday.

On Wednesday, National Water Services Commission (SPAN) issued a statement about the Ayer Ganda water treatment plant recording traces of arsenic at more than 0.02mg per litre, which is 0.01mg per litre higher than the permissible level set by the Health Ministry.

The Perak Water Board (LAP) has been supplying water to affected residents using nine tankers and 13 static water tanks placed at strategic locations since the plant shut down on April 9.

When contacted, LAP director Datuk Mohd Yusuf Mohd Isa said



Friendly chat: Dr Lee talking to patients at Kampar Hospital in Ipoh.

the statement regarding the water pollution would only be released by the special task force concerned or by Perak Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Ahmad Faizal Azumu.

"The state Department of Irrigation and Drainage is monitoring the situation," Mohd Yusuf said.

Ahmad Faizal's press secretary Adie Suri Zulkefli said the ministry had sent a letter to SPAN regarding the pollution at Sungai Rui.

"We are still waiting for SPAN to respond to the letter before making any statement," he said.

On a separate matter, Dr Lee said a new hospital would be built in Kampar to replace the current one.

"During my visit to the hospital, it was clear that the compound has several issues, including a lack of parking area and space for development.

"We are considering four locations that are at least 10km away from the current hospital," he said, adding that the proposed project was awaiting approval from the state and ministry.

AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

H1N1 flu 'situation is under control'

■ BY **ELLY FAZANIZA**
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PUTRAJAYA: Four students from a boarding school in Ipoh had been recently diagnosed with Influenza A (H1N1).

Three of them received outpatient treatment and the fourth, who had to be warded, has since been discharged.

Another 97 students and a teacher from the same school were diagnosed with ordinary viral infection, otherwise known as upper viral respiratory infection, Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye told *theSun* yesterday.

He gave an assurance that "the situation is under control".

Lee pointed out that not everyone diagnosed with the Influenza A virus had to be hospitalised.

"Only those who are considered high risk such as pregnant women, young children and old folk, as well as those with heart or lung disease will have to stay in hospital," he said.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad earlier dismissed claims the students were suffering from a mysterious disease as

claimed in social media postings. He confirmed that only four of them had H1N1.

"One of them has been discharged and is healthy," he told a press conference after launching the 2019 Nutrition Month yesterday.

The Influenza A strain made its first appearance in 2009 and spread quickly around the world, causing what is now referred to as the H1N1 Pandemic.

It is now common among the human population and appears seasonally as a flu virus. It is no longer considered to be pandemic.

The various strains of the flu virus - A, B and C - appear every year. It spreads through sneezing, coughing or touching of contaminated surfaces.

These strains of the flu usually cause only mild illnesses but in high risk individuals, it could lead to death.

Seasonal flu viruses evolve continuously so it is possible to be infected multiple times throughout one's life.

There is still no specific treatment for the flu. Only symptomatic treatments are available.

AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

Double-rated **levy** mulled

➤ Passengers on business class to pay more

■ BY RAJVINDER SINGH
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PETALING JAYA: How much you pay in departure levy when you fly out of the country could depend on how you fly.

If you fly business class, you pay a higher rate than fellow passengers who fly economy.

However, sources told *theSun* yesterday that details have yet to be worked out.

If implemented, it will be akin to the air passenger duty (APD) in the United Kingdom.

Those flying economy out of any UK airport on short-haul flights now pay £13 (RM70), while those in business or higher classes pay double that.

For long-haul flights, it is £78 (RM421) for economy and £172 (RM928) for business class.

Sources said the Transport Ministry would likely use the same system if the double-rated levy is implemented.

However, it could present some problems for airlines that provide business class-like services on other classes as well.

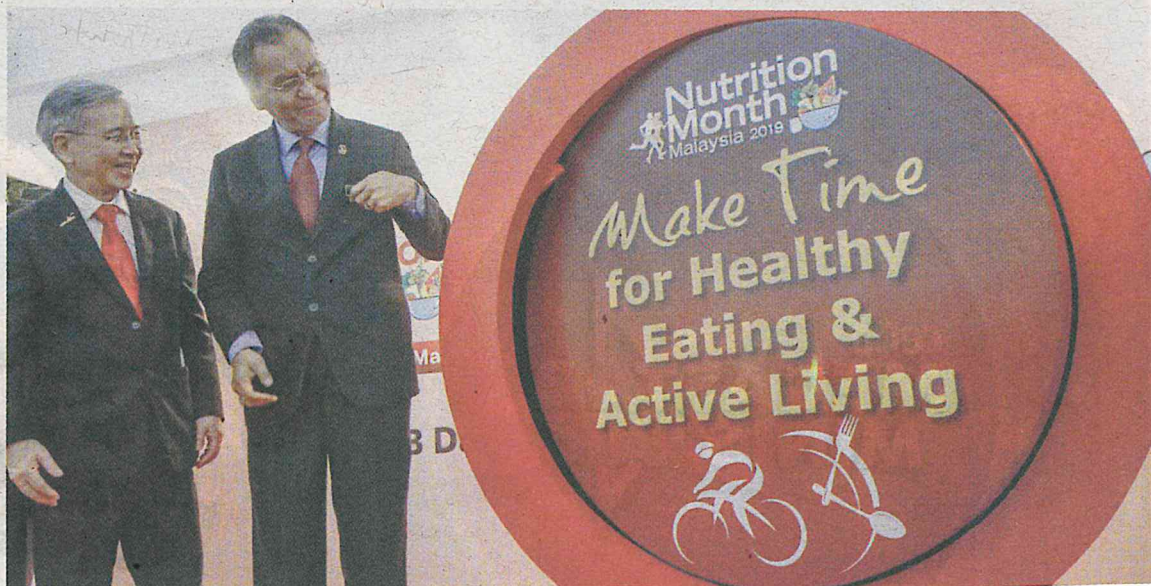
For instance, there are airlines that now offer premium economy seats between

business class and economy class.

Early this month, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Amiruddin Hamzah tabled the Departure Levy Bill 2019 at the Dewan Rakyat which, among others, levies a RM20 duty on those travelling to other Asean countries and RM40 for those travelling to other parts of the world. The levy is expected to be imposed on Jan 1 next year.

Other countries in the region that also charge a departure levy include Indonesia, Cambodia, the Philippines, Brunei, Australia, Japan, China, Hong Kong and Bangladesh.

The ministry also said those leaving on other modes of transport such as ship or train would also be subject to the levy.



Dzulkefly (right) together with Nutrition Month Malaysia chairman Dr Tee E Siong during the launch in Putrajaya yesterday. — **ASHRAF SHAMSUL/THESUN**