

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN  
MUKA SURAT : 2  
RUANGAN : MUKA DUA

## Dua syarikat yakin dapat penuhi permintaan seluruh dunia

**Kuala Lumpur:** Syarikat farmaseutikal antarabangsa, Pfizer dan BioNTech menjangkakan sebanyak 50 juta dos vaksin berapaya dihasilkan tahun ini bagi memenuhi permintaan seluruh dunia.

Menerusi kenyataan bersama, kedua-dua syarikat itu turut menyangkakan tambahan pengeluaran 1.3 bilion dos vaksin untuk menampung permintaan tahun depan.

Sehubungan itu, syarikat berkenaan kini giat memperuntukkan dos mencukupi bagi ujian klinikal fasa kedua, selain melakukan rantaian operasi pengeluaran dan mendapatkan simpanan bekalan pandemik.

"Kedua-dua rakan usaha sama (Pfizer dan BioNT) komited membangunkan vaksin ini berdasarkan data klinikal dan praktikal sebelum sebarang keputusan lanjut dibuat," kata kenyataan itu.

Sementara itu, Perigurus Negara Pfizer, Luksanawan Thangpaibool menyuarakan harapan syarikat berkenaan membekalkan dos vaksin diminta oleh Malaysia secepat mungkin dan berdasarkan syarat perjanjian.

"Kami amat berbesar hati untuk bekerjasama dengan Kerajaan Malaysia dan memacu bekalan pengeluaran serta saintifik bagi vaksin COVID-19 yang berpotensi kepada rakyat negara ini dengan kadar segera.

"Susulan krisis kesihatan global ini, matlamat merintis penyelesaian bagi mengubah kehidupan pesakit menjadi keutamaan kami. Oleh itu, pembekalan vaksin yang tertakluk kepada kejayaan aspek kawal selia dan klinikal ini diharap berupaya memenuhi matlamat berkenaan," katanya.

Ketua Perniagaan merangkap Ketua Pegawai Komersial BioNTech, Sean Maret pula menyifatkan kerjasama dimeterai dengan Malaysia, mampu memangkinkan usaha merungkai ancaman pandemik kesihatan di peringkat global.

"Saya ingin merakamkan penghargaan kepada Kerajaan Malaysia atas kerjasama dan kepercayaan yang diberikan terhadap kemampuan kami untuk membangunkan vaksin COVID-19.

"Kami percaya vaksin ini berpotensi untuk membantu menangani ancaman pandemik kesihatan yang masih meruncing ketika ini. Tekad untuk membekalkan vaksin yang selamat dan berkesan kepada penduduk dunia secepat mungkin, kekal menjadi matlamat utama kami," katanya.

Penularan COVID-19

# Beli vaksin Pfizer, COVAX

2 perjanjian beri jaminan bekalan imunisasi untuk 30 peratus rakyat

Oleh Zanariah Abd Mutalib dan Luqman Arif Abdul Karim  
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**Putrajaya:** Malaysia sudah memeterai dua perjanjian yang memberi jaminan untuk negara mendapatkan bekalan vaksin COVID-19 bagi menampung keperluan imunisasi 30 peratus rakyat.

Perjanjian dengan syarikat farmaseutikal berpangkalan di Amerika Syarikat (AS), Pfizer Inc (Pfizer) dimeterai 24 November lalu membabitkan bekalan 12.8 juta dos vaksin untuk 20 peratus atau 6.4 juta rakyat negara ini.

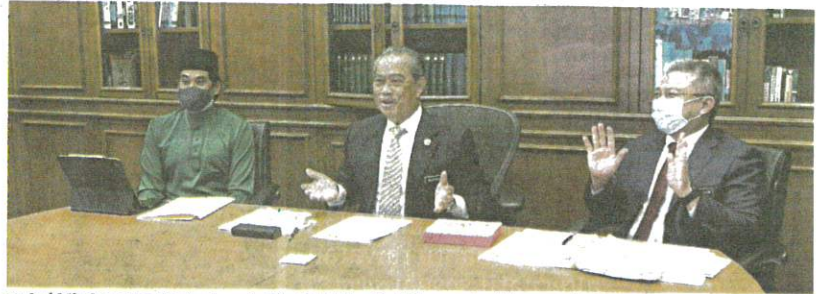
Terdahulu pada 22 November, Malaysia juga menandatangani perjanjian dengan fasiliti pelan peruntukan vaksin COVID-19, Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) bagi mendapatkan bekalan vaksin untuk 10 peratus rakyat.

Mengumumkan demikian semalam, Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, berkata Pfizer akan membekalkan 12.8 juta dos vaksin COVID-19 melalui perjanjian pembelian awal yang ditandatangani kerajaan melalui Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM).

Katanya, vaksin itu akan diberikan secara percuma kepada rakyat Malaysia, manakala bagi warga asing, caj bersesuaian akan ditentukan kemudian.

"Perkhidmatan itu akan diberikan di fasiliti KKM," katanya pada sidang media secara maya dari Perdana Putra yang turut disertai Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba serta Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar.

Katanya, perjanjian itu juga bagi memastikan kerajaan memastikan akses kepada data untuk



Muhyiddin bersama Khairy Jamaluddin (kiri) dan Dr Adham pada sidang media di Putrajaya, semalam.

(Foto BERNAMA)

menilai kualiti, keselamatan dan keberkesanan, selain menjamin akses kepada vaksin itu jika ia sedia untuk diedarkan syarikat berkenaan.

Perdana Menteri memaklumkan, Malaysia menggerakkan usaha itu selepas Pfizer menyatakan analisis data interim pertama menunjukkan keberkesanan vaksin itu adalah 95 peratus.

"Pfizer menjanjikan penghantaran satu juta dos pada suku pertama 2021, disusuli dengan 1.7 juta dos pada suku kedua, 5.8 juta dos pada suku ketiga dan seterusnya 4.3 juta dos pada suku keempat," katanya.

Muhyiddin menegaskan, vaksin tersebut bagaimanapun perlu mendapatkan kelulusan Pentadbiran Makanan dan Ubat-ubatan (FDA) AS dan kelulusan regulatori dari negara pengeluar.

Kelulusan sama juga, katanya, perlu diperolehi daripada Bahagian Regulatori Farmasi Negara (NPR) KKM sebelum vaksin berkenaan boleh digunakan di Malaysia.

"Kerajaan memberi jaminan bahawa vaksin yang akan digunakan di Malaysia mesti melepasi syarat ketat ditetapkan NPR. Kerajaan tidak akan sekali berkompromi dalam soal ini," katanya.

Katanya, Malaysia melalui Menteri Kesihatan juga menandatangani perjanjian dengan fa-

siliti COVAX untuk mendapatkan vaksin yang boleh menampung keperluan imunisasi 10 peratus rakyat negara ini.

"Kedua-dua perjanjian ini dijangka dapat menjamin akses vaksin COVID-19 untuk 30 peratus rakyat Malaysia. Proses pemberian vaksin, selepas diperolehi nanti, akan dilakukan secara berperingkat.

"Proses itu mengutamakan kumpulan berisiko tinggi yang mudah mendapat jangkitan COVID-19. Mereka termasuk petugas barisan hadapan, warga emas dan penghidap penyakit tidak berjangkit seperti sakit jantung, diabetes dan pernafasan kronik.

**Pfizer menjanjikan penghantaran satu juta dos pada suku pertama 2021, disusuli dengan 1.7 juta dos pada suku kedua, 5.8 juta dos pada suku ketiga dan seterusnya 4.3 juta dos pada suku keempat.**

Muhyiddin Yassin, Perdana Menteri

"Seterusnya, vaksin ini juga akan diperluaskan kepada kumpulan sasaran lain," katanya.

Beliau menambah, KKM bersama Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI) juga masih giat meneruskan rundingan dengan syarikat pengeluar vaksin lain di seluruh dunia.

Rundingan berkenaan, katanya, untuk mendapatkan akses kepada vaksin COVID-19 yang secukupnya bagi rakyat Malaysia.

"Kerajaan sedang berunding dengan 10 daripada 12 syarikat (pengeluar) vaksin COVID-19 yang berada dalam ujian klinikal fasa tiga, termasuk dari China, Russia dan AS," katanya.

Mengulas lanjut vaksin dihasilkan Pfizer, Muhyiddin berkata, ujian klinikal fasa tiga untuk vaksin itu membabitkan 43,998 peserta dari pelbagai negara seperti AS, Argentina, Brazil, Jerman, Afrika Selatan dan Turki.

"Jika digabung semua 12 vaksin yang berada di ujian klinikal fasa tiga, 500,000 peserta (uji kaji) sudah terbabit. Justeru, apabila vaksin ini diluluskan nanti, barisan hadapan dan kumpulan berisiko tinggi lain bukan dalam uji kaji pertama.

"Sebaliknya, mereka akan mendapat vaksin sudah diuji dan terbukti selamat. Selepas vaksin digunakan, pemantauan keberkesanan dan keselamatan tetap akan diteruskan oleh NPR," katanya.

## Kajian klinikal fasa tiga dilaksana Disember

**Putrajaya:** Malaysia akan memulakan satu kajian klinikal fasa tiga vaksin COVID-19 di negara ini bulan depan menerusi inisiatif kerajaan dengan kerajaan (G2G) bersama China.

Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, berkata vaksin berkenaan dibangunkan Institute of Medical Biology Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (IMBCAMS) dari China dan bakal membabitkan 3,000 peserta bagi ujian klinikal.

"Kajian klinikal adalah untuk menilai keselamatan serta keberkesanan vaksin tersebut. Ia akan

dikendalikan Pertubuhan Kajian Klinikal (CRO) tempatan dan sudah didaftarkan dalam Daftar Kajian Perubatan Nasional (NMR).

"Profil keselamatan vaksin akan diteliti dahulu oleh Bahagian Regulatori Farmasi Negara (NPR) untuk memperoleh Lesen Import Kajian Klinikal (CTL).

"Protokol kajian pula akan dikaji Jawatankuasa Etika dan Kajian Perubatan (MREC) bagi memastikan ia mematuhi garis panduan ditetapkan Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM)," katanya pada

sidang media secara sidang video dari Perdana Putra, semalam.

Muhyiddin memaklumkan, kajian klinikal fasa tiga itu akan membabitkan lapan pusat penyelidikan klinikal di bawah seliaan KKM.

"Kerajaan ingin mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada IMBCAMS yang akan berkolaborasi untuk menjalankan kajian klinikal fasa tiga ini di Malaysia," katanya.

Mengenai masa depan Malaysia dalam meneroka pembangunan vaksin, beliau berkata, penularan COVID-19 memberi pe-

ngajaran pentingnya untuk mampu mengeluarkan vaksin sendiri, bukan hanya bagi COVID-19, tetapi juga penyakit lain.

"Tidak menjadi masalah untuk kita bekerjasama dalam pembangunan vaksin di peringkat awal. Jika ada mana-mana badan atau syarikat mahu mencari rakan kongsi bagi menjalankan penyelidikan dan pembangunan, itu sahaja yang kita galakkan.

"Memang ada beberapa bentuk insentif untuk syarikat ini dan kita harap Malaysia bukan hanya akan menjadi pengguna, tetapi juga pengeluar vaksin," katanya.



AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## Empat lagi kluster baharu dikesan di 4 negeri

**Putrajaya:** Empat kluster baharu COVID-19 dikesan di beberapa daerah di Sabah, Negeri Sembilan, Kuala Lumpur, dan Pulau Pinang.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata kluster pertama dikesan di Kota Kinabalu, Penampang dan Tuaran di Sabah yang dikenali sebagai Kluster Jalan Tuaran.

Katanya, kluster berkenaan dikesan hasil saringan di tempat kerja dan sehingga kini, seramai 43 individu disahkan positif dalam kluster berkenaan.

"Bagi kluster kedua, ia dikesan di daerah Seremban, Negeri Sembilan hasil saringan pekerja di kilang yang dikenali sebagai Kluster Jalan Haruan.

"Sehingga kini, kluster berkenaan sudah menjangkiti 118 individu, iaitu 108 warga asing dan 10 warga tempatan.

"Kluster ketiga pula dikesan di Lembah Pantai, hasil saringan pekerja di tapak pembinaan yang dinamakan sebagai Kluster Tapak Bina Puteh Lama.

"Sehingga kini, seramai 139 individu dikesan positif COVID-19," katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, kluster keempat dikesan di daerah Timur Laut, Barat Daya, Seberang Perai Selatan dan Seberang Perai Tengah di Pulau Pinang yang dikenali sebagai Kluster Beringin.

"Kluster ini dikesan hasil saringan pekerja di dua kilang di Pulau Pinang dan sehingga kini, seramai 37 individu dilaporkan positif COVID-19," katanya.

## Penularan COVID-19



Petugas Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia membawa pekerja syarikat Top Glove yang positif COVID-19 ke Hospital Sungai Buloh, semalam. (Foto Aswadi Alias/BH)

# 1,109 kes baharu direkod

### Sepuluh kes lagi dikesan jangkitan dari luar negara

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**Putrajaya:** Sebanyak 1,109 kes baharu COVID-19 dilaporkan semalam, menjadikan jumlah kumulatif sebanyak 61,861 kes dengan jumlah kes aktif 11,307 pesakit.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata daripada jumlah itu ter-

dapat 10 kes import, iaitu jangkitan dari luar negara.

Katanya, Sabah kekal mencatatkan pertambahan kes harian tertinggi, iaitu sebanyak 441 kes bersamaan 39.8 peratus daripada jumlah kes baharu semalam.

"Pertambahan kes di Sabah hasil saringan dalam kluster sedia ada dan konteks rapat kes positif COVID-19 yang giat di-

jalankan di lapangan.

"Sebanyak 175 kes atau 15.8 peratus dicatatkan di Selangor diikuti Negeri Sembilan, iaitu 167 kes," katanya, di sini semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sehingga tengah hari semalam, sebanyak 1,148 kes sembuh dilaporkan menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes pulih sebanyak 50,204 kes atau 81.2 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan.

Katanya, ada dua lagi kematian disebabkan oleh COVID-19 semalam, menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes kematian seba-

nyak 350 kes, bersamaan 0.57 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan.

Beliau berkata, dua kematian itu membabitkan lelaki warga asing yang dilaporkan di Hospital Semporna dan Hospital Labuan.

"Kes kematian ke-349 ialah lelaki berusia 47 tahun dan mempunyai penyakit jantung serta dilaporkan meninggal dunia di Hospital Semporna.

"Kes kematian ke-350 membabitkan lelaki berusia 64 tahun dan mempunyai penyakit strok. Beliau dilaporkan meninggal dunia di Hospital Labuan," katanya.

## 5P jadi kayu ukur kewajaran penggunaan vaksin

**Kuala Lumpur:** Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) akan menilai lima aspek penting (5P) iaitu pendaftaran, pembekalan, pemberian (agihan), pemantauan dan penilaian membabitkan bekalan vaksin bagi keperluan rakyat di negara ini.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata, 5P ini akan menjadi kayu ukur bagi menentukan kewajaran penggunaan vaksin.

"Ada 5P yang penting iaitu pertamanya, mestilah vaksin berkenaan telah didaftarkan, keduanya adalah pembekalan yang merangkumi rantaian daripada pelbagai aspek termasuk logistik, kaedah

penyimpanan sehinggalah ia sampai kepada pengguna.

"Ketiga, KKM akan melihat aspek pemberian dengan keutamaan kepada golongan berisiko tinggi, contohnya petugas barisan hadapan, warga emas dan sebagainya yang akan menerima dahulu peruntukan vaksin berkenaan," katanya dalam sidang media harian COVID-19, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, aspek pemantauan akan turut dilihat bagi mengenal pasti sama ada terdapat kesan sampingan bagi individu yang menggunakannya nanti.

"Terakhir, perlu kepada pe-

nilaian keseluruhan vaksinasi antaranya melihat sama ada ia memenuhi objektif kita untuk mencapai imuniti kelompok.

"Inilah konsep yang kita pakai, supaya negara tidak ketinggalan. Misalnya, jika ada vaksin yang telah didaftarkan di bawah Penadbiran Makanan dan Ubat-Obatan (FDA), berkemungkinan permintaannya juga akan meningkat.

"Kita mungkin akan ketinggalan jika tidak mulakan langkah proaktif bagi mendapatkan vaksin dan apa yang lebih penting, vaksin ini mestilah selamat digunakan," katanya.



Dr Noor Hisham ketika sidang media harian di Putrajaya, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)



AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 35

RUANGAN : DUNIA

Penularan COVID-19

# Hampir 90,000 pesakit banjiri hospital di AS

## Jumlah mangsa melonjak selepas sambutan Hari Thanksgiving

**Washington:** Hampir 90,000 pesakit COVID-19 memenuhi hospital di seluruh Amerika Syarikat (AS) kelmarin ketika negara itu menyambut Hari Thanksgiving (Kesyukuran).

Menurut badan pemantau *The COVID-19 Tracking Project*, angka itu juga mencapai tahap tertinggi untuk hari ke-16 berturut-turut.

Jumlah kematian kelmarin meningkat kepada 2,284 kes, tertinggi sejak 7 Mei lalu, sekali gus menjadikan jumlah kematian harian ketujuh tertinggi.

Pusat Kawalan dan Pencegahan Penyakit (CDC) AS menjangkakan jumlah kematian COVID-19 yang baru dilaporkan mungkin akan meningkat dalam tempoh empat minggu akan datang.

Ia bakal menyaksikan 10,600 hingga 21,400 kematian baharu mungkin dilaporkan pada minggu berakhir 19 Disember depan.

CDC meramalkan sejumlah 294,000 hingga 321,000 kematian kumulatif akibat COVID-19 bakal dilaporkan pada 19 Disember.

Gelombang ketiga kematian akibat COVID-19 di kemudahan rawatan jangka panjang berterusan, dengan kadar peningkatan



Anggota perubatan memberi rawatan, kecamasan kepada mangsa COVID-19 di wad ICU United Memorial Medical, Houston, Texas. (Foto AFP)

tan dua kali ganda berbanding kes di seluruh negara, kata *The COVID Tracking Project*.

Negeri lain di AS pula melaporkan peningkatan 50 peratus kes di kemudahan rawatan jangka panjang, menjadikan sebanyak 46,153 kes baharu COVID-19 dilaporkan pada minggu ini saja.

"Dengan musim sejuk semakin hampir dan jumlah kes lebih tinggi berbanding sebelumnya, langkah-langkah keselamatan sedia ada tidak akan mencukupi

bagi melindungi golongan berisiko," menurut laporan projek itu.

Pegawai kesihatan awam menggesa rakyat AS menyambut Hari Thanksgiving hanya dengan anggota keluarga yang sama atau sekurang-kurangnya berkumpul di luar rumah sebagai langkah membendung penularan virus.

CDC turut mengeluarkan garis panduan baharu hari ini, menggesa rakyat AS untuk kekal berada dalam rumah dan tidak

melakukan perjalanan semena musim cuti.

"Perjalanan dapat meningkatkan peluang anda untuk dijangkiti dan menyebarkan COVID-19. Tunda perjalanan dan kekal berada dalam rumah adalah cara terbaik melindungi diri sendiri serta orang lain pada tahun ini," menurut panduan itu.

Berdasarkan data terkini, AS merekodkan lebih 13 juta kes jangkitan virus itu termasuk hampir 270,000 kematian setakat ini. AGENSI

## India hasilkan 100 juta dos vaksin Sputnik V

**Moscow:** Salah satu pemaju vaksin COVID-19 Russia, Sputnik V mengumumkan syarikat pengeluar ubat-ubatan yang berpangkalan di India, Hetero, akan menghasilkan lebih 100 juta dos suntikan vaksin itu.

"Hetero, salah satu syarikat farmaseutikal generik terkemuka, bersetuju untuk menghasilkan lebih 100 juta dos setiap tahun di India, yang adalah vaksin berdaftar pertama di dunia bagi menentang jangkitan COVID-19, iaitu Sputnik V," kata Dana Pelaburan Langsung Russia (RDIF) dalam satu kenyataan.

Awal minggu ini, Russia berkata keputusan interim daripada ujian klinikal Sputnik V menunjukkan vaksin itu menunjukkan keberkesanan 95 peratus, sama dengan vaksin antarabangsa yang turut menghasilkan keberkesanan keputusan ujian sebanyak 90 peratus atau lebih tinggi.

Russia turut mengumumkan vaksin Sputnik V dijual pada harga AS\$10 (RM40.71) satu dos di pasaran antarabangsa, lebih murah berbanding vaksin COVID-19 lain yang berdaftar.

Russia adalah negara pertama mengumumkan pendaftaran vaksin COVID-19 pada Ogos lalu, yang digelar Sputnik V sempena satelit era Soviet.

Setakat ini, ujian itu berada di tahap ketiga dan terakhir dengan lebih 40,000 sukarelawan terabit dalam ujian yang menggunakan dua individu berbeza.

Ketua RDIF, Kirill Dmitriyev, berkata beliau yakin Sputnik V akan menjadi portfolio vaksin kebangsaan di setiap negara yang sanggup melindungi populasinya daripada COVID-19. AFP



AKHBAR : KOSMO  
MUKA SURAT : 4  
RUANGAN : NEGARA

Vaksin Covid-19 akan diberikan secara percuma kepada rakyat negara ini

## Malaysia terima 12.8 juta dos vaksin

**PUTRAJAYA** - Malaysia akan mendapatkan bekalan 12.8 juta dos vaksin Covid-19 daripada syarikat farmaseutikal Pfizer bagi menampung keperluan imunisasi 20 peratus atau 6.4 juta rakyat negara ini secara percuma.

Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin berkata, perkara itu dibuat menerusi satu perjanjian bersama dengan syarikat tersebut pada 24 November lalu yang antara lain memastikan kerajaan mempunyai akses kepada data untuk menilai kualiti, keselamatan dan tahap keberkesanannya.

Menurut beliau, ia termasuk jaminan akses kepada vaksin tersebut sekiranya bahan itu sedia untuk diedarkan oleh syarikat berkenaan selepas analisis data interim pertama Pfizer menunjukkan keberkesanan vaksin adalah 95 peratus.

Melalui perjanjian itu juga katanya, Pfizer berjanji untuk menghantar sebanyak satu juta dos bagi suku pertama 2021, disusuli dengan 1.7 juta dos pada suku tahun kedua, 5.8 juta dos pada suku tahun ketiga dan se-

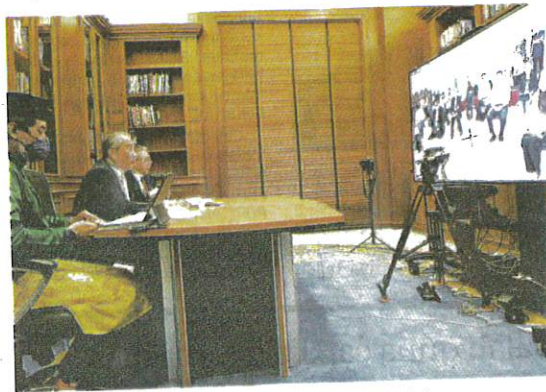
terusnya 4.3 juta dos pada suku tahun keempat.

"Pihak syarikat bagaimana pun masih perlu mendapatkan kelulusan Pentadbiran Makanan dan Ubat-ubatan Amerika Syarikat (FDA) dan kelulusan regulatori daripada negara pengeluar, di samping mendapat kelulusan Agensi Regulatori Farmaseutikal Kebangsaan (NPRA) Kementerian Kesihatan sebelum vaksin ini boleh digunakan di Malaysia," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian pada sidang akhbar secara sidang video dengan pemberita di Pejabat Perdana Menteri, di sini semalam.

Turut hadir ialah Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr. Adham Baba dan Menteri Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI), Khairy Jamaluddin.

Muhyiddin berkata, perjanjian dengan fasiliti COVAX juga turut ditandatangani oleh Menteri Kesihatan pada 22 November lalu untuk memperoleh bekalan vaksin tersebut bagi menampung keperluan imunisasi 10 peratus lagi rakyat negara ini.



**MUHYIDDIN** (dua dari kiri), **Khairy Jamaluddin** dan **Dr. Adham** mengadakan sidang akhbar secara maya mengenai perkembangan terbaru vaksin di Putrajaya semalam. - IHSAN JABATAN PERDANA MENTERI

Justeru, kata beliau, kedua-dua perjanjian itu sekali gus dijangka dapat menjamin akses vaksin Covid-19 untuk 30 peratus rakyat.

"Proses pemberian vaksin setelah diperoleh nanti akan dilakukan secara percuma serta berperingkat dengan menguta-

makan kumpulan berisiko tinggi yang mudah mendapat jangkitan Covid-19.

"Kumpulan berisiko tinggi itu termasuklah petugas-petugas barisan hadapan, warga emas dan pesakit-pesakit yang menghadapi penyakit tidak berjangkit

**Angka Terkini Kes Covid-19 Di Malaysia sehingga semalam**

	Jumlah
• Kes baharu	1,109
<b>Import: 10 Tempatan: 1,099</b>	
• Pullih	1,148
• Kematian	2
• Masih dirawat	11,307
• Jumlah kes sembuh	50,204
• Jumlah Kematian	350
<b>Jumlah kes keseluruhan</b>	<b>61,861</b>

(NCD) seperti penyakit jantung, diabetes, penyakit pernafasan kronik dan sebagainya sebelum diperluaskan kepada kumpulan sasar lain," katanya.

Katanya, barisan hadapan dan kumpulan berisiko tinggi itu bukan uji kaji pertama tetapi mereka akan mendapat vaksin yang telah diuji dan terbukti selamat.

## Kes baharu kembali empat angka

**PUTRAJAYA** - Kes harian kembali merekodkan empat angka dengan 1,109 kes dilaporkan menjadikan jumlah kes positif Covid-19 di seluruh negara sebanyak 61,861 kes.

Pada masa sama, sebanyak 1,148 kes sembuh Covid-19 yang dicatatkan semalam sekali gus melebihi kes harian.

Sabah masih melaporkan kes tertinggi sebanyak 441 kes atau 39.8 peratus dengan 346 kes atau 78.5 peratus hasil saringan kluster dan kontak rapat kes positif yang giat dijalankan di lapangan.

Selangor melaporkan 175 kes atau 15.8 peratus, Negeri Sembilan sebanyak 167 kes atau 15.1 peratus, manakala 25 kes atau 2.3 peratus ialah Kluster Tembok (sembilan kes), Kluster Penjara Sandakan (enam kes), Kluster Bakti dan Kluster Rumah Haruan (masing-masing empat kes), serta Kluster Penjara Reman (dua kes).

Terdapat dua kes kematian Covid-19 semalam melibatkan dua lelaki berusia 47 dan 64 tahun di Sabah dan Labuan, sekali gus sebanyak 350 kes kematian terkini dilaporkan.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, sebanyak 47 kluster



**NOOR HISHAM**

melaporkan pertambahan kes semalam dengan kluster merekodkan kes baharu tertinggi ialah Kluster Tapak Bina Puteh Lama (118 kes), Kluster Jalan Haruan (116 kes) dan Kluster Jalan Tuaran (43 kes).

Menurutnya, terdapat empat kluster baharu turut dilaporkan dengan satu daripadanya Kluster Jalan Tuaran di Kota Kinabalu, Penampang dan Tuaran, Sabah melibatkan 43 kes positif hasil saringan di tempat kerja.

"Selain itu, Kluster Jalan Haruan di Seremban, Negeri Sembilan dengan kes awal dilaporkan

positif hasil saringan pekerja sebuah kilang dengan 118 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 melibatkan 10 warga Malaysia dan 108 warga asing.

"Kluster Tapak Bina Puteh Lama pula dikenal pasti di Lembah Pantai, Kuala Lumpur melibatkan saringan bersasar pekerja tapak pembinaan dengan 139 kes dikesan positif," katanya pada sidang akhbar di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata, Kluster Beringin pula melibatkan Timur Laut, Barat Daya, Seberang Perai Selatan dan Seberang Perai Tengah, Pulau Pinang dengan kes adalah pekerja di dua kilang di negeri tersebut.

"Kes indeks dikesan positif hasil saringan bergejala dan susulan itu, seramai 37 lagi kes dikesan positif dalam kluster ini," katanya.

Ujarnya lagi, sebanyak 10 kes yang dilaporkan semalam adalah kes import mendapat jangkitan dari luar negara.

Sementara itu, Noor Hisham berkata, satu lagi kluster diisytiharkan tamat semalam iaitu Kluster Omadad menjadikan jumlah kluster telah ditamatkan sebanyak 173 kluster, manakala sebanyak 176 kluster aktif masih dipantau.

## Tongkang Pechah dikenakan PKPB

**PETALING JAYA** - Kerajaan melaksanakan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Bersyarat (PKPB) di Tongkang Pechah, Batu Pahat, Johor selepas Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) merekodkan 56 kes positif Covid-19.

Menteri Kanan Keselamatan, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob berkata, berdasarkan penilaian risiko dan nasihat KKM, sidang khas semalam bersetuju untuk melaksanakan PKPB di Tongkang Pechah, bermula 29 November sehingga 13 Disember.

"PKPB ini akan melibatkan seramai 16,300 penduduk di kawasan Bandar Putera Indah, Lorong 7 hingga 10, Batu 7 dan Kampung Mohd. Nor," katanya pada sidang akhbar harian di Kementerian Pertahanan, Kuala Lumpur semalam.

Dalam pada itu, Ismail Sabri berkata, kerajaan menamatkan PKPB di Kuching, Sarawak semalam selepas KKM mengesahkan baki kes aktif Covid-19 di daerah itu menunjukkan trend penurunan dan terkawal.

Kerajaan sebelum ini melaksanakan PKPB di Kuching

bermula 9 November lalu yang kemudiannya dilanjutkan sehingga 27 November.

Sementara itu, beliau memaklumkan, ujian saringan Covid-19 kepada pekerja warga asing akan dijalankan secara berperingkat bermula 1 Disember ini.

Menurut beliau, peringkat awal program itu menumpukan beberapa buah negeri seperti Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Pulau Pinang, Sabah, Kuala Lumpur dan Labuan.

Beliau turut menggariskan empat mekanisme pelaksanaan ujian saringan antaranya majikan mengatur janji temu dengan fasiliti kesihatan swasta bagi ujian Covid-19 kaedah RTKAntigen dan fasiliti kesihatan swasta menjalankan ujian mengikut prosedur operasi standard ditetapkan KKM.

"Selain itu, kos perkhidmatan klinik atau hospital perlu dibayar oleh majikan dan kos kit ujian sebanyak RM60 ditanggung Pertubuhan Keselamatan Sosial (Perkeso) untuk ujian pertama kali sahaja," katanya.



AKHBAR : KOSMO

MUKA SURAT : 34

RUANGAN : DUNIA

## Thailand beli 26 juta dos vaksin Covid-19

### Covid-19

**BANGKOK** - Kerajaan Thailand membayar sebanyak 2.37 bilion baht (RM318 juta) sebagai pendahuluan untuk membeli vaksin Covid-19 yang dibangunkan farmaseutikal AstraZeneca semalam, lapor laman berita *Coconuts Bangkok*.

Bayaran itu adalah sebahagian daripada peruntukan 6.1 bilion baht (RM820 juta) yang dituluskan kerajaan minggu lalu untuk membeli vaksin tersebut.

Jurucakap kerajaan, Traisullee Traisorranakul berkata, vaksin yang didakwa mempu-

nyai keberkesanan sebanyak 70 peratus itu dijangka dihantar ke Thailand pertengahan tahun hadapan.

Sementara itu, Menteri Kesihatan Thailand, Anutin Charnvirakul berkata, perbelanjaan besar yang dituluskan kerajaan meliputi pembiayaan bagi membangunkan fasiliti diperlukan dan aspek lain vaksin tersebut.

Katanya, peruntukan itu cukup untuk membekalkan 26 juta dos vaksin kepada 13 juta penduduk. Bangkok turut merancang mendapatkan vaksin syarikat Pfizer atau Moderna yang setiap satu mempunyai keberkesanan sehingga 90 dan 95 peratus. - AGENSI



GAMBAR hiasan menunjukkan vaksin Covid-19 di sisi logo farmaseutikal Britain, AstraZeneca dan Universiti Oxford. - AFP

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

## MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19



# 20 peratus rakyat dapat vaksin

6.4 juta rakyat Malaysia bakal terima vaksin Covid-19 mulai tahun 2021

Oleh JUNHAIRI ALYASA

PUTRAJAYA

Malaysia bakal menerima sebanyak 12.8 juta dos vaksin coronavirus (Covid-19) bagi menampung keperluan imunisasi untuk 20 peratus atau 6.4 juta rakyat Malaysia pada tahun depan.

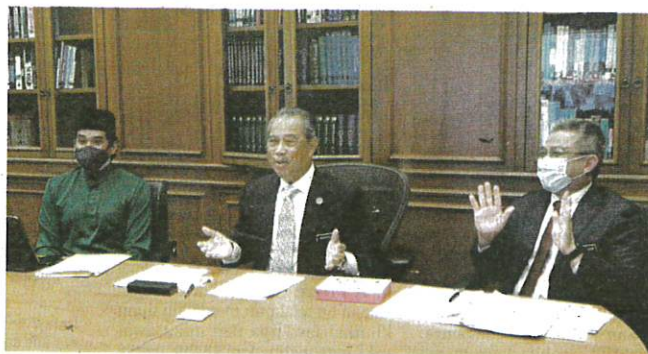
Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin berkata, kerajaan telah menandatangani perjanjian pembelian awal dengan syarikat farmaseutikal Pfizer pada 24 November lalu untuk mendapatkan bekalan vaksin tersebut.

Jelasnya, perjanjian itu bertujuan memastikan kerajaan mempunyai akses kepada data untuk menilai kualiti, keselamatan dan keberkesanan di samping menjamin akses kepada vaksin tersebut sekiranya sedia untuk diedarkan oleh pihak syarikat tersebut.

"Pfizer pada 9 November 2020 menyatakan bahawa analisis data interim pertama menunjukkan keberkesanan vaksin tersebut adalah 95 peratus.

"Melalui perjanjian itu juga, Pfizer menjanjikan penghantaran sebanyak satu juta dos bagi suku pertama tahun 2021, disusuli dengan 1.7 juta dos pada suku tahun kedua, 5.8 juta dos pada suku tahun ketiga dan seterusnya 4.3 juta dos pada suku tahun keempat," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian pada sidang akhbar khas secara maya mengenai vak-



Muhyiddin (tengah) pada sidang akhbar khas secara maya mengenai vaksin Covid-19 di Perdana Putra, Putrajaya semalam. Hadir sama Khairy Jamaluddin (kiri) dan Dr Adham.

sin di Perdana Putra di sini semalam.

Hadir sama pada sidang akhbar tersebut ialah Menteri, Teknologi dan Inovasi, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar dan Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba.

Dalam pada itu, Muhyiddin berkata, Pfizer masih perlu mendapatkan kelulusan Pentadbiran Makanan dan Ubat-Obatan Amerika Syarikat (FDA) serta kelulusan regulatori dari negara pengeluar.

Tegas beliau, kelulusan juga perlu diperoleh daripada Bahagian Regulatori Farmasi Negara (NPR) Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) sebelum vaksin itu boleh digunakan di Malaysia.

"Terdahulu pada 22 November lalu, Malaysia melalui Menteri Kesihatan juga telah menandatangani perjanjian dengan fasiliti Covax untuk mendapatkan vaksin Covid-19 bagi menampung keperluan imunisasi 10 peratus lagi rakyat Malaysia.

"Sehubungan itu, kedua-dua perjanjian itu dijangka dapat menjamin akses vaksin Covid-19 untuk 30 peratus rakyat Malaysia," ujar beliau.

## Berperingkat

Perdana Menteri berkata, proses pemberian vaksin, setelah diperoleh akan dilakukan secara berperingkat dengan mengutamakan kumpulan berisiko tinggi yang mudah mendapat jangkitan Covid-19.

"Kumpulan berisiko tinggi itu termasuk petugas-petugas barisan hadapan, warga emas dan pesakit-pesakit yang menghidap penyakit tidak berjangkit seperti penyakit jantung, diabetes, penyakit pernafasan kronik dan sebagainya.

"Seterusnya, vaksin itu akan diperluaskan kepada kumpulan sasaran yang lain," kata Perdana Menteri.

Jelas Muhyiddin, KKM dan Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi giat meneruskan rundingan dengan syarikat-

syarikat pengeluar vaksin di seluruh dunia untuk mendapatkan akses kepada vaksin Covid-19 yang secukupnya untuk rakyat Malaysia.

Sehubungan itu, beliau mengumumkan Kementerian Kesihatan bakal memulakan satu kajian klinikal fasa tiga vaksin Covid-19 menerusi inisiatif kerajaan dengan kerajaan (G2G) bersama Republik Rakyat China.

"Vaksin ini dibangunkan oleh Institute of Medical Biology Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (IMBCAMS).

"Kajian klinikal fasa tiga melibatkan sejumlah 3,000 peserta dan menilai keselamatan serta keberkesanan vaksin Covid-19 yang dibangunkan itu.

"Kajian yang dijangka bermula pada bulan Disember ini dikendalikan oleh Pertubuhan Kajian Klinikal (CRO) tempatan dan telah pun didaftarkan dalam Daftar Kajian Perubatan Nasional (NMRR)," katanya.

Jelas beliau, profil keselamatan vaksin akan diteliti terlebih dahulu oleh NPR untuk memperoleh Lesen Import Kajian Klinikal (CTIL) dan protokol kajian dilaksanakan oleh Jawatankuasa Etika dan Kajian Perubatan (MREC) bagi memastikan ia mematuhi garis panduan yang ditetapkan oleh KKM.

"Kajian klinikal fasa ketiga itu juga melibatkan lapan buah pusat penyelidikan klinikal seliaan KKM," katanya.

Sehubungan itu, Muhyiddin berkata, kerajaan mengucapkan setinggi-tinggi penghargaan kepada IMBCAMS yang akan berkolaborasi menjalankan kajian klinikal fasa ketiga itu di Malaysia.

"Kerajaan ingin memberi jaminan kepada semua rakyat bahawa vaksin itu mesti melepasi syarat ketat NPR," katanya.

## Vaksin Covid-19 percuma kepada rakyat Malaysia

PUTRAJAYA - Vaksin Covid-19 akan diberikan secara percuma kepada rakyat Malaysia di bawah Perintah Fi (Perubatan) 1982.

Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin berkata, berdasarkan Perenggan 16(9) Perintah Fi (Perubatan) 1982, tiada caj suntikan vaksin boleh dikenakan kepada warganegara Malaysia di hospital Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) semasa berlakunya wabak.

Beliau menjelaskan, Covid-19 telah pun diisytiharkan di bawah Akta Pencegahan dan Pengawalan Penyakit

Berjangkit 1988 untuk mencegah pandemik tersebut daripada merebak.

"Bagaimanapun, bagi warga asing, caj sebanyak RM40 dikenakan untuk perkhidmatan suntikan vaksin di fasiliti KKM," katanya.

Perdana Menteri berkata demikian pada sidang akhbar khas mengenai vaksin di Perdana Putra di sini semalam.

Hadir sama pada sidang akhbar tersebut ialah Menteri Teknologi dan Inovasi, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar dan Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba.

Dalam pada itu, mengenai pembiayaan bagi mendapatkan vaksin tersebut, Muhyiddin memaklumkan, peruntukan sebanyak RM3 bilion telah pun dipersetujui oleh Kementerian Kewangan untuk pembelian vaksin di bawah Tabung Covid-19.

Ketika ditanya sama ada pihak swasta akan mempunyai akses untuk vaksin tersebut, Muhyiddin menjelaskan, ia hanya dilakukan selepas kerajaan mendapat akses kepada vaksin Covid-19 yang mencukupi dan kumpulan prioriti telah mendapat vaksin berkenaan.



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19



## MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

# Bukan 'tikus makmal'

Kerajaan tepis dakwaan penerima pertama vaksin Covid-19 terdedah risiko

PUTRAJAYA

**G**olongan berisiko tinggi seperti petugas barisan hadapan dan warga emas yang bakal menjadi kumpulan pertama menerima vaksin virus koronavirus (Covid-19) di negara ini bukanlah dianggap sebagai 'tikus makmal', sebaliknya mereka menerima vaksin yang terbukti selamat dan telah menjalani ujian klinikal berskala besar.

Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin memberi jaminan vaksin Covid-19 yang akan digunakan di Malaysia kelak, mesti melepasi syarat yang ditetapkan oleh Bahagian Regulatori Farmasi Negara (NPR) Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) dan kerajaan tidak akan sekali-kali berkompromi dalam soal itu.

"Proses pemberian vaksin setelah diperolehi nanti akan dilakukan secara berperingkat dengan mengutamakan kumpulan berisiko tinggi yang mudah mendapat jangkitan Covid-19 sebelum diperluaskan kepada kumpulan sasar yang lain.

"Golongan yang dianggap berisiko tinggi, antara lain sebagaimana saya sebutkan tadi adalah petugas barisan hadapan, warga emas, pesakit yang menghidap penyakit



Kerajaan Malaysia memberi jaminan vaksin Covid-19 yang akan digunakan di Malaysia melepasi syarat yang ditetapkan oleh NPR KKM dan kerajaan tidak akan sekali-kali berkompromi dalam soal itu. Gambar kecil: Muhyiddin.

tidak berjangkit (NCD) seperti penyakit jantung, diabetes, penyakit pernafasan kronik dan sebagainya.

"Oleh itu, apabila (vaksin) ini telah diluluskan maka petugas barisan hadapan dan kumpulan berisiko ini bukanlah kumpulan pertama untuk uji kaji, macam orang kata mereka jadi 'tikus makmal'. Mereka ini akan mendapat vaksin yang telah diuji dan terbukti selamat," katanya pada sidang akhbar secara maya di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian sebagai menangkis dakwaan yang menganggap bahawa kumpulan pertama yang akan menerima vaksin Covid-19 itu kelak, diibaratkan umpama bahan uji kaji.

Mengambil contoh vaksin Covid-19 keluaran syarikat farmaseu-

tikal Pfizer, Muhyiddin berkata, vaksin itu telahpun menjalani ujian klinikal fasa tiga dan ujian awal vaksin itu melibatkan 43,998 peserta daripada pelbagai negara antaranya Amerika Syarikat, Argentina, Brazil, Jerman, Afrika Selatan dan Turki.

"Jika digabungkan kesemua 12 vaksin yang berada dalam ujian klinikal fasa 3, seramai 500,000 peserta terlibat.

"Selepas menjalani ujian klinikal, semua data yang diperolehi akan dinilai oleh badan-badan antarabangsa seperti Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO), Agensi Pentadbiran Makanan dan Ubat-ubatan Amerika Syarikat (FDA) dan Agensi Ubat-ubatan Eropah (EMA)," katanya. - *Bernama*

## Pfizer, BioNTech bakal 12.8 juta dos vaksin

PUTRAJAYA - Pfizer Malaysia dan BioNTech SE semalam mengumumkan perjanjian dengan Kementerian Kesihatan serta Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi bagi membekalkan sebanyak 12.8 juta dos vaksin berasaskan BNT162 mRNA di Malaysia.

Pengurus Kebangsaan Pfizer, Luksanawan Thangpaibool berkata, perjanjian tersebut tertakluk kepada kejayaan klinikal dan peraturan yang diluluskan ke atas koronavirus (Covid-19).

"Kami sangat berbesar hati bekerjasama dengan kerajaan Malaysia dan menganalisa ilmiah dan sumber pembuatan ke arah tujuan bersama kami untuk membawa potensi vaksin Covid-19 kepada rakyat Malaysia secepat mungkin.

"Dalam menghadapi krisis kesihatan global, tujuan kami ialah berusaha untuk mengubah kehidupan pesakit Covid-19. Harapan kami bergantung kepada kejayaan klinikal dan peraturan," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini semalam.

Sementara itu, Ketua Perniagaan dan Ketua Pegawai Komersial BioNTech, Sean Marett berkata, pihaknya percaya vaksin yang dihasilkan berpotensi untuk membantu mengatasi ancaman pandemik Covid-19.

"Matlamat kami untuk wujud bekalan global vaksin Covid-19 yang selamat kepada seramai mungkin warga dunia," katanya.

## Malaysia ketinggalan jika tidak tandatangani perjanjian vaksin

PUTRAJAYA - Malaysia akan ketinggalan sekiranya tidak menandatangani perjanjian berhubung pembelian vaksin.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, apabila vaksin itu didaftarkan di Pentadbiran Makanan dan Ubat (FDA) dan Bahagian Regulatori Farmasi Negara (NPR), permintaan terhadapnya akan meningkat.

"Mengambil pengalaman lepas semasa peningkatan gelombang kedua, banyak negara telah membuat perolehan terhadap alat pelindung diri (PPE) daripada pengeluar," katanya pada sidang akhbar perkembangan terkini Covid-19 di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, selain COVAX, Malaysia juga menandatangani perjanjian dengan Pfizer bagi memperolehi bekalan vaksin.

"Jika tidak mulakan langkah proaktif, kita akan ketinggalan," katanya.

Beliau mengulas mengenai perjanjian pembelian awal dengan Pfizer.

## Vaksin Covid-19 - BNT162

### Pfizer Inc

- Syarikat farmaseutikal Amerika Syarikat (AS)
- Ditubuhkan pada tahun 1849 oleh Charles Pfizer dan Charles F Erhart
- Mengeluarkan pelbagai jenis ubat dan vaksin
- Salah satu produk mereka ialah Viagra

### Vaksin Covid-19 BNT162

- Vaksin Pfizer dikeluarkan hasil kerjasama dengan BioNTech
- Dicipta oleh pasangan saintis Islam Jerman berketurunan Turki, Dr Ugur Sahin dan Dr Ozlem Tuercel
- Menggunakan teknologi messenger Ribonucleic Acid (mRNA)
- Data awal menunjukkan tahap keberkesanan setinggi 95 peratus
- Tiada kesan sampingan serius hingga kini
- Mampu bertahan enam bulan jika disimpan dalam suhu sejuk khas
- Seramai 43,998 orang telah melalui ujian klinikal fasa ketiga di seluruh dunia

### Perjanjian vaksin Covid-19 Malaysia-Pfizer Inc

- Pembelian awal sebanyak 12.8 juta dos
- Bekalan merangkumi 20 peratus populasi rakyat (12.8 juta dos: 2 dos / orang)
- Bekalan imunisasi kepada 6.4 juta rakyat Malaysia
- Penghantaran dilakukan pada tahun 2021

### Rehngantaran

- 1 juta dos pada suku pertama
- 1.7 juta dos pada suku kedua
- 5.8 juta dos pada suku ketiga
- 4.3 juta dos pada suku keempat

\*Sumber: Kementerian Sains, Teknologi dan Inovasi.

## Senarai calon vaksin Covid-19

### 1. Novavax

Dibangunkan syarikat Novavax di AS dengan ujian pra klinikal dilakukan terhadap monyet berjaya menghasilkan antibodi melawan SARS-CoV-2. Kini memasuki ujian klinikal fasa tiga.

### 2. Sinovac

Dibangunkan oleh syarikat bioteknologi di China iaitu Sinovac Biotech dan kini memasuki fasa ketiga ujian klinikal 9,000 peserta di Brazil dan 4,200 peserta di Bangladesh serta Indonesia seramai 1,620 sukarelawan.

### 3. Sinopharm

China National Pharmaceutical Group (Sinopharm) melakukan ujian terhadap vaksin itu bersama Beijing Institute of Biological Products dan Wuhan Institute. Ujian fasa tiga dilakukan di Arab Saudi melibatkan 5,000 peserta.

### 4. CanSino Biologics

Kerjasama antara syarikat berasal dari China, CanSino Biologics dengan Institut Biologi di Academy of Military Medical Sciences. Ujian klinikal fasa dua dilakukan di Wuhan melibatkan 508 peserta.

### 5. Oxford

Dihasilkan Universiti Oxford, United Kingdom dengan kerjasama farmasi AstraZeneca. Vaksin itu memasuki ujian klinikal fasa ketiga membabitkan 5,000 peserta di UK, India dan Afrika Selatan.

### 6. Moderna

Dibangunkan oleh syarikat bioteknologi Moderna dan Institut Kesihatan Kebangsaan (NIH) Amerika Syarikat. Ujian klinikal fasa tiga vaksin itu membabitkan 30,000 peserta di 89 wilayah di Amerika Syarikat menunjukkan 94.5 peratus efektif.

### 7. BNT162 mRNA

Dibangunkan syarikat farmasi BioNTech di Jerman dengan kerjasama Pfizer. Seramai 43,998 peserta dari seluruh dunia terlibat dalam ujian klinikal fasa ketiga.

### 8. Sputnik

Buatan The Gamaleya Research Institute, sebuah institusi di bawah Kementerian Kesihatan Rusia dengan kombinasi dua adenovirus.



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

# Empat kluster baharu di tempat kerja

Dikesan KKM di Sabah, Negeri Sembilan, Kuala Lumpur dan Pulau Pinang

PUTRAJAYA

Empat kluster baharu Covid-19 direkodkan semalam di Sabah, Negeri Sembilan, Kuala Lumpur dan Pulau Pinang membabitkan kes di tempat kerja.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, Kluster Jalan Tuaran

dikesan di Sabah melibatkan daerah Kota Kinabalu, Penampang dan Tuaran adalah hasil saringan di tempat kerja.

"Sehingga hari ini (semalam), sejumlah 86 individu disaring dengan 43 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 dalam kluster ini," katanya pada sidang media perkembangan Covid-19 di Kementerian Kesihatan di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata, di Negeri Sembilan, Kluster Jalan Haruan yang melibatkan daerah Seremban juga hasil saringan pekerja di sebuah kilang dengan 118 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 terdiri daripada 10 kes warganegara dan 108 bukan warganegara.

"Kluster Tapak Bina Puteh

Lama di Lembah Pantai, Kuala Lumpur pula melaporkan kes positif melalui saringan bersasar ke atas pekerja di sebuah tapak pembinaan sejak semalam (kelmarin):

"Sehingga hari ini (semalam), sejumlah 820 individu disaring dengan 139 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 bagi kluster berkenaan," katanya.

Selain itu katanya, Kluster Beringin di daerah Timur Laut, Barat Daya, Seberang Perai Selatan dan Seberang Perai Tengah di Pulau Pinang melibatkan kes



DR NOOR HISHAM

pekerja di dua kilang di negeri berkenaan.

"Kes indeks (kes ke-51576) dilaporkan positif Covid-19 pada 19 November melalui saringan individu bergejala. Sehingga 27 November, sejumlah 3,116 individu disaring, dengan 37 kes

dikesan positif," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, kes baharu harian Covid-19 yang dicatatkan semalam adalah sebanyak 1,109 kes, menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kes positif di Malaysia

sebanyak 61,861 kes.

"Jumlah kes aktif dengan kebolehhangkitan Covid-19 pula adalah 11,307 kes. Daripada jumlah kes baharu berkenaan, terdapat 10 kes import yang mendapat jangkitan dari luar negara dan 1,099 kes adalah penularan tempatan," katanya.

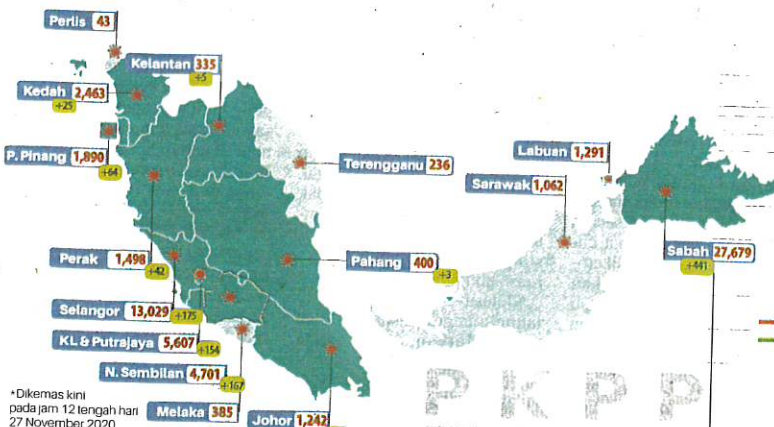
Beliau berkata, Malaysia mencatatkan jumlah kumulatif kes sembuh daripada jangkitan Covid-19 melebihi 50,000 dengan 1,148 kes sembuh direkodkan semalam.

Kelmarin, Malaysia mencatatkan rekod tertinggi kes baharu sembuh daripada jangkitan Covid-19 sebanyak 2,555 kes. - Bernama

## SITUASI TERKINI KES COVID-19 DI MALAYSIA SETAKAT SEMALAM



Bilangan kes Covid-19 mengikut negeri di Malaysia



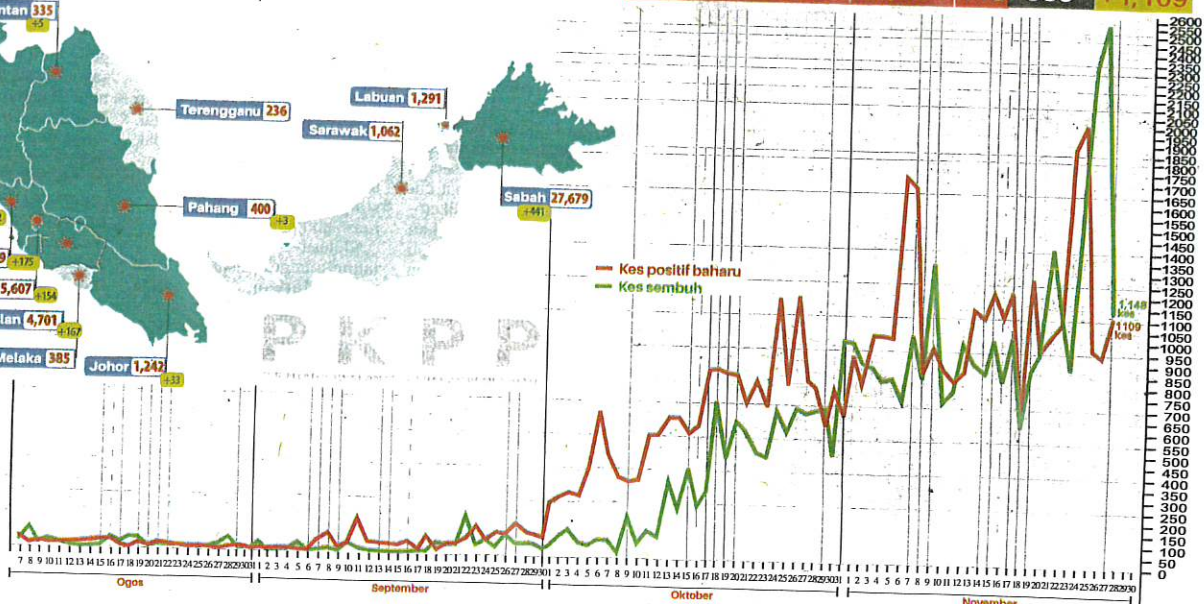
\*Dikemas kini pada jam 12 tengah hari 27 November 2020

INFOGRAFIK: SINAR HARIAN/EPIC

Jumlah jangkitan Covid-19 di Malaysia semalam meningkat daripada 60,752 kes kepada 61,861 kes

### JUMLAH KES BAHARU DAN SEMBUH DILAPORKAN SETIAP HARI

JUMLAH KESELURUHAN:	61,861	PULIH:	50,204	ICU:	113	KEMATIAN:	350	KES BAHARU:	+1,109
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AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN  
MUKA SURAT : 36  
RUANGAN : GLOBAL

# Filipina beli dua juta vaksin

Bakal tandatangani perjanjian beli vaksin dengan AstraZeneca, Pfizer Inc dan Sinovac dari China

MANILA

Pemerintah Filipina dengan kerjasama syarikat swasta akan menandatangani perjanjian dengan tiga pihak termasuk pembuat ubat-ubatan Britain, AstraZeneca untuk membeli vaksin Covid-19.

Setiausaha vaksin negara, Carlito Galvez Jr semasa taklimat media berkata, dua juta dos-vaksin AstraZeneca akan dibeli di bawah perjanjian itu.

AstraZeneca sebelum itu berkata, vaksin Covid-19 buatan mereka telah berkesan sebanyak 70 peratus dalam ujian penting dan boleh mencapai keberkesanan sebanyak 90 peratus dan kos lebih murah serta mudah diedarkan lebih ce-

pat berbanding vaksin pesaingnya.

Difahamkan, kerajaan berusaha memberikan vaksin kepada 60 juta rakyat Filipina untuk mencapai kekebalan kelompok, sekali gus mengekang penularan virus di negara itu.

Awalnya, Galvez iaitu seorang bekas ketua tentera yang bertanggungjawab

merangka strategi melawan Covid-19 juga berkata, pemerintah juga sedang berbincang dengan syarikat Pfizer Inc dan Sinovac China untuk kemungkinan pembelian vaksin itu.

Langkah terbabit bertujuan memastikan bekalan vaksin mencukupi bagi semua penduduk di negara itu. - *Ageni*.



Gambar ilustrasi menunjukkan contoh vaksin Covid-19 yang dihasilkan syarikat farmaseutikal Pfizer. - AFP



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES  
 MUKA SURAT : 2  
 RUANGAN : NEWS/STORY OF THE DAY

20PC OF POPULATION

# FREE VACCINES ROLLOUT FROM NEXT YEAR

Vaccination won't be compulsory, priority for high-risk groups following deal with Pfizer, says PM

HANA NAZ HARUN  
 PUTRAJAYA  
 news@nst.com.my

**C**OVID-19 vaccines will be available to Malaysians for free, with the first delivery of 12.8 million doses that can vaccinate 20 per cent of the population to start arriving next year.

Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the government inked a deal with United States-based pharmaceutical company Pfizer to procure enough vaccines to vaccinate 6.4 million Malaysians.

"Under the Fees (Medical) Order 1982, vaccination will be given to our citizens for free. There will be no vaccine charges for Malaysians (who get vaccinated) at hospitals under the Health Ministry.

"Foreigners will have to pay for the vaccine and the rate will be determined by the Health Minister," he said at the Prime Minister's Office here yesterday.

Present at the virtual press conference were Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba and Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin.

Muhyiddin said vaccination would be conducted in phases, with priority for high-risk groups.

He said high-risk groups, including frontline workers, the elderly and patients with non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease, would get vaccinated first.

"For now, vaccination will not involve schoolchildren. This is what has been decided by the Health Ministry."

He said the government had no plans to make immunisation compulsory, but was optimistic that public acceptance of the vaccine would be high.

Citing a study by research company YouGov, Muhyiddin said

about 82 per cent of Malaysians were ready to get vaccinated, expressing hope that all Malaysians would agree to be immunised.

"We have no plans to make vaccination compulsory. We will only vaccinate those who agree in writing voluntarily.

"I am confident that public acceptance is high and I've heard many out there are waiting to get immunised so that they can live a normal life without being at risk of getting infected with the virus.

"We hope that with this step more people can be saved. A detailed vaccine rollout plan will be announced in the near future."

The government on Tuesday inked a preliminary purchasing agreement with Pfizer to procure the vaccine.

Muhyiddin said through this arrangement, Pfizer agreed to deliver one million doses in the first quarter of next year, followed by 1.7 million doses in the second quarter, 5.8 million doses in the third quarter and 4.3 million doses in the fourth quarter.

He said the agreement with Pfizer aimed to ensure the government had access to data to evaluate the vaccine's quality, safety and efficacy, besides ensuring access to the vaccine once it is distributed by the company.

He said Pfizer, on Nov 9, had reported that their primary interim data showed a vaccine efficacy of 95 per cent.

"The company still needs the approval of the United States' Food and Drug Administration and regulatory approval from the producing country, in addition to approval from our Health Ministry's National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA) before it can be used in Malaysia."

He said the Health Ministry also signed an agreement with the vaccine development platform Covax Facility to obtain Covid-19 vaccines to immunise 10 per cent of Malaysians.

Muhyiddin said both agreements would guarantee access to Covid-19 vaccines for 30 per cent of Malaysians.

"The Health Ministry, together with the Science, Technology and Innovation Ministry, are in active discussion with companies worldwide to gain enough access to



Covid-19 vaccines for Malaysians."

He said Malaysia was taking a multi-pronged approach to source enough vaccines from different manufacturers for the whole population.

"I have been told we should have at least 60 per cent or 18 to 19 million of the population vaccinated. This is a sufficient number of people for a start.

"The government is actively negotiating with 10 leading vaccine manufacturers. Any vaccine will have to be approved by the NPRA first.

"Without the approval of this authority, the vaccines cannot be used here. They will have to go through stringent tests."

He announced that the Health Ministry would begin a Phase Three vaccine clinical research project through a government-to-government initiative with China, with the vaccine being developed by the republic's Institute of Medical Biology Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences (IMBCAMS).

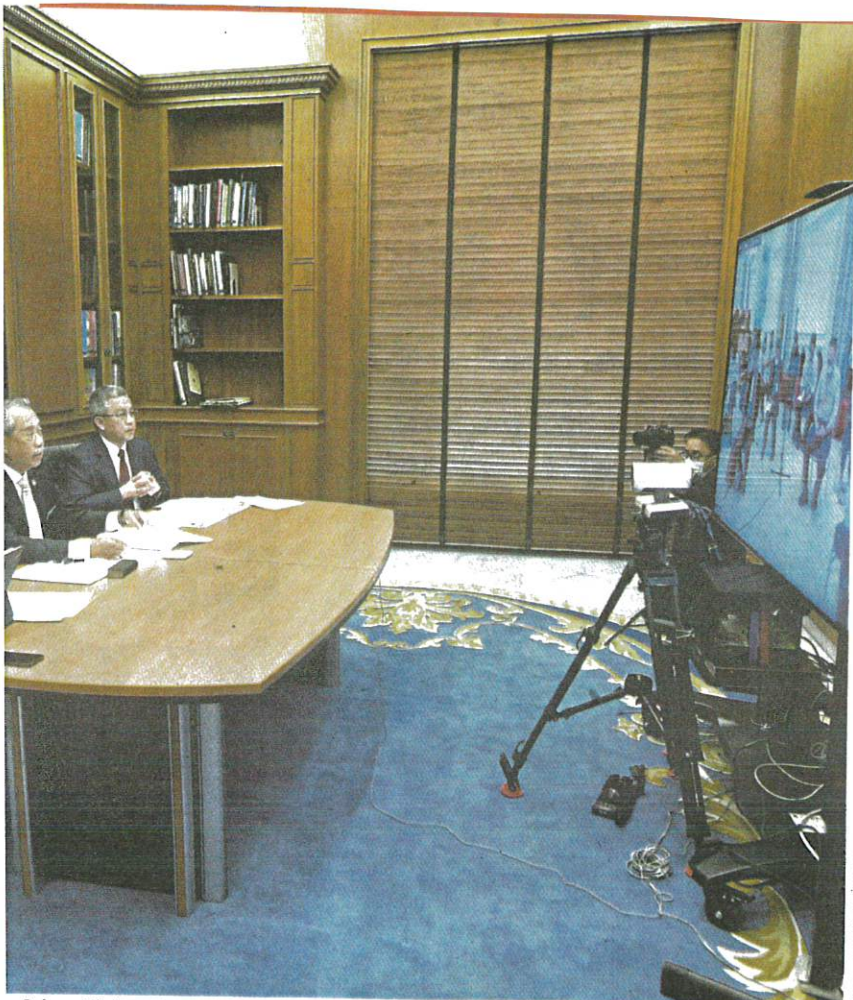
A total of 3,000 participants would be involved in the study, Muhyiddin said, and the research would evaluate the safety and



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NEWS/STORY OF THE DAY



Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin speaking during a virtual press conference in Putrajaya yesterday. With him are Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin (left) and Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba. BERNAMA PIC

## Pfizer, BioNTech can produce 50 million vaccine doses this year

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Pfizer and BioNTech estimate that they can manufacture approximately 50 million doses of the Covid-19 vaccine this year to meet global demand.

The pharmaceutical companies, in a joint statement yesterday, projected additional manufacturing of up to 1.3 billion doses of the BNT162 mRNA-based vaccine to meet demand in 2021.

"By 2021, to meet those anticipated quantities and milestones, the companies have produced sufficient supply for their phase 2/3 clinical trial and have begun producing and stocking their pandemic supply," the statement said.

"The BNT162b2 candidate vaccine is not currently approved for distribution anywhere in the world. Both partners are committed to developing these novel vaccines with pre-clinical and clinical data at the forefront of all their decision making."

The BNT162 mRNA-based vaccine would be subjected to clinical success and regulatory approval before it is disbursed, it said.

Pfizer country manager Luksanawan Thangpaibool said the company was honoured to work with the government and to marshal their scientific and manufacturing resources towards the shared goal of bringing a potential Covid-19 vaccine to Malaysians the soonest possible.

"In the face of this global health crisis, Pfizer's purpose, which is breakthroughs that change patients' lives, has taken on an even greater urgency. Our hope is that, subject to clinical and regulatory success, our vaccine will help

make this happen," she said.

BioNTech chief business and chief commercial officer Sean Maret thanked the government for its support and trust in the company's ability to develop a vaccine.

"We believe (this vaccine) has the potential to help address this global pandemic threat. Our goal remains to create a global supply of a safe and effective Covid-19 vaccine for many people around the world, as quickly as we can."

Besides engagements with governments, Pfizer and BioNTech have expressed interest in supplying to the Covax Facility, a mechanism established by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations and World Health Organisation.

The Covax Facility aims to provide governments, including those in emerging markets, with early access to a large portfolio of Covid-19 candidate vaccines produced by multiple manufacturers across the world using a range of technology platforms.

The company said Phase Three clinical trial of BNT162b2 began on July 27 and it had enrolled 43,661 participants. Up to Nov 13, 41,135 participants had received a second dose of the candidate vaccine.

About 42 per cent of global participants and 30 per cent of United States participants are racially and ethnically diverse, while 41 per cent of global participants and 45 per cent of Americans are between the age of 56 and 85.

Clinical trial participants are from about 150 sites in the United States, Germany, Turkey, South Africa, Brazil and Argentina.

efficacy of the developed vaccine. "The study, which is expected to start in December 2020, will be conducted by a local clinical research organisation and has been registered in the National Medical Research Register.

"The vaccine safety profile will first be reviewed by the NPRA to obtain a Clinical Trial Import Licence and it will be studied by the Medical Research and Ethics Committee to ensure the study is conducted in accordance with Health Ministry guidelines."

He said this initiative would involve eight clinical research centres under the Health Ministry.

"The government expresses its highest appreciation to the IMB-CAMS which will be collaborating with us to conduct the Phase Three clinical research in Malaysia.

"The government provides its assurance to all Malaysians that the vaccines used in Malaysia must meet the strict conditions set by the NPRA. We will never compromise on this."

## 'Heed new norms even after vaccine is available'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Experts have cautioned Malaysians that the impending availability of the Covid-19 vaccine does not necessarily mean the pandemic is drawing to a close anytime soon.

They said the public would still have to abide by the new norms, such as physical distancing and wearing face masks, while the government worked towards ensuring that the majority of the population got vaccinated.

Malaysian Public Health Physicians' Association president Datuk Dr Zainal Ariffin Omar lauded the government's effort to obtain Covid-19 vaccines, describing it as a good and fast initiative for the wellbeing of the people, but added that it would take "months or years" to ensure the rest of the population secured immunity.

He said for the pandemic to

end, the coverage of immunised persons through herd immunity and vaccination must be more than 80 per cent.

"In the early phase of vaccination, the coverage is just 20 per cent of the population.

"Therefore, it will take a longer time to stop the pandemic, maybe between three and four years, unless we can improve the coverage of vaccination."

Epidemiology and biostatistics expert Dr Malina Osman said Malaysia needed to vaccinate at least 40 to 50 per cent of the population to build immunity against Covid-19, assuming a certain portion of the population develop antibodies from the infection.

On how quickly the Covid-19 vaccine can stop the pandemic, Dr Malina, an associate professor at Universiti Putra Malaysia, said

theoretically, the protection would be provided once antibodies were produced.

"In the usual immune response, once vaccinated, the immune system of the individual will respond immediately by producing specific mechanisms to both humoral and cell-mediated immunity.

"However, adequate protective antibodies are usually achieved after a few weeks to a month. The immunity is usually sustained for a few months before the antibody produced starts declining.

"Therefore, another shot of the vaccine is needed to boost the immune system's memory to increase the antibody level."

She said people should maintain preventive measures for at least a month post-vaccination.

The Malaysian Medical Association lauded the government's

swift efforts to secure Covid-19 vaccines for the country.

"As safety and proven efficacy of the vaccines are of paramount concern, we also appreciate the assurance given by the prime minister that the vaccines will go through stringent conditions set by the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency before they are approved for use," said its president, Professor Datuk Dr Subramaniam Muniandy.

He said the association looked forward to seeing regular updates on any new developments from the relevant ministries concerning the vaccines.

"It is hoped the government will soon reveal the full list of vulnerable groups that will be prioritised for the vaccines and further details of its programme to vaccinate the population."



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NEWS/STORY OF THE DAY

# MANDATORY SCREENING FOR FOREIGN WORKERS

First phase scheduled in Selangor, KL, Penang, Labuan and Negri Sembilan

THARANYA ARUMUGAM  
PUTRAJAYA  
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**F**ROM Dec 1, all foreign workers will be required to undergo mandatory Covid-19 screening, with their employers bearing the cost of the test.

This follows the increasing number of positive cases among them, particularly in factories and construction sites, said Senior Minister (Security Cluster) Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

He said the first phase of Covid-19 screening would be carried out in Selangor, Kuala Lumpur, Penang, Labuan and Negri Sembilan and that the Human Resources Ministry would enforce the ruling from Dec 1.

"The government had previously decided to conduct a Covid-19 screening test using RTK Antigen for all foreign workers in the country.

"The meeting held today (yesterday) heard a presentation by the Human Resources Ministry over the schedule and mechanism for the implementation of this test.

"Following this, the government has agreed to make it compulsory for all foreign workers (in all sectors) to undergo Covid-19 screening test, which will be done in stages," he said at a press conference here yesterday.

He said Covid-19 positive cases had been on an upward trend among foreign workers, with Top Glove being the single biggest contributor to the country's positive cases, apart from cases identified at factories in other districts, including in Sabah.

On the mechanism for imple-

menting the screening test, he said to prevent overcrowding, employers should arrange for appointments with private health-care facilities for the Covid-19 RTK Antigen test.

The private health facilities would then send their staff to the industry or construction site to conduct the test according to the standard operating procedures (SOP) set by the Health Ministry, he said.

"The cost of clinic/hospital services must be paid by the employer. The Social Security Organisation (Socso) bears the cost of the test kit (RM60) for first-time testing only."

Ismail Sabri said the Human Resources Ministry had started enforcing the Workers' Minimum Standards of Housing and Amenities Act 1990 (Act 446), where employers who flouted the regulations would be fined RM50,000 per worker.

The ministry, he said, would check on companies and industries that failed to make the necessary preparations to address the living conditions of migrant workers.

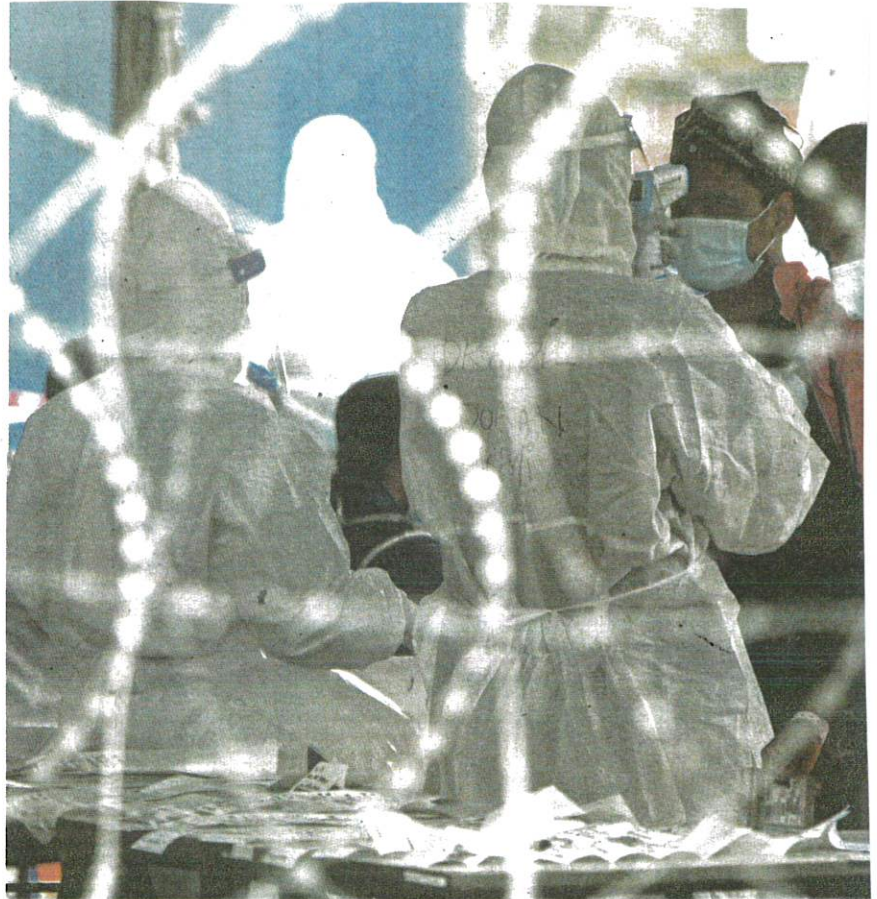
"Yesterday (Thursday), action was taken against several factories in a few states for not complying with the standards set under Act 446."

Meanwhile, Tongkah Pecah town in Batu Pahat, Johor, will be placed under the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO) for 14 days, from Nov 29 to Dec 13, following an increase of daily Covid-19 positive cases.

Ismail Sabri said 16,300 residents in four areas, namely Bandar Putera Indah, Lorong 7 to 10, Batu 7 and Kampung Mohd Nor, would be affected by the CMCO.

The implementation of the CMCO, he said, would enable the Health Ministry to carry out targeted Covid-19 screening and to reduce movement among the community in these areas.

He said the Health Ministry had conducted 672 screening tests, with 56 positive cases



Health Ministry personnel conducting Covid-19 screening at a workers' hostel in Meru, Klang, yesterday. PIC BY ASWADI ALIAS

## 1,109 new cases and 1,148 recoveries recorded yesterday

**PUTRAJAYA:** The number of patients who recovered from Covid-19 nationwide yesterday surpassed the overall number of new cases, as there were 1,148 people who had recovered as opposed to 1,109 new cases yesterday.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said with the figure, the total cumulative number of positive cases in the country stood at 61,861.

Sabah continued to report the highest number of cases nationwide at 441, with 346 infections detected from cluster screening and close contacts of positive cases in the state.

This was followed by Selangor with 175 cases and Negri Sembilan (167), Penang (64), Perak

(42), Johor (33), Kedah (25), Kelantan (five) and Pahang (three).

Dr Noor Hisham said the number of cases in two Federal Territories and two states were more than Sabah's total.

"If we were to combine the number of cases in Selangor (175), Kuala Lumpur (154), Putrajaya (zero) and Negri Sembilan (167), there are 496 cases altogether and this is more than what Sabah recorded," he said at a daily Covid-19 press briefing at the ministry yesterday.

A total of 25 cases were reported in active clusters, namely the Tembok (nine), Sandakan Prison (six), Bakti (four), Rumah Merah (four) and Prison Remand (two) clusters.

Dr Noor Hisham said the

recorded and 302 awaiting results.

Ismail Sabri also announced that wet markets and morning markets in areas placed under the CMCO would be allowed to operate until 4pm, effective today.

He said the decision to extend the operating hours from 2pm to 4pm was made after consulting the Health Ministry, adding that the SOP would apply with supervision by the People's Volunteer Corps (Rela) personnel.

Ismail Sabri said the CMCO in Kuching, Sarawak, was expected to end as scheduled yesterday following a drop in cases.

Kuching was placed under the CMCO on Nov 9, which was later extended to Nov 27.

Ismail Sabri said 308 people were arrested on Thursday for violating the SOP under the CMCO, with failure to wear face masks topping the list of offences.



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NEWS/STORY OF THE DAY

## 'Rope in retrenched flight attendants as frontliners to help fight Covid-19'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The National Union of Flight Attendants Malaysia (Nufam) has requested the government to consider absorbing retrenched airline workers as frontliners at the Health Ministry to help curb the spread of Covid-19.

Its president, Ismail Nasaruddin, said although the 2021 Budget, which was approved at the policy level on Thursday, had allocated RM50 million to provide training and placements for 8,000 employees of airline companies in Malaysia, it was still not enough to ensure the survival of those affected.

He said it was important to ensure that the group secured employment for its members, with a monthly income.

"If they undergo the training programme, they may be paid an allowance of RM10 or RM20 a day. That is not enough, especially for those who have lost their income.



Ismail Nasaruddin

"Perhaps the government can re-look the issue by absorbing airline workers as frontliners at the ministry as most of them have been trained to provide first

aid," he told Bernama.

Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri M. Saravanan was quoted as saying that 95,995 workers who contributed to the Employment Insurance System had been laid off up to Nov 13.

Of that total, he said, 40,766 were from the aviation, hotel and tourism sectors.

Former flight attendant Mohd Hanif Salim, 28, who has been jobless since June, said most of his friends who faced a similar dilemma had ventured into business and insurance sales.

He said the government's plan to provide training and courses to those who had lost their jobs was a good initiative, but this would not guarantee employment.

"We need to secure a job for survival.

"For now, we will do whatever we can to survive," said Hanif, who is helping his brother run a business selling cooking gas cylinders in Kuantan. **Bernama**

## 30pc of Kelantan civil servants to work from home

**KOTA BARU:** Only 70 per cent of the 6,000 Kelantan government servants are allowed to work at office during the Conditional Movement Control Order.

The directive, effective yesterday, was issued by deputy Kelantan state secretary (management)

Datuk Tengku Azmi Tengku Jaafar.

In a circular that was distributed to all state government heads of department, Tengku Azmi

said department must ensure the services provided by the departments were not affected by the new directive.

"Heads of department must ensure the rest of their workers are working from home during office hours.

"They (workers) must also ensure that they are contactable and be prepared if their employers direct them to return to the office or to

travel anywhere."

He said employers must ensure the safety of those working in the office.

"They must adhere to the Covid-19 standard operating procedures at all times..."

**They must adhere to the Covid-19 standard operating procedures at all times...**

**DATUK TENGKU AZMI TENGKU JAAFAR**

Meanwhile, state Local Government, Health and Housing Committee chairman Dr Izani Husin said the new directive was agreed upon by all departments under the state government.

"They have agreed to follow the order for the safety of all workers."

number of active infectivity cases stood at 11,307.

Yesterday, 113 patients were being treated at Intensive Care Units, with 41 requiring breathing assistance.

Two deaths were reported yesterday at Semporna and Labuan Hospital, bringing the number of fatalities to 350.

The deaths involved two male patients, aged 47 and 64 (Case 60,141 and Case 60,047) from Sabah and Labuan respectively, with a history of heart disease and stroke.

Meanwhile, four new Covid-19 clusters were detected yesterday in Sabah, Negri Sembilan, Kuala Lumpur and Penang, and were now part of 176 clusters being monitored by the Health Ministry.

Dr Noor Hisham said of the four clusters, the three that recorded the highest number of cases were the Puteh Lama Construction Site Cluster (118 cases), Jalan Haruan Cluster (116) and Jalan Tuaran Cluster (43).

The Puteh Lama Construction Site Cluster in Lembah Pantai, Kuala Lumpur, involved 139 positive cases traced via targeted testing on workers and 820 workers have been screened.

He said 118 positive cases were detected from the Jalan Haruan Cluster in Seremban, Negri Sembilan, on Thursday following screening of employees at a factory.

"This cluster consists of 10 Malaysians and 108 foreigners. A total of 300 individuals have been screened so far," Dr Noor Hisham said.

The Jalan Tuaran Cluster, involving the Kota Kinabalu, Penampang and Tuaran districts in Sabah, were traced from screenings at workplaces. So far, 43 patients tested positive out of the 86 individuals screened from this cluster.

The fourth new cluster, known as the Beringin Cluster, in Penang involves the northeast and southwest districts on the island, and Seberang Prai Sela-

tan and Seberang Prai Tengah on the mainland.

From this cluster, 37 people tested positive when workers in two factories were screened following the detection of the index case (Case 51,576) on Nov 19.

To date, 3,116 individuals had been screened from the cluster, said Dr Noor Hisham.

From the existing clusters, an additional 47 positive cases were reported from the Teratai (31), Damai Laut (27), Batu Tujuh (19) and Sutera (18) clusters.

Dr Noor Hisham said Malaysia's Covid-19 infectivity rate was estimated at 1 based on the number of new infections yesterday.

He said up to Thursday, there were 935 new cases and the infectivity rate was 0.9, which is about 871 cases.

"If the rate is 1.1, there should be 1,375 cases. However, today (yesterday), we have 1,109 cases, so the rate should be between 1.1 and 0.9. Therefore, we estimate that the infectivity rate is now at 1," he said.



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NATION

# Vaccines for 6.4mil M'sians next year

## Muhyiddin: Immunisation for 20% in the first stage as soon as proven safe

By ZAKIAH KOYA  
zakiah@thestar.com.my

**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysians are likely to have access to free Covid-19 vaccines as early as next January, says the Prime Minister.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin revealed that an early purchase agreement was signed on Tuesday with pharmaceutical giant Pfizer to gain a supply of 12.8 million doses of Covid-19 vaccine for 20% of the population.

In making the announcement at a media conference here yesterday, he said the deal was the first stage of the government's plan to provide free Covid-19 immunisation for all Malaysians.

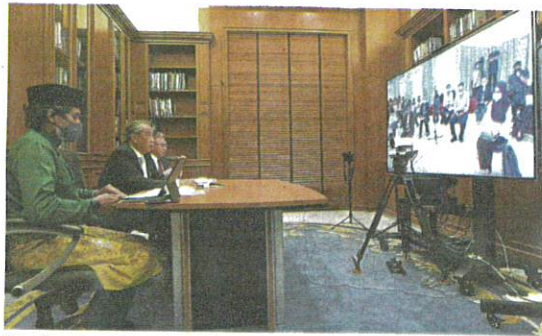
He also said the vaccines would not be given to those under 12 years old as it has yet to be tested on children.

This is part of the government's RM3bil plan to gain enough Covid-19 vaccines to immunise 6.4 million of the population as soon as the vaccine has been proven safe, enough to be used.

"The government guarantees all Malaysians that the Covid-19 vaccines used in Malaysia will go through the stringent conditions set by the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA). There will be no compromise on its safety and quality," said Muhyiddin.

He said the agreement with Pfizer would ensure the government had access to data to be able to monitor the quality, safety and efficacy as well as guarantee access to the vaccine when the company was ready to distribute.

"Pfizer on Nov 9 stated that the first analysis of the interim data showed a vaccine efficacy of 95%.



**Meeting the press:** Muhyiddin during a virtual media conference at his office. He is flanked by Dr Adham and Khairy (on his right). — Bernama

"Pfizer also promised delivery of one million dose of vaccine in the first quarter of 2021, followed by 1.7 million doses in the second quarter, 5.8 million doses in the third quarter and 4.3 million doses in the final quarter of 2021," said Muhyiddin at the Prime Minister's Office.

He was flanked by Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba and Science, Technology and Innovation Minister Khairy Jamaluddin during the virtual media conference.

Muhyiddin also said that although the deal was signed, Pfizer had yet to pass the US Food and Drug Administration and the regulatory bodies of the manufacturing countries.

"Pfizer also has to get the approval from the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency under the Health Ministry before the vaccine can be used in Malaysia.

"On Nov 22, the Health Minister

also signed an agreement with Covax facility to get the Covid-19 vaccines to enable the immunisation of 10% of the population," said Muhyiddin.

Covax is a global initiative co-led by the World Health Organisation (WHO), Gavi – the Vaccine Alliance and the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI) – to ensure fair and equitable access to Covid-19 vaccine worldwide.

The Prime Minister said that both these agreements were expected to acquire the access to the Covid-19 vaccine for 30% of the Malaysian population.

He said that the vaccine, when in hand, would be given in stages to the high-risk groups including frontliners, the elderly and patients who suffer from non-communicable diseases such as heart disease, diabetes and chronic illnesses.

He, however, assured that no one would be made a guinea pig when

getting the immunisation for Covid-19.

"It will later be widened to other targeted groups," said Muhyiddin.

The Prime Minister also announced that the Health Ministry would begin a Phase Three clinical study next month on the Covid-19 vaccine with China.

The study will be conducted by local contract research organisations and registered under the National Medical Research Registry.

"This vaccine will be developed by the Institute Medical Biology Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences.

"This Phase 3 clinical study will involve 3,000 participants and will test the safety and efficacy of the vaccine which is being developed," said Muhyiddin.

He said the safety of the vaccine would come under the monitoring of the NPRA to get a Clinical Trial Import Licence and MREC to ensure it would all be approved by the Health Ministry.

The Prime Minister also stated that Malaysia would take a multi-prong approach to get enough vaccines for at least 60% of the population.

"We will get the tested vaccines from any country and we are currently negotiating with 10 of the 12 leading manufacturers of Covid-19 vaccines in various countries such as China, Russia and the United States.

"Whatever it is, the vaccine to be used on Malaysians must be first approved by NPRA.

"We will not make it compulsory for all, but we will make it mandatory for the vulnerable groups.

"A recent study has shown that 82% of Malaysians are for the Covid-

19 immunisation. As for those against vaccination, we will engage them through information and media campaigns," said Muhyiddin.

On the private sector getting access to the Covid-19 vaccines, he said they would have to wait until the supply was enough on the government's side.

"However, we do not prevent the private sector from negotiating to get their own supply," said Muhyiddin.

He also urged the countries which are developing the tested Covid-19 vaccines to set up their factories in Malaysia.

"We will give them special treatment and provide them with incentives," said Muhyiddin.

On Nov 19, Khairy said that Malaysia would make an upfront payment of RM94mil soon for access to a Covid-19 vaccine.

He said the Cabinet decided on Nov 13 that Malaysia, through the Health Ministry, would conclude its participation in the Covax facility by signing the Optional Purchase Arrangement.

Khairy said earlier that the government intended to target 70% of the Malaysian population to get the Covid-19 vaccine in the first quarter of 2021, focusing on adults to enable the country to reach the herd immunity threshold.

He said if the herd immunity threshold was achieved, those who have not been vaccinated would be protected from Covid-19 infection.

"There will be some who will not get the vaccination because most of the Covid-19 vaccines developed have not been tested on children under the age of 12, so definitely they will not be vaccinated next year," Khairy said.

## All efforts taken to ensure vaccines safe, say Pfizer and BioNTech

**PUTRAJAYA:** Pharmaceutical giants Pfizer and BioNTech said all efforts will be taken to ensure that the Covid-19 vaccine provided for Malaysians will be safe and fully tested.

"We are deeply honoured to work with the Malaysian government and to marshal our scientific and manufacturing resources toward our shared goal of bringing a potential Covid-19 vaccine to Malaysians as quickly as possible," said

Luksanawan Thangpaibool, Pfizer country manager.

BioNTech chief business and chief commercial officer Sean Marett said the company "understands that the Covid-19 vaccine is a matter of urgency as it is a global health crisis".

"Our goal remains to create a global supply of a safe and effective Covid-19 vaccine for many people around the world, as quickly as we can," he said.

In a media statement released yesterday, Pfizer and BioNTech stated that they were committed to supply 12.8 million doses of the BNT162 mRNA-based Vaccine Candidate over the course of 2021.

It said that all clinical studies and efforts to get regulatory approval had begun early this month and the two companies were expected to manufacture up to 1.3 billion doses globally by the end of next year.

"Assuming positive data and avail-

ability of the necessary manufacturing and safety data, and based on current projections, Pfizer and BioNTech expect to produce globally up to 50 million doses of vaccines in 2020 and up to 1.3 billion doses in 2021.

By 2021, to meet those anticipated quantities and milestones, the companies have produced sufficient supply for their phase 2 and 3 clinical trials and have begun producing and stocking their pandemic supply.

"The BNT162b2 candidate vaccine is not currently approved for distribution anywhere in the world," the statement said.

"Both partners are committed to developing these novel vaccines with pre clinical and clinical data at the forefront of all their decision making."

According to Pfizer and BioNTech, the phase 3 clinical trial of BNT162b2 began on July 27 and to date, has enrolled 43,661 participants.