

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan COVID-19

Empat kluster masih aktif, catat pertambahan 17 kes

24 jangkitan
baharu babit 18
penularan
tempatan,
enam import

Oleh Rafidah Mat Ruzki
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Putrajaya: Empat kluster COVID-19 yang masih aktif mencatatkan pertambahan 17 kes positif semalam, termasuk 13 dalam Kluster Sungai.

Secara keseluruhan, sebanyak 24 kes baharu dicatatkan semalam yang membabitkan 18 kes penularan tempatan dan enam kes import.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata semua 13 kes baharu dalam Kluster Sungai membabitkan individu disaring di Kedah yang setakat semalam mencecah 1,091 orang, 31 lagi disaring di Pulau Pinang dan empat di Perlis.

"Bagi Kluster Sungai, 38 kes dikesan positif di Kedah termasuk 13 kes baharu, 432 negatif dan 586 masih menunggu keputusan. Jumlah keseluruhan kes positif dalam kluster ini termasuk yang

dikesan di Perlis ialah 39."

"Bagi Kluster Telaga dan Kluster Tawar, masing-masing satu kes positif baharu dilaporkan. Kluster Telaga kini mempunyai 57 kes positif dan Kluster Tawar mempunyai 79 kes positif," katanya dalam satu kenyataan, semalam.

Bagi Kluster Benteng LD, beliau memaklumkan, dua kes baharu dikesan di Tawau, Sabah, selepas 1,814 individu disaring di daerah itu dengan jumlah kes positif bagi kluster berkenaan setakat semalam seramai 130 orang.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, jumlah kes positif COVID-19 di Malaysia mencecah 9,583 kes setakat semalam dengan jumlah kes aktif dengan kebolehhangkitan ialah 312 kes.

Katanya, daripada 24 kes baharu yang dilaporkan, enam adalah kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara membabitkan tiga warga Malaysia dan tiga bukan warganegara, termasuk dua yang pulang dari Bangladesh yang dikesan di Negeri Sembilan dan Kuala Lumpur.

"Selain itu, satu kes pulang dari China yang dikesan di Sabah, satu kes pulang dari Indonesia juga dikesan di Sabah, satu kes pulang dari Singapura yang dikesan di Sarawak dan pulang dari Korea Selatan yang



**Kes import
membabitkan
bukan warganegara
adalah mereka yang
memasuki Malaysia
sebelum pelaksanaan
sekatan kemasukan
yang berkuat kuasa
7 September lalu.**

**Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah,
Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan**

dikesan di Selangor.

"Kes import membabitkan bukan warganegara adalah mereka yang memasuki Malaysia sebelum pelaksanaan sekatan kemasukan yang berkuat kuasa 7 September lalu. Dua kes dari Bang-

ladesh tiba di Malaysia pada 6 September dan disaring pada hari sama.

"Satu kes dari China pula tiba di Malaysia pada 5 September dan disaring pada 6 September. Keputusan ujian saringan mereka dilaporkan positif COVID-19 hari ini (semalam). Begitu juga dengan beberapa kes import yang dilaporkan pada 8 September," katanya.

Mengenai kes jangkitan membabitkan petugas kesihatan, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sebanyak 53 peratus daripada keseluruhan kes positif COVID-19 membabitkan kumpulan itu dikesan berpunca daripada penularan dalam kelompok mereka.

Katanya, terdapat peningkatan kes positif virus itu dalam kalangan petugas barisan hadapan terutama petugas sektor awam dan swasta kebelakangan ini dan ia membimbangkan kerana kumpulan terbabit berperanan penting sebagai tulang belakang sistem kesihatan negara.

"Jangkitan daripada komuniti sebanyak 22 peratus, jangkitan semasa pengurusan pesakit yang belum diketahui status COVID-19 pula 17 peratus. Setakat ini, tiada petugas kesihatan KKM dijangkiti COVID-19 ketika pengurusan pesakit, disahkan COVID-19 di wad COVID-19 atau di Unit Rawatan Rapi," katanya.

AKHBAR : UTUSAN MALAYSIA

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : DALAM NEGERI

UTUSAN MALAYSIA
KHAMIS • 10 SEPTEMBER 2020

5

Dalam Negeri

Mati	Sembuh	Aktif	STATISTIK KES COVID-19	KESELURUHAN	Jumlah Keseluruhan	Jumlah Sembuh	Jumlah kematian
0	7	312			9,583	9,143	128

Kluster Sungai: Penduduk sedia jalani Temco

Oleh Zaid Mohd. Noor
zaid.noor@mediamula.com.my

ALOR SETAR: Lebih 2,000 penduduk di Alor Merah berdekatan pusat perubatan swasta Kedah Medical Central (KMC) yang menjadi lokasi penularan Covid-19 bagi Kluster Sungai bersedia dikenakan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan Secara Pentadbiran (Temco).

Penduduk menegaskan, mereka sanggup mematuhi arahan sepanjang tempoh penguatkuasaan Temco untuk mengelakkan penularan wabak tersebut yang semakin serius.

Sejak Kluster Sungai diumumkan Isnin lalu, suasana di kawasan perkampungan tersebut mulai sunyi apabila penduduk takut keluar rumah masing-masing kecuali mempunyai urusan penting.

Seorang penduduk di Jalan Datuk Syed Ahmad, Alor Merah, **Ashaari Ahmad Sabri**, 34, berkata, kawasan perkampungan ini mulai lengang sejak penularan Kluster Sungai kerana kedudukannya dalam radius satu kilometer dari KMC.

Menurutnya, keadaan itu berlaku apabila penduduk takut un-



NORHAYATI Mokhtar termenung jauh ketika menunggu kehadiran pengunjung ke gerainya di Taman Selera Pumpung yang semakin berkurangan sejak penularan virus Covid-19 Kluster Sungai di Alor Setar, semalam. - UTUSAN/SHAHIR NOORDIN

tuk keluar dari rumah berikutan beberapa penduduk di sini juga dikesan positif kluster tersebut.

"Saya percaya penduduk bersedia menjalani Temco kerana kebanyakannya telah bertindak

awal menjalani 'perintah berkurung' di rumah sejak beberapa hari lalu," katanya ketika ditemui di sini semalam.

Sementara tinjauan di KMC pula mendapati operasi di hospital itu ditutup mulai semalam membabitkan perkhidmatan pesakit luar dan wad, namun masih menerima pesakit untuk kes kecemasan sahaja.

Seorang penduduk di Jalan Sekolah Sekolah, Alor Merah, **Samsudin Md. Zain**, 52, berkata, dia mengakui pelaksanaan Temco di kawasan ini akan menjejaskan pendapatannya yang bekerja sebagai pemandu lori kerana tidak dibenarkan keluar rumah.

"Bagaimanapun, soal keselamatan lebih penting pada masa ini selepas penularan kluster baharu di kawasan ini," ujarnya.

Sementara seorang peniaga kedai makan di Taman Selera Pumpung berhampiran KMC, **Norhayati Mokhtar**, 56, pula berkata, pendapatannya terjejas selepas pengunjung berkurangan berikutan penularan kluster itu.

"Semalam (kelmarin), cuma kira-kira 10 orang sahaja pengunjung yang datang ke kedai saya yang dibuka dari pukul 10 pagi hingga 10 malam," katanya.

Lebih separuh petugas kesihatan penyebar Covid-19

PUTRAJAYA: Kementerian Kesihatan mendapati kes positif Covid-19 dalam kalangan petugas kesihatan kebanyakannya berpunca daripada penularan dalam kalangan mereka sendiri. Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, kes penularan itu menyumbang sebanyak 53 peratus daripada keseluruhan kes melibatkan petugas kesihatan.

Menurutnya, ia sekali gus menunjukkan lebih separuh daripada petugas barisan hadapan yang dijangkiti wabak itu menjangkiti petugas kesihatan lain.

"Jangkitan daripada komuniti adalah sebanyak 22 peratus manakala jangkitan semasa pengurusan pesakit yang belum diketahui status Covid-19 pula

sebanyak 17 peratus," katanya dalam laporan harian mengenai perkembangan Covid-19 di sini semalam.

Noor Hisham berkata, setakat ini tiada petugas kesihatan Kementerian yang dijangkiti virus tersebut semasa menguruskan pesakit positif Covid-19 di wad perubatan atau unit rawatan rapi.

Katanya, amat penting bagi petugas kesihatan memastikan langkah-langkah pencegahan jangkitan Covid-19 diambil pada setiap masa terutamanya semasa bertugas.

"Penjarakan fizikal yang selamat di tempat bertugas iaitu dalam kalangan rakan sekerja dan semasa pengurusan pesakit sewajarnya diamalkan sepanjang waktu bekerja. Begitu juga

dengan kebersihan kawasan seperti di kaunter jururawat, tempat makan, pantri, ruang solat dan tandas kakitangan," ujarnya.

Beliau menyarankan amalan dan garis panduan itu turut diikuti oleh semua pengamal perubatan serta petugas kesihatan di sektor swasta dan universiti.

Menurutnya, berbanding semalam, jumlah kes baharu positif Covid-19 menurun daripada tiga digit kepada dua angka iaitu sebanyak 24 kes sehingga pukul 12 tengah hari ini.

Katanya, ini menjadikan jumlah kes positif Covid-19 adalah sebanyak 9,583 kes dengan jumlah kes aktif kebolehhajatan Covid-19 adalah 312 kes. Kesemuanya telah diasingkan dan diberi rawatan.

"Daripada 24 kes baharu yang dilaporkan, enam kes adalah kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara melibatkan tiga rakyat tempatan dan tiga bukan warganegara. Enam kes import tersebut adalah dari Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Singapura, Korea Selatan.

"Kes import yang melibatkan bukan warganegara telah memasuki Malaysia sebelum pelaksanaan sekatan memasuki pada 7 September lalu. Dua kes dari Bangladesh tiba di negara ini pada 6 September lalu dan disaring pada hari sama.

"Satu kes dari China pula tiba pada 5 September lalu dan disaring pada 6 September. Reputasi ujian saringan mereka dilaporkan positif Covid-19 hari ini," katanya.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NEGARA

4 **Negara!**



Covid-19 #kitamestimenang

Kosmo! KHAMIS 10 SEPTEMBER 2020

13 lagi individu positif Covid-19 daripada Kluster Sungai

Kota Setar kini zon merah

Oleh NOR IDAYU BOSRO

PUTRAJAYA – Kes baharu jangkitan Covid-19 mencatatkan 24 kes semalam yang disumbangkan daripada peningkatan kes positif di empat kluster aktif dalam negara dengan paling tinggi membabitkan Kluster Sungai sebanyak 13 kes.

Tiga lagi kluster lain ialah Kluster Benteng LD dengan dua kes serta masing-masing satu kes di Kluster Tawar dan Kluster Telaga.

Pertambahan kes itu menjadikan daerah Kota Setar di Kedah selain Tawau dan Lahad Datu di Sabah dikategorikan sebagai zon merah.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, kira-kira 53 peratus kes dalam Kluster Sungai yang membabitkan petugas kesihatan di sebuah pusat perubatan di Kedah adalah berpunca daripada penularan dalam kalangan petugas kesihatan sendiri.

"Jangkitan daripada komuniti adalah sebanyak 22 peratus, manakala jangkitan semasa pengurusan pesakit yang belum diketahui status Covid-19 pula adalah sebanyak 17 peratus."

"Setakat ini, tiada petugas kesihatan yang dijangkiti sama-



SEBANYAK 53 peratus kes dalam Kluster Sungai membabitkan petugas kesihatan di KMC, Alor Setar sejak Isnin lalu.

sa pengurusan pesakit Covid-19 di wad khusus virus itu atau di Unit Rawatan Rapi," katanya dalam satu kenyataan akhbar di sini semalam.

Noor Hisham berkata, seramai 1,091 individu telah disaring dalam Kluster Sungai setakat ini dengan 39 didapati positif, 619 masih menunggu keputusan, manakala 433 adalah negatif.

"Selain itu, seramai 18,233

individu telah disaring dalam Kluster Tawar dengan 79 kes positif dan baki 18,154 adalah negatif.

"Saringan di Kluster Telaga pula meliputi 4,584 orang di Kedah dan Pulau Pinang dengan 128 masih menunggu keputusan, manakala 4,445 negatif dan 11 kes positif," ujarnya.

Berhubung Kluster Benteng LD, Noor Hisham berkata, dua

kes baharu semalam melibatkan tahanan warga asing di Penjara Tawau.

"Seramai 2,349 orang disaring setakat ini dengan 130 positif, 912 negatif dan 1,307 masih menunggu keputusan."

"Selain kes di empat kluster terbabit, terdapat satu lagi kes penularan tempatan membabitkan satu kes saringan bergejala di Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Noor Hisham berkata, enam kes import pula melibatkan tiga warganegara dan tiga warga asing yang mendapat jangkitan dari Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Singapura dan Korea Selatan.

Katanya, kes import melibatkan warga asing yang memasuki negara sebelum pelaksanaan sekatan kemasukan yang berkuat kuasa pada 7 September lalu.

"Dua kes dari Bangladesh yang dikesan di ibu negara dan Negeri Sembilan tiba, manakala satu kes dari China dikesan di Sabah. Keputusan ujian saringan mereka dilaporkan positif hari ini (semalam)."

"Kes dari Indonesia, Singapura dan Korea Selatan masing-masing dikesan di Sabah, Sarawak dan Selangor," katanya.

Angka Terkini Kes Covid-19 Di Malaysia sehingga semalam

	Jumlah
Kes baharu	24
Import: 6 Tempatan: 18	
Pulih	7
Kematian	0
Masih dirawat	312
Jumlah kes sembuh	9,143
Jumlah Kematian	128
Jumlah kes keseluruhan	9,583

221 ingkar arahan PKPP

PUTRAJAYA – Seramai 221 individu ditahan atas pelbagai kesalahan ingkar Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Pemulihan (PKPP) dengan tangkapan paling tinggi seramai 118 individu membabitkan aktiviti di pub kelmarin.

Turut ditahan seramai 43 individu atas kesalahan aktiviti melibatkan kehadiran orang ramai yang menyukarkan penjarakan fizikal, manakala 34 tangkapan gagal menyediakan peralatan serta serta merekod butiran pelanggaran.

Menteri Kanan (Keselamatan), Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob berkata, kesalahan lain tidak memakai pelitup muka (18), premis beroperasi lebih masa (lima), tangkapan pendatang asing tanpa izin (PATI) (dua) dan gagal mematuhi perintah kuarantin (satu).

"Daripada jumlah itu, seramai 212 individu telah dikompau, manakala lapan individu direman dan seorang dijamin," katanya di sini semalam.

Sementara itu, Ismail Sabri berkata, seramai 61 PATI dan lima tekong ditahan menerusi Operasi Benteng kelmarin.

"Sebanyak 26 daripada PATI itu ditahan di Bandar Penawar, Johor atas kesalahan imigresen, manakala 12 PATI ditahan di Bukit Kayu Hitam, Kedah kerana tidak mempunyai dokumen pengenalan diri sah," ujarnya.

Berhubung kuarantin wajib, Ismail Sabri berkata, sehingga semalam, seramai 25,688 individu pulang ke tanah air dan telah ditempatkan di 78 stesen kuarantin yang ditetapkan selepas arahan itu diwajibkan mulai 24 Julai lalu.

Ismail Sabri berkata, sebanyak sembilan operasi sanitasi meliputi enam Zon Hijau dilakukan Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat.

Mesej tular larangan kunjungi restoran mamak jejas pendapatan 4,000 ahli Presma

SEBERANG PERAI – Perniagaan hampir 4,000 ahli Persatuan Pengusaha Restoran Muslim Malaysia (Presma) terjejas susulan penularan mesej palsu berkaitan larangan mengunjungi restoran mamak ekoran dakwaan berlaku penyebaran virus Covid-19 sejak 27 Ogos lalu.

Ahli Jawatankuasa Kerja (AJK) Presma, Abdul Aziz Shik Ahmad berkata, penyebaran mesej palsu itu memberi kesan besar kepada ahli Presma apabila berlaku penyusutan pelanggan di restoran-restoran berkenaan setiap hari.

Sehubungan itu, katanya, satu laporan polis telah dibuat di Balai Polis Bukit Mertajam di sini pada 27 Ogos lalu selepas pihaknya menerima mesej melalui aplikasi WhatsApp iaitu 'Peringatan Kod Merah Kepada Seluruh Negara' pada pukul 3.28 petang dan 3.35 petang.

"Antara kandungan mesej itu

ialah 'orang ramai diminta menjauhkan diri dari kedai mamak, nasi kandar dan semua restoran India yang mengambil pekerja dari India sementara waktu, sekumpulan Covid-19 baru merebak ke seluruh negara'.

"Presma kesal dengan penyebaran mesej berkenaan yang berniat jahat ini sedangkan Kementerian Kesihatan telah mengesahkan bahawa perkara itu tidak benar."

"Penyebaran ini merosakkan reputasi seluruh restoran nasi kandar di negara ini," katanya pada sidang akhbar di Bukit Mertajam di sini semalam.

Abdul Aziz yang juga pemilik Restoran Nasi Kandar DINAS memberitahu, mesej palsu berkenaan turut dikesan disebarkan menerusi Facebook semalam.

"Justeru, kita harap pihak berkuasa dapat menyalut perkara ini dengan sewajarnya. Kita ada bukti tambahan



ABDUL AZIZ (kanan) menunjukkan mesej tular mengenai larangan berkunjung ke restoran mamak dan nasi kandar serta laporan polis yang dibuat berhubung perkara itu di Bukit Mertajam semalam.

yang boleh menyokong dakwaan mengatakan bahawa mesej yang ditularkan mengenai larangan

berkunjung ke restoran-restoran ini adalah palsu jika diperlukan," ujarnya.

AKHBAR : KOSMO

MUKA SURAT : 16

RUANGAN : NEGARA

62 premis kotor dikompaun

BESUT – Tiga premis makanan di daerah ini dan Setiu yang beroperasi dalam keadaan kotor diarah tutup oleh Jabatan Kesihatan Terengganu semalam.

Pengarah Kesihatan Terengganu, Dr. Azimi Yunus berkata, kesemua premis makanan berkenaan dikenakan tindakan penutupan operasi sehingga 14 hari mengikut Seksyen 11 Akta Makanan 1983 kerana gagal mencapai tahap minimum piawalan kebersihan ditetapkan.

Beliau berkata, seramai 64 anggota penguat kuasa pelbagai agensi telah memeriksa 54 premis makanan meliputi 34 restoran dan 20 gerai yang terdapat di kedua-dua daerah itu.

"Sebanyak 62 notis kompaun bernilai keseluruhan RM16,350 dikeluarkan pada operasi bersepadu yang dijalankan di premis makanan di daerah itu.

"Antara kesalahan yang dikenakan notis kompaun membabitkan pakaian pengendali makanan, tiada suntikan pelalian anti-tifoid dan memakai perhiasan diri sewaktu bekerja," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini semalam.

Azimi berkata, selain itu notis



PEGAWAI Jabatan Kesihatan Terengganu menampal notis penutupan di sebuah restoran yang didapati kotor di Besut semalam.

kompaun juga dikeluarkan terhadap mereka yang tidak menjalani latihan pengendali makanan dan gagal memastikan premis bersih.

Katanya, notis kompaun dikeluarkan mengikut Peraturan-Peraturan Kebersihan Makanan 2009.

"Pihak berkuasa tempatan iaitu Majlis Daerah Besut dan Majlis Daerah Setiu yang turut menyertai operasi turut mengeluarkan 16 kompaun berjumlah keseluruhan RM10,000 atas kesalahan gagal mematuhi syarat pelesenan," jelasnya.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
MUKA SURAT : 32
RUANGAN : KOMUNITI KITA

32 Komuniti Kita!

Kosmo! KHAMIS 10 SEPTEMBER 2020

Pembaca Kosmo! kini boleh berkongsi foto-foto aktiviti menarik untuk disiarkan dalam ruangan ini. Sila e-mel foto aktiviti bersama keterangan gambar yang disertakan dengan nama dan nombor telefon anda. E-melkan kepada komunitikosmo@mediamulla.com.my



AHMAD SAIDI (tengah) bergambar kenangan bersama petugas Jabatan Kesihatan Perak pada Program Pendidikan dan Kawalan Pencegahan Aedes di pasar awam Batu Gajah baru-baru ini.

Jabatan Kesihatan Perak turun padang hapus sarang nyamuk aedes

KEMPEN. Kira-kira 50 kakitangan Jabatan Kesihatan negeri turun padang pada Program Pendidikan dan Kawalan Pencegahan Aedes

di pasar awam Batu Gajah, Perak baru-baru ini.

Mengetuai program itu ialah Pengerusi Jawatankuasa

Kesihatan dan Sains negeri, Ahmad Saidi Mohamad Daud bersama Pengarah Kesihatan negeri, Datuk Dr. Ding Lay Ming.

Mereka menyampaikan cenderahati serta bahan promosi kepada orang ramai termasuk para peniaga di pasar berkenaan.

Orang ramai juga dinasihat agar memastikan kebersihan di kawasan masing-masing sebagai langkah pencegahan.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : LOKAL

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Khamis 10.09.2020 | Harian Metro

lokal

Cadangan PKPD di kawasan Kluster Sungai dan Telaga

Alor Setar: Kerajaan negeri mengemukakan cadangan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan (PKPD) Secara Pentadbiran dilaksanakan di kawasan jangkitan Covid-19 bagi Kluster Sungai dan Telaga.

Menteri Besar, Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor berkata, cadangan itu akan dibawa pada Mesyuarat Khas Jawatankuasa Keselamatan Negeri Covid-19 membabitkan Majlis Keselamatan Negara (MKN), Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri (JKN) dan beberapa agensi lain.

Katanya, ia berikutan hanya pelaksanaan PKPD Secara Pentadbiran berjaya



PEKERJA pembersihan menggunakan sanitizer sebelum memulakan tugas di Kompleks Pekan Rabu.

memberi kesan positif bagi mengekang penularan wabak itu seperti Kluster Si-

vagangga di Napoh dan Kluster Tawar di Amanjaya, Sungai Petani.



SUASANA di Pasar Nelayan Seberang Kota Kuala Kedah lantang.

Kuala Lumpur: Kes positif Covid-19 membabitkan petugas kesihatan Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) kebanyakannya berpunca daripada penularan dalam kalangan mereka

sendiri.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, ini menyumbang 53 peratus daripada keseluruhan kes yang membabitkan petugas

kesihatan.

"Ini bermakna lebih separuh daripada petugas kesihatan positif Covid-19 berjangkit daripada petugas kesihatan lain," katanya.

Menurutnya, jangkitan daripada komuniti sebanyak 22 peratus manakala jangkitan semasa pengurusan pesakit yang belum diketahui status Covid-19 pula sebanyak 17 peratus.

"Setakat ini, tiada petugas kesihatan KKM yang dijangkiti Covid-19 semasa pengurusan pesakit disahkan Covid-19 di wad Covid-19 atau di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU).

"Justeru amat penting bagi petugas kesihatan memastikan langkah pencegahan jangkitan Covid-19 diambil setiap masa terutama semasa bertugas," katanya.



ORANG ramai memakai pelitup muka ketika berjalan di hadapan Masjid Zahir berikutan penularan wabak COVID-19.

Pertambahan kes

KKM maklum peningkatan babit 4 kluster



Oleh Muhaamad Hafis Nawawi
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Kuala Lumpur

Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia mengumumkan terdapat pertambahan kes Covid-19 bagi

empat kluster membabitkan Kluster Sungai, Kluster Telaga, Kluster Tawar dan Kluster Benteng LD, semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, bagi Kluster Sungai, sebanyak 1,091 saringan dilakukan secara keseluruhan dengan Kedah seramai 1,056 orang disaring, 38 kes positif Covid-19 (13 kes baharu), 432 individu negatif dan 586 individu masih menunggu keputusan.

Menurutnya, di Pulau Pinang pula, 31 kes disaring, seorang individu negatif, 30 individu masih menunggu keputusan manakala di Perlis empat orang disaring, sa-

tu kes dikesan positif Covid-19 dan tiga individu masih menunggu keputusan.

"Bagi Kluster Telaga (jumlah saringan 4,584) di mana di Kedah 4,537 orang disaring, 11 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 (1 kes baharu), 4,399 individu negatif dan 127 individu masih menunggu keputusan.

"Di Pulau Pinang 47 orang disaring, 46 individu negatif dan satu individu masih menunggu keputusan," katanya dalam kenyataan media, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, bagi Kluster Tawar, jumlah saringan 18,233 apabila di Kedah 17,659 individu disaring, 68 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 (satu kes baharu)

dan 17,591 individu negatif.

"Di Pulau Pinang 563 orang disaring, 11 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 dan 552 individu negatif manakala di Perak semua 11 saringan negatif.

"Bagi Kluster Benteng LD, Sabah, jumlah saringan 2,349 iaitu Tawau 1,814 orang disaring, 43 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 (dua kes baharu), 625 individu negatif dan 1,146 individu masih menunggu keputusan," katanya.

Beliau berkata, bagi Kluster Benteng LD di Lahad Datu, 535 orang disaring, 87 kes dikesan positif Covid-19, 287 individu negatif dan 161 individu masih menunggu keputusan.

Kembali turun 2 angka

Kuala Lumpur: Kes Covid-19 kembali turun dua angka apabila mencatatkan 24 kes baharu sehingga 12 tengah hari, semalam.

Ia menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes Covid-19 di negara ini sebanyak 9,583 kes dengan 312 kes aktif.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, daripada 24 kes baharu, enam kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara membabitkan tiga warganegara dan tiga bukan warganegara.

Menurutnya, enam kes import itu dari Bangladesh (dua kes, masing-masing satu di Negeri Sembilan dan Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur); China (satu kes di Sabah); Indonesia

(satu kes di Sabah); Singapura (satu kes di Sarawak); dan Korea Selatan (satu kes di Selangor).

"Kes import yang membabitkan bukan warganegara ini sudah memasuki Malaysia sebelum pelaksanaan sekatan kemasukan yang berkuat kuasa 7 September lalu.

"Dua kes dari Bangladesh tiba di Malaysia pada 6 September dan disaring pada hari sama, manakala satu kes dari China tiba di Malaysia pada 5 September dan disaring pada 6 September," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, keputusan ujian saringan mereka dilaporkan positif Covid-19, semalam.

221 ingkar arahan PKPP ditahan polis

Kuala Lumpur: Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) menahan 221 individu kerana ingkar arahan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Pemulihan (PKPP), kelmarin.

Menteri Kanan (Kluster Keselamatan), Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob berkata, daripada jumlah itu 212 individu dikompakan dan lapan direman manakala seorang lagi dijamin.

Menurutnya, antara kesalahan ingkar arahan PKPP termasuk aktiviti kelab malam (118), gagal menyediakan peralatan atau merekod butiran pelanggan (34), penjarakan fizikal (43), tidak memakai pelitup muka (18), premis beroperasi lebih masa (5), tangkapan pendatang asing tanpa izin (2) dan gagal mematuhi

perintah kuarantin (1).

"Pasukan Khas Operasi Pematuhan diketuai PDRM juga membuat 61,462 pemeriksaan semalam bagi memantau dan menguatkuasa pematuhan prosedur operasi standard (SOP) PKPP," katanya.

Berkaitan kuarantin wajib, beliau berkata, sejak 24 Julai sehingga kelmarin, 25,688 individu pulang ke tanah air melalui pintu masuk sempadan antara-bangsa dan ditempatkan di 70 hotel, lapan Institut Latihan Awam (ILA) serta institut pengajian swasta di Kuala Lumpur, Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Pulau Pinang, Johor, Sarawak, Kelantan, Perak, Kedah, Perlis, Terengganu, Sabah serta Labuan.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 7

RUANGAN : LOKAL

Harian Metro | Khamis 10.09.2020

 @hmetromy  HarianMetro  @hmetromy  www.hmetro.com.my

7

lokal

Bimbang kes positif meningkat

Tinjauan dapati orang ramai setuju kerajaan laksana semula PKPD di kawasan zon merah



Oleh Sri Ayu Kartika Amri
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Kuala Lumpur

Peningkatan jumlah jangkitan Covid-19 sehingga 100 kes kelmarin menimbulkan kerisauan dalam kalangan masyarakat.

Tinjauan Harian Metro di ibu kota semalam mendapati orang ramai mematuhi prosedur operasi standard (SOP) dengan memakai pelitup muka dan menjaga penjarakan fizikal.

Namun, rata-rata yang ditemui bersetuju jika kerajaan melaksanakan semula Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan (PKPD) di kawasan zon merah.

Pelajar, Wan Nur Asyiqin Beren, 18, mengakui bimbang dengan peningkatan mendadak kes Covid-19.

"Terkejut dengan kenaikan kes semalam (kelmarin) dan saya sekarang hanya akan keluar (rumah) jika ada perkara penting."

"Saya harap semua orang turut peka dan mematuhi SOP memandangkan kes jangkitan Covid-19 masih tinggi," katanya.

Bagi Chandra Musami, 50, dia berpendapat larangan rentas negeri mampu mengurangkan pergerakan orang ramai, sekali gus mengawal penularan wabak itu.

Katanya, memandangkan kes jangkitan mencecah tiga angka kelmarin, dia kini bimbang



WAN Nur Asyiqin



CHANDRA

lebih ramai akan terdedah dengan wabak Covid-19.

"Saya bersetuju jika PKPD dilaksanakan, tetapi kita tahu ia akan menjejaskan aktiviti harian terutama bagi mereka yang berniaga dan bekerja."

"Oleh sebab itu, kita perlu patuh dan jangan bersikap sambil lewa dengan SOP yang ditetapkan kerajaan," katanya.

Kelmarin, negara kembali mencatatkan jangkitan baharu Covid-19 sebanyak 100 kes menjadikan jumlah kumulatif 9,559 jangkitan wabak itu.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah dilaporkan berkata, daripada 100 kes baharu yang dilaporkan, 85 kes adalah kes tempatan manakala baki 15 kes adalah kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara.



ORANG ramai mematuhi SOP dengan memakai pelitup muka sebagai langkah berjaga-jaga mengawal penularan wabak Covid-19 ketika tinjauan di Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

Jangkitan kembali
catat tiga digit
kelmarin

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 10

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

10

#JanganPutusAsa
#Malaysia

MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

KHAMIS 10 SEPTEMBER 2020 • SINAR HARIAN

24 kes baharu positif Covid-19 dikesan

Kes penularan tempatan membabitkan 16 rakyat tempatan dan dua warga asing

Oleh TUAN BUQHAIHAH
TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN

PUTRAJAYA

Selepas mencatatkan tiga digit kelmarin, kes harian positif Covid-19 menurun kepada 24 kes semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah dalam kenyataannya berkata, pertambahan kes itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif positif Covid-19 adalah sebanyak 9,583 kes.

"Jumlah kes aktif pula adalah sebanyak 312," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, daripada 24 kes baharu, 18 kes merupakan penularan dalam negara.

"Kes penularan dalam negara membabitkan 16 rakyat tempatan dan dua warga asing," katanya.

Mengulas lanjut, beliau berkata, sebanyak 16 kes positif Covid-19 dikesan di Kedah.

"Sebanyak 13 kes adalah daripada Kluster Sungai manakala Kluster Telaga, Tawar dan saringan bergejala di Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah masing-masing satu kes," katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, Kluster Benteng LD yang merekodkan 62 kes kelmarin hanya mencatatkan pertambahan dua kes semalam.

"Setakat ini, Kluster Benteng LD merekodkan 128 kes

positif daripada 2,010 individu yang telah disaring di Tawar dan Lahad Datu," katanya.

Menurutnya, seramai tujuh pesakit dirawat di unit rawatan rapi dan empat daripadanya memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

Kes kematian berkaitan Covid-19 kekal 128 kes selepas tiada kes baharu dilaporkan.

Sementara itu, tujuh pesakit Covid-19 telah pulih dan dibenarkan discaj.

"Jumlah kumulatif kes yang pulih sepenuhnya adalah 9,143 kes iaitu bersamaan 95.4 peratus jumlah keseluruhan kes," katanya.

Kelmarin, Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) merekodkan 100 kes positif Covid-19 yang melibatkan 62 daripadanya adalah Kluster Benteng LD.



DR NOOR HISHAM



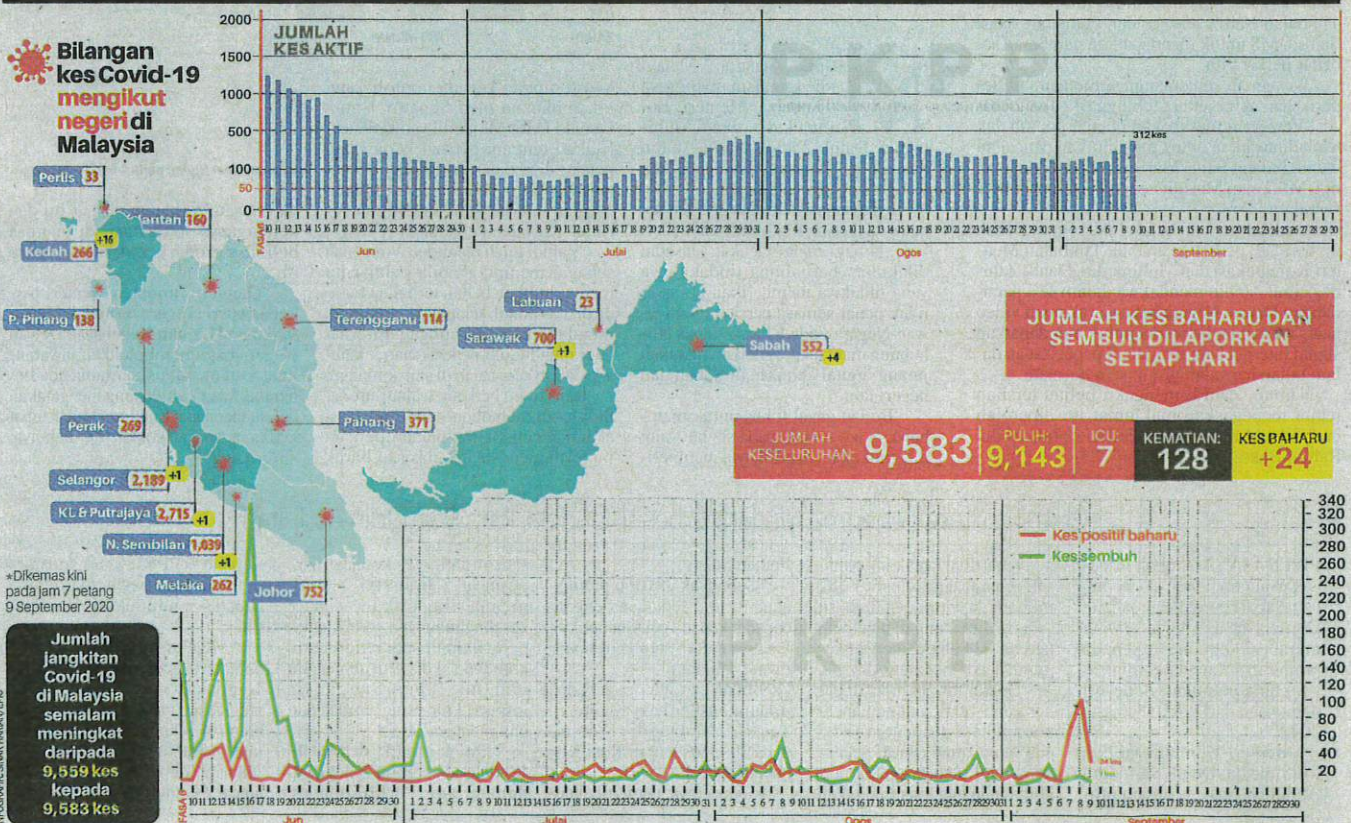
Elakkan sentuhan fizikal bagi mencegah jangkitan COVID-19

Amalkan penjarakan fizikal sekurang-kurangnya 1 meter antara satu sama lain



Cukup sekadar meletakkan tangan di dada dan tunduk hormat

SITUASI TERKINI KES COVID-19 DI MALAYSIA SETAKAT SEMALAM



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 11

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19



RM627.1 juta disalurkan kepada KKM setakat 28 Ogos perangi Covid-19

KUALA LUMPUR - Kementerian Kewangan menyalurkan sejumlah RM627.1 juta kepada Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) setakat 28 Ogos 2020 dalam usaha meningkatkan keupayaannya memerangi pandemik koronavirus (Covid-19).

Menteri Kewangan, Senator Tengku Datuk Seri Zafrul Tengku Abdul Aziz berkata, ia meningkat daripada RM515.0 juta yang disalurkan setakat minggu sebelumnya.

"Pembendungan pandemik Covid-19 adalah faktor

kritikal dalam pemulihan ekonomi," katanya dalam laporan Laksana ke-20 Pelaksanaan Pakej Rangsangan Ekonomi Prihatin Rakyat (Prihatin) dan Pelan Jana Semua Ekonomi Negara (Penjana) semalam.

Di bawah pakej rangsangan Prihatin, kerajaan memperuntukkan sebanyak RM1 bilion untuk pembendungan penularan pandemik tersebut bagi membiayai pembelian alat perubatan, peralatan perlindungan diri (PPE) dan keperluan makmal untuk saringan Covid-19. - Bernama

Kedah Medical Centre ditutup tiga hari

ALOR SETAR -

Kedah Medical Centre (KMC) menutup perkhidmatan pesakit luar dan dalam selama tiga hari bermula hari ini untuk kerja-kerja pembersihan dan sanitasi secara menyeluruh susulan pengesanan kes Covid-19 di hospital berkenaan.

Pengarah Perubatan KMC, Datuk Dr Kamaruzzaman Ali berkata, hanya perkhidmatan Kemalangan dan Kecemasan (A&E) akan dibuka untuk memenuhi kes kecemasan.

Menurutnya, keputusan itu dicapai selepas pertemuan pihaknya dengan pihak berku-



DR KAMARUZZAMAN

asa kesihatan negeri.

"Penutupan sementara hospital akan membolehkan kami menjalankan pembersihan menyeluruh di hospital ini.

"Pesakit yang memerlukan ra-

watan lanjut akan dirujuk ke Hospital Pakar KPJ Pulau Pinang atau Hospital Pakar KPJ Perlis," katanya dalam kenyataan di sini semalam.

Dr Kamaruzzaman berkata, setakat semalam, seramai 18 kakitangan hospital itu dan tujuh ahli keluarga mereka dikenal pasti positif Covid-19, manakala sejumlah 619 pekerja telah diperiksa.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

TICKING TIME BOMB

COMMUNITY TRANSMISSION NOW A REAL DANGER

Expert calls for more awareness efforts as he fears asymptomatic people are flaring up clusters in Kedah

VEENA BABULAL
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THE rise of the Sungai Cluster in Kedah, Penang and Perlis has been described as a "ticking time bomb" in the northern region, with experts calling for prompt action and out-of-the-box solutions by the authorities.

Virologist Dr Sazaly Abu Bakar said the scientific community's longstanding fear for Kedah due to its past record with the virus (Sivagangga cluster) was now compounded by the belief that there are a number of asymptomatic people who are responsible for flaring up clusters of infections.

"We don't have a handle on Kedah yet, and won't until there is extensive testing. The entire population of the state needs to be tested to put a quick end to these clusters," he said, when contacted by *New Straits Times* yesterday.

He said in the meantime, health authorities had to go to the ground to explain the dangers of breaking standard operating procedures (SOPs).

Sazaly said this was crucial for Kedah as the state seemed to be the epicentre of several clusters (other than Penang and Perlis), and several serious incidents of quarantine violation had been

detected during the recent Targeted Enhanced Movement Control Order (TEMCO).

"Disseminating messages has to be done aggressively. Statements cannot be just made from Putrajaya, and elected representatives also have to step up.

"People need to understand why they need to stay home. Most people think the disease affects mainly people in the Klang Valley, and it would not infect them as they lead simple lives.

"This is why you have people breaking TEMCO to go shopping in Perlis or hold kenduri during MCO."

"Failure in communicating the dangers of the disease and the breaking of SOPs by these people are the glaring shortcomings in the Health Ministry's messaging. And some don't even have smartphones, so how do social media messages go through?"

Sazaly, the director of Universiti Malaya's Tropical Infectious Diseases Research and Education Centre, said the country's relatively low mortality rates had exacerbated this laxity in SOPs adherence, making them believe that at worst, it would be like a regular bout of dengue.



Dr Sazaly Abu Bakar

He said the fact that the Sungai Cluster flared up due to contact with a patient, while it was still unknown how the patient was infected in the first place, meant that community transmission was now on the cards.

"With new clusters popping up, we are dealing with a scary situation when we consider how people are now going on holidays in the country.

"When Klang Valley had water cuts recently, many people took to the road for trips. Some went north and when they went to Langkawi, they didn't visit just one place.

"It's a ticking time bomb if we



are not careful. This could be the source of our third or fourth wave."

Sazaly said the Health Ministry would possibly impose TEMCO if the infection rates in certain areas rose further. He, however, said that it would wait a week to view the progress of figures.

Dr Chee Hui Yee, a virologist at Universiti Putra Malaysia, said it was more likely that the Sungai Cluster rose from lax observation of SOPs, rather than the existence of a "super-spreader" virus.

"Even in our teaching hospital, there are patients not wearing masks or staff not wearing masks properly.

"I have reprimanded a few when I see them. The same logic applies for the prisons and detention centres in Sabah.

"So, whether there are super-spreader viruses in the mix, it's immaterial.

"We need to impose TEMCO in affected areas of the Sungai cluster immediately," she said, adding that the same had to be done to curb the situation in Benteng and Lahad Datu in Sabah.

On Tuesday, Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the Covid-19 infectivity rate, or R-naught (R0) in Malaysia, which currently stood at 1.72, had exceeded the critical mark of 1.6. This was a drastic change from the previous infectivity rate of 0.72.

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NATION

Covid-19: Current situation globally

(As at 7pm Sept 9, 2020)

Malaysia

New cases

24

Total cases

9,583

Total deaths

128

Total recovered

9,143

Asean+	Philippines	Indonesia	China	Japan	Singapore	S. Korea	Thailand	Myanmar	Vietnam	Cambodia	Brunei	Laos
Confirmed cases	245,143	203,342	85,146	72,234	57,166	21,588	3,447	1,807	1,054	274	145	22
Deaths	3,986	8,336	4,634	1,377	27	344	58	12	35	0	3	0
Recovered	185,543	145,200	80,347	63,282	56,461	17,023	3,286	460	868	273	139	21
Global Top 10	US	India	Brazil	Russia	Peru	Colombia	Mexico	South Africa	Spain	Argentina		
Confirmed cases	6,514,376	4,374,314	4,165,124	1,041,007	696,190	679,513	642,860	640,441	534,513	500,034		
Deaths	194,037	73,953	127,517	18,135	30,123	21,817	68,484	15,086	29,594	10,405		
Recovered	3,797,173	3,398,844	3,397,234	856,458	529,751	541,462	451,159	567,729	N/A	366,590		

'LD cluster needed more tests'

Experts: High risk institutions should have proper routine screeningBy ASHLEY TANG
ashleytang@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Proper routine screening for Covid-19 would have stopped the case spike at the Lahad Datu police headquarters and Tawau prison, say health experts.

Universiti Putra Malaysia medical epidemiologist and biostatistician Assoc Prof Dr Malina Osman believed that the standard operating procedure (SOP) was compromised.

"Institutions that handle high-risk groups should have proper routine screening, particularly among staff who are at risk."

"Continuous surveillance of infection among staff would have enhanced compliance and helped to curb the outbreak earlier."

The first cases from the Benteng Lahad Datu (LD) cluster were detected

after the screening of detainees at the Lahad Datu police lock-up.

Over 100 cases were detected from the cluster and the virus had spread to the Tawau prison some 150km away after detainees with a travel history to Lahad Datu infected other inmates there.

Universiti Malaysia virologist Prof Dr Sazaly Abu Bakar opined that random testing should be in place if the government was not able to test everyone due to the high costs involved.

"This is especially for those who are about to be detained - where you do not know their origins and also all undocumented migrants," he added.

Dr Sazaly noted that as the government expected Malaysians to adhere to the SOP, the same should apply to those in the detention centres and prisons.

They did not observe physical distancing measures and the SOP. Now they are paying the price.

Prof Dr Sazaly Abu Bakar

"The key is that it is a confined space and they are all crammed in one place. They should have known."

"They did not observe physical distancing measures and the SOP. Now they are paying the price," he said.

Universiti Malaysia epidemiologist

Prof Dr Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud said as physical distancing was very hard to do in detention centres, infection could spread quickly when conditions were ripe.

He also believed that most migrant workers in the country were not tested.

"We have tested less than 10% of our population. So, that means we are unsure of the status of the remaining 90%."

"We cannot test the whole country as it is very impractical to do so," he said, adding that as many migrants also came from economically-disadvantaged backgrounds, messages about SOP and physical distancing might not reach them.

On the low number of deaths in the country, Dr Sazaly said that it was due to the age of the patients who were much younger and early detection.

Half of healthcare workers infected by colleagues

PUTRAJAYA: About 53% of the Covid-19 cases among healthcare workers have been infected by their own colleagues, says Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah.

In voicing his concerns, the Health director-general said cases were rising among frontliners in the public and private sectors.

Dr Noor Hisham said the situation was made worse by the Sungai cluster in Kedah and Perlis, centred on a private medical centre with healthcare workers making up the majority of the cases.

"This is worrying because frontliners play a role as the backbone of the country's health system."

"Our probe showed over half of the cases among healthcare workers come from among themselves."

"About 22% of the cases are community infections while 17% are from managing Covid-19 patients without confirmed statuses."

"But none of the cases involving the ministry's healthcare workers is due to managing positive Covid-19 patients at wards or intensive care units," he said in a statement.

The Sungai cluster saw an additional 13 cases yesterday, bringing the total to 39.

The index case, a 39-year-old healthcare worker at a private medical centre, tested positive on Sept 5.

On Aug 30, she developed symptoms but did not immediately seek prompt medical treatment, which saw the disease spread rapidly among her colleagues and their family members.

Dr Noor Hisham said it was crucial for healthcare workers to adopt preventive measures, at work and also practise the new norms while at home or public places.

"Physical distancing at the workplace must be applied at all times, be it among colleagues or while treating patients."

"Cleanliness of communal spaces such as nurse's counters, food pantries, praying areas and staff toilets is also a must," he said.

Dr Noor Hisham said three-ply surgical masks and personal protective equipment must be worn during clinical procedures and while dealing with Covid-19 patients.

He said that the 13 infections in the Sungai cluster - all in Kedah - were among the 24 new cases reported.

There were also three other cases in Kedah, including one each from the Tawar and Telaga clusters.

The other case was detected from a Covid-19 test on those with symptoms at Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah in Alor Setar.

There are also six imported cases from Bangladesh (two), China, Indonesia, South Korea and Singapore.



Not the usual test: Students waiting to be screened for Covid-19 at Hospital Alor Setar (Hospital Lama) at Lebuhraya Darulaman.

Kedah mulls extra measures to contain virus spread

By R. SEKARAN
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ALOR SETAR: The state government has urged the public to remain vigilant and continue to take preventive health measures in light of the rise in Covid-19 cases in the state.

Menteri Besar Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor said about 200 hospital staff and those in close contact at the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital have been quarantined and aid has been given to affected victims.

"The state health department screened more than 600 people connected to the Sungai and Telaga

clusters," he said yesterday.

Kedah health committee chairman Datuk Dr Mohd Hayati Othman said the state government would recommend several extra measures to the Health Ministry to contain the spread of the virus.

"While we understand that the ultimate decision lies with the ministry, we are nevertheless of the opinion that every extra measure would help," he said.

Kedah is seeing a surge in Covid-19 cases with 16 new cases reported yesterday, mainly from the Sungai cluster.

The cluster, which originated from a 39-year-old healthcare work-

er at a private medical centre, saw more hospital staff and their family members being infected with the virus.

Kedah Medical Centre (KMC) has been closed from yesterday until Sept 11 for sanitisation.

KMC medical director Datuk Dr Kamaruzzaman Ali said the three-day closure would allow time for them to conduct thorough cleaning.

"The hospital's accident and emergency services will remain open to cater to casualty/emergency cases."

"Patients who require further treatment will be referred to KPJ

Penang or KPJ Perlis Specialist Hospitals," he said in a statement.

Dr Kamaruzzaman said that a total of 18 staff members of KMC and seven of their family members had been identified as Covid-19 positive.

As of Tuesday, all KMC's 619 employees including consultants had been screened.

Dr Kamaruzzaman said environmental swabs would be conducted in 50 areas of the hospital and all areas visited by the staff and patients had been promptly disinfected in accordance to the stringent infection control guidelines by the Health Ministry.

AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

theSUN ON THURSDAY | SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 3

NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

theSun says ...

Double jeopardy of detention and exposure to Covid-19 infection

BY EDDIE HOO

THE spike in the number of detected positive Covid-19 cases mainly due to the Lahat Datu cluster has brought the spotlight on lock-ups.

Questions have been raised on the ratio of detainees to the holding cells at the Lahat Datu police headquarters. The cluster was traced to two undocumented migrants who were held there on Aug 24. Within a fortnight, the number of infections from there shot up to 50.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr

Noor Hisham Abdullah pointed to the cramped and crowded condition at the lock-up quarters.

The Lahat Datu cluster is not the first to emerge from detention centres. There were 650 infections and one death from the Bukit Jalil Detention Depot, 72 from Sepang, 67 from Semenyih and two from Putrajaya.

When theSun spoke to the Prisons Department in early April, it said new prison inmates in the country would be quarantined in a separate cell as a preventive

measure against the spread of Covid-19 to other prisoners and staff members.

Obviously, this practice was not put in place in the affected detention centres. All detention facilities, including police lock-ups, should start to quarantine and test new arrivals before they are introduced to the rest of the detainee population.

There is also a need to manage the number of detainees at all the centres to prevent overcrowding. And this applies to prisons as well.

According to Prisons Department

deputy director-general (security and correctional) Datuk Alzafray Mohamed Alnassif Mohamed Adahan, there are about 68,000 prison inmates currently housed in 42 prisons nationwide.

This number exceeds the optimal capacity of 52,000.

Charles Hector of Malaysians Against Death Penalty and Torture (Madpet) pointed out that about 25% of them are remand pre-trial prisoners.

His call for the release of a majority of these pre-conviction prisoners on

reduced bail or personal bond should be considered, especially for those who have not been charged with committing serious crime against another person.

It is timely that the Inspector-General of Police Tan Sri Abdul Hamid Bador has announced that the standard operating procedure (SOP) in dealing with illegal migrants has been enhanced.

We cannot risk having our lock-up clusters spiralling out of control to the scale of Singapore's foreign worker dormitories.

How long will your cash reserves last?

► Not more than six months – **78.2%**

► Between three to six months – **41.3%**

► Less than three months – **36.9%**

► Between seven and 12 months – **14.5%**

► More than 12 months – **7.4%**

Next plan of action once moratorium ends and reserves deplete:

► Take up a new business loan – **36.9%**

► Request for restructure of loans/reschedule from lender – **33.7%**

► Draw down on credit lines – **22%**

► Draw down on personal savings/funds and/or funds from family – **21.1%**

► Close shop/file for bankruptcy – **5.2%**

► No plan/use retained earnings to sustain – **32.9%**



Strict compliance with SOP the way to go

► Failure to observe standard operating procedure reason for latest spike in Covid-19 cases

BY RAJVINDER SINGH
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PETALING JAYA: Strict compliance with the standard operating procedure (SOP) remains the only way to stem the spread of Covid-19.

Measures such as social distancing, frequent hand washing and wearing of face masks must be observed particularly in enclosed areas such as prisons, detention centres and lock-ups, Malaysian Medical Association president Dr N. Ganabaskaran said yesterday.

He said non-compliance with the SOP was the single biggest contributor to the sudden increase in the number of new cases daily.

On Monday, there were 62 new cases, up from only six - three of which were locally transmitted infections - the day before. The number rose to 100 on Tuesday.

Most of the new cases have been detected in detention centres.

He cited the case of the Semenyih Immigration Detention Centre where a second cluster was discovered last

Saturday.

New clusters have also been discovered in a detention centre in Semporna, a police lock-up in Lahat Datu and a prison in Tawau.

Ganabaskaran told theSun that a loosening of enforcement is also a contributory factor.

"It is disappointing to see that all these new cases originate from detention centres. All the hard work by our frontliners to flatten the curve will go to waste," he said.

"The SOP must be adhered to religiously."

Cramped detention centres, lock-ups and prisons are an accident waiting to happen," he said.

Ganabaskaran said current measures have been effective in keep the number of new infections low but timely adjustments and tightening of the rules are still necessary.

He said the authorities and the people must not let their guard down and politicians should lead by example.

He said the movements of those on home quarantine should also be closely monitored.

"There must be some

accountability," he added.

"Over-reliance on surveillance wristbands won't help. Families of returnees must be made aware of the implications of flouting the quarantine."

He said the increasing number of SOP violators despite stiffer penalties was a cause for concern.

Pantai Hospital Kuala Lumpur respiratory physician Dr Helmy Haja Mydin said that while it is better to conduct tests on more people, there is also the question of resources.

"For now, it is better to conduct screening in areas that have already reported high numbers of infections," he said.

This also applied to places such as old folks homes or nursing homes where close contacts are frequent, he said, pointing out that elderly people are also more vulnerable.

Helmy also raised the possibility that the rise in infections is caused by those who have slipped through the net.

He stressed that there should be better communication "the lack of which has caused a lot of dissatisfaction and distress".

Leaders must lead by example and abide by orders to quarantine if they have travelled abroad, he added.

"It boils down to the messaging and communication - we can do it better."



24 new coronavirus cases

PETALING JAYA: Twenty four new Covid-19 cases raised the national tally yesterday to 9,583.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said in a media statement that 18 are local transmissions involving 16 Malaysians and two foreigners, and the rest are imported cases.

Of the local transmissions, 16

were detected in Kedah and two in Sabah.

"Out of the 18 cases, 13 are from the Sungai cluster, one from the Telaga cluster, one from the Tawar cluster, one during screening at the Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital, while two are from the Benteng LD cluster in Sabah," he said.