

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL



Pegawai kesihatan memakai pakaian pelindung diri (PPE) sebelum melakukan saringan COVID-19 di Hospital Alor Setar, semalam.

(Foto BERNAMA)

31 kes positif baharu dilaporkan

Putrajaya: Sabah mencatatkan kes baharu tertinggi dua hari berturut-turut apabila 25 kes dilaporkan semalam termasuk 17 kes yang dikesan dalam Kluster Benteng Lahad Datu (LD).

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata jumlah keseluruhan kes baharu yang dikesan sehingga jam 12 tengah hari semalam ialah 31 kes.

"Selain daripada 17 kes dalam Kluster Benteng LD, masing-masing satu kes dikesan ketika kes saringan warga emas di Klinik Kesihatan Merotai; saringan pesakit Jangkitan Pernafasan Akut Teruk (SARI) di Hospital Lahad Datu; kes saringan prapembedahan di Hospital Kudat dan kes saringan rujukan ke Hospital Tawau.

"Selain itu, satu kes dikesan dalam saringan kontak rapat bagi kes ke-9,454. Beliau ialah anak kepada kes ke-9,454 dan satu kes saringan tahanan di Ibu Pejabat



Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah

Polis Daerah (IPD) Kudat," katanya dalam kenyataan di sini, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, pihaknya sudah menjalankan saringan terhadap 5,402 individu dalam Kluster Benteng LD yang kini sudah menjangkiti 420 individu.

Selain di Sabah, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, empat lagi kes baharu COVID-19 dikesan dalam Kluster Bunga di Port Dickson yang membabitkan kru kapal, ma-

nakala satu lagi kes dikesan dalam Kluster Sungai di Kedah.

Pertambahan kes baharu itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes COVID-19 di negara ini sebanyak 9,946 kes dengan jumlah kes aktif 615 kes.

"Sehingga kini seramai 11 individu dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) dan lima daripadanya memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," katanya.

Tiga kes import yang mendapat jangkitan dari luar negara dikesan membabitkan seorang warga asing dan dua rakyat tempatan yang baru pulang dari Indonesia.

Seramai tujuh pesakit sembuh dan dibenarkan pulang, menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes pulih di negara ini sebanyak 9,203 kes atau 92.53 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes.

Tiada kes kematian dicatatkan semalam menjadikan jumlahnya kekal 128 atau 1.29 peratus daripada keseluruhan kes.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 11

RUANGAN : LOKAL



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Selepas beberapa hari menunjukkan angka mengusarkan, jangkitan baharu kes Covid-19 dalam negara menurun kepada 31 kes semalam berbanding 47 kes kelmarin dan 58 kes Sabtu lalu.

Ini menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes keseluruhan penularan wabak itu sebanyak 9,946 kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, daripada 31 kes baharu, tiga kes adalah kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara membabitkan dua warga Malaysia dan seorang warga Indonesia yang memasuki Malaysia pada 31 Ogos lalu.

"Daripada 28 kes penularan dalam negara, 19 kes



ANGGOTA pasukan keselamatan membuat rondaan pematuhan SOP Covid-19 di Klang, semalam.

31 kes baharu

Angka jangkitan menyaksikan penurunan sejak tiga hari lalu

membabitkan warga Malaysia dan sembilan kes dalam kalangan bukan warganegara," katanya dalam satu kenyataan berhubung kes Covid-19, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, penularan dalam negara membabitkan 23 kes di Sabah iaitu 17 daripada Kluster Benteng LD, masing-masing satu kes saringan warga emas di Klinik Kesihatan Merotai, saringan *Severe Acute Respiratory Infection*

(SARI) di Hospital Lahad Datu, pra pembedahan di Hospital Queen Kudat, rujukan ke Hospital Tawau, kontak rapat bagi kes ke-9454 dan tahanan di Ibu Pejabat Polis Daerah (IPD) Kudat.

"Selain itu, empat kes membabitkan Kluster Bunga di Negeri Sembilan dan satu kes Kluster Sungai di Kedah," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, daripada keseluruhan jumlah kumu-

latif Covid-19 di Malaysia, kes aktif dan kebolehjangkitan sebanyak 615 kes manakala tujuh pesakit dibenarkan keluar wad.

"Sehingga kini, 11 kes positif Covid-19 yang sedang dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) dan lima daripadanya memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

"Tiada pertambahan kes kematian berkaitan Covid-19 dilaporkan semalam, justeru jumlah kumulatif kes kematian dalam negara kekal 128 kes atau 1.29 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes," katanya.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
 MUKA SURAT : 4
 RUANGAN : NEGARA

4

Negara!



Covid-19 #kitamestimenang

Kosmo! SELASA 15 SEPTEMBER 2020

Kluster Benteng LD catat jumlah kes terbanyak

3 kluster catat pertambahan

Oleh SITI A'ISYAH SUKAIMI

PUTRAJAYA – Wabak Covid-19 merekodkan 31 kes baharu dengan sebahagian besar disumbang daripada pertambahan kes di Kluster Benteng LD di Sabah, Kluster Bunga di Negeri Sembilan dan Kluster Sungai di Kedah.

Daripada jumlah kes tersebut, 28 kes membabitkan penularan tempatan, manakala tiga kes import dari Indonesia.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, Kluster Benteng LD merekodkan jumlah kes baharu terbanyak berbanding kluster lain semalam yang turut membabitkan seorang kanak-kanak lelaki berusia lima tahun.

"Kes baharu ini menjadikan jumlah kes Covid-19 dalam kluster tersebut sebanyak 420.

"Daripada jumlah itu, 185 adalah warga tempatan, manakala 235 adalah warga asing membabitkan Filipina (153 kes) dan Indonesia (82 kes)," katanya di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata, enam kes lain di Sabah adalah saringan berbeza yang antara lain melibatkan saringan warga emas di Klinik



PETUGAS kesihatan sedang menjalani ujian saringan kepada seorang penduduk di Hospital Alor Setar semalam.

Kesihatan Merotai, kes saringan jangkitan pernafasan akut teruk di Hospital Lahad Datu dan kes saringan prapembedahan yang dimasukkan ke Hospital Kudat.

"Selain itu, ia membabitkan

kes saringan rujukan di Hospital Tawau, kes saringan kontak rapat anak kepada kes ke-9,454 dan kes saringan tahanan di Ibu Pejabat Polis Daerah Kudat," katanya.

Berhubung Kluster Bunga,

Noor Hisham berkata, terdapat pertambahan empat kes di kawasan melalui persampelan kedua bagi sejumlah 22 kru kapal yang masih berada di atas kapal yang berlabuh di Port Dickson.

Angka Terkini Kes Covid-19 Di Malaysia sehingga semalam

	Jumlah
• Kes baharu	31
Import: 3 Tempatan: 28	
• Pulih	7
• Kematian	0
• Masih dirawat	615
• Jumlah kes sembuh	9,203
• Jumlah Kematian	128
Jumlah kes keseluruhan	9,946

"Kes baharu ini membabitkan tiga lelaki warga Malaysia berusia 24, 29 dan 31 tahun serta seorang lelaki warga asing berusia 40 tahun," ujarnya.

Jelasnya, bagi kes Kluster Sungai, satu kes baharu membabitkan seorang lelaki warga Malaysia berusia 51 tahun dilaporkan menjadikan sebanyak 58 kes positif dalam kluster tersebut.

Katanya, tiga kes import pula dari Indonesia dengan satu kes melibatkan warga Indonesia yang masuk ke Malaysia pada 31 Ogos lalu.

"Sebanyak 11 kes positif sedang dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi," jelasnya.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 14

RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19



MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

SELASA 15 SEPTEMBER 2020 • SINAR HARIAN

Kes Kluster Benteng LD terus meningkat

Sebanyak 17 kes dikesan melibatkan sembilan warga tempatan dan lapan warga asing

Oleh TUAN BUQHAIRAH TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN

KUALA LUMPUR

Kluster Benteng LD terus mencatatkan peningkatan apabila 17 kes positif Covid-19 dikesan semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah dalam kenyataannya berkata, kes baharu itu melibatkan sembilan warga tempatan dan lapan warga asing.

Beliau berkata, jumlah keseluruhan kes positif Covid-19 ialah 420 membabitkan 185 rakyat tempatan dan 235 warga asing.

"Sehingga jam 12 tengah hari ini (semalam), seramai 5,402 individu telah disaring dan daripada jumlah itu, 1,822 individu negatif manakala 3,160 masih menunggu keputusan," katanya.

Menurutnya, selain Kluster Benteng LD, Sabah yang sedang menghadapi Pilihan Raya Negeri (PRN) turut merekodkan lima lagi kes baharu.

"Masing-masing satu kes dikesan dalam saringan warga emas di Klinik Kesihatan Merotai, kes saringan Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) di Hospital Lahad Datu, kes saringan pra pembedahan di

Hospital Queen Kudat, saringan rujukan ke Hospital Tawau dan saringan kontak rapat bagi kes ke-9454 serta kes saringan tahanan di Ibu Pejabat Polis Daerah (IPD) Kudat," katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, kes melibatkan kapal yang berlabuh iaitu Kluster Bunga turut mencatatkan peningkatan dengan empat kes baharu direkodkan.

"Empat kes baharu dilaporkan dalam kluster ini melalui persampelan kedua bagi sejumlah 22 krew kapal yang masih berada di atas kapal yang berlabuh di Port Dickson," katanya.

Sehingga kini, 10 kes positif Covid-19 dikesan daripada Kluster Bunga.

Sementara itu, satu kes baharu positif Covid-19 dikesan daripada Kluster Sungai.

"Setakat ini 58 kes melibatkan

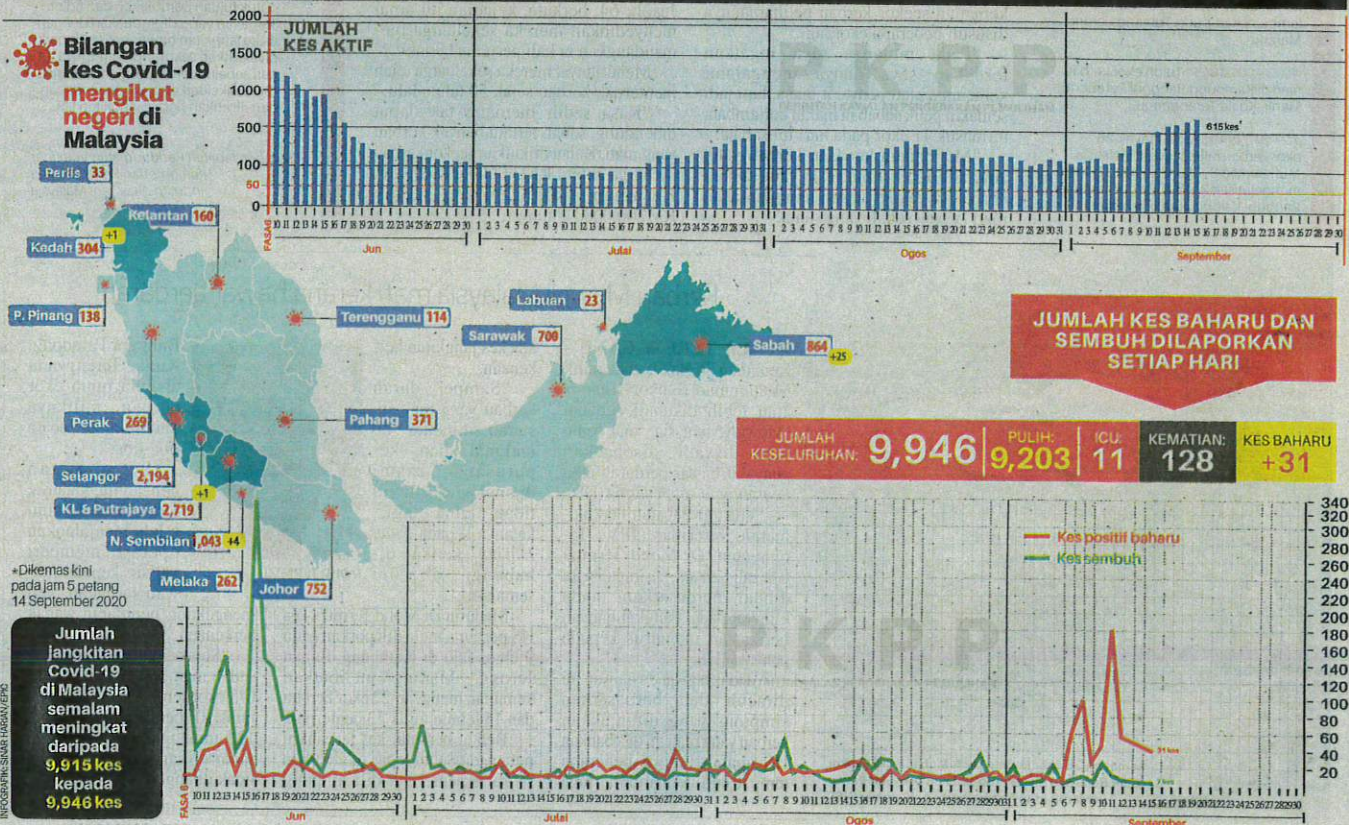


Kedah, Pulau Pinang dan Perlis disahkan positif Covid-19," katanya.

Tambahnya, seramai 16,775 individu telah disaring dengan 13,851 negatif dan 2,731 masih menunggu keputusan.

Noor Hisham turut memberitahu, jumlah penularan dalam negara ialah 28 kes selain turut merekodkan tiga kes import yang mendapat jangkitan daripada Indonesia.

SITUASI TERKINI KES COVID-19 DI MALAYSIA SETAKAT SEMALAM



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NATION

4 Nation

THE STAR, TUESDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2020

Most new cases recorded in Sabah again

PETALING JAYA: Sabah recorded the highest local transmission of Covid-19 with 23 cases, from a total of 31 cases yesterday.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said 17 cases were linked to the Benteng LD cluster while eight of them were foreigners.

"The cluster originated from the Lahad Datu district police lockup and spread to the Tawau prison in Sabah. From this cluster, 16 of the new cases happened in Tawau while another took place in Lahad Datu.

"Four new cases were recorded in Negri Sembilan's Bunga cluster involving crew members of a ship. One is a foreigner.

"The Sungai cluster in Kedah also recorded a new case," he said yesterday.

The Sungai cluster originated from a healthcare worker of a private medical centre in Kedah.

Of all the local transmission cases, 19 of them are Malaysians. Dr Noor Hisham said there were three imported cases, bringing the total cases in Malaysia to 9,946.

"The imported cases involved two Malaysians who returned from Indonesia and an Indonesian who entered Malaysia on Aug 31.

Covid-19
Road to
recovery



"The patient was admitted to the Sungai Buloh Hospital on the same day for showing symptoms. The second sample test came back positive on Sept 3," he said.

At present, there are 615 active cases in the country.

There were seven recoveries yesterday, bringing the total number of cases to 9,203 or at a rate of 92.5%. Eleven patients are still being treated in the intensive care unit and five of them require ventilator support.

There are no new fatalities, with the death toll remaining at 128.

Dr Noor Hisham advised residents in the district of Kota Setar in Kedah that was placed under an enhanced movement control order (MCO) until Sept 23 to stay home.

"The screening process is going well and there has been good cooperation from the local folk.

"The cooperation of all residents is needed. Stay home and only leave the house for necessary matters.

Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah

"The cooperation of all residents is needed. Stay at home and only leave the house for necessary matters," he said.

Meanwhile, in Putrajaya, violators of the enhanced MCO and gamblers betting on cockfights were among 763 people who were arrested for breaching the MCO.

Senior Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob said that 12 people were nabbed for not adhering to the enhanced MCO while 10 were caught at a cockfighting event on Sunday.

"Police also arrested 608 individuals for pub and nightclub activities which remain

prohibited under the recovery MCO," he said yesterday.

Among other offences were failure to observe physical distancing (63), not putting on face masks (22) and attending private parties (27).

On Ops Benteng, Ismail Sabri said that police arrested 71 illegal immigrants, three tekong and a human trafficker on Sunday.

Ten of the undocumented illegals were arrested in Bandar Penawar in Johor for failure to produce valid documents.

The minister also said that the task force monitoring standard operating procedure compliance checked 57,795 premises nationwide.

This included checks on supermarkets, factories, government buildings, banks and transport terminals.

On mandatory quarantine, Ismail Sabri said that there were currently 10,359 individuals being quarantined at designated stations.

He said the Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry, which monitors supply and price of 12 essential goods, reported that there was sufficient supply and that the goods were easily available to consumers.

AKHBAR : UTUSAN MALAYSIA

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : DALAM NEGERI

Kluster Benteng: Kes positif Covid-19 meningkat

PUTRAJAYA: Kluster Benteng di Sabah terus menyaksikan peningkatan apabila 17 kes baharu positif Covid-19 dilaporkan semalam melibatkan 16 kes di Tawau dan satu kes di Lahad Datu.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, sebanyak 5,402 individu menjalani ujian saringan melibatkan 913 banduan, 987 kakitangan Ibu Pejabat Daerah (IPD) Lahad Datu dan Penjara Tawau, 1,234 ahli keluarga kakitangan dan banduan, 881 pegawai agensi kerajaan serta 1,387 kontak sosial.

“Daripada 17 kes di Kluster Benteng, enam kes melibatkan bukan warganegara iaitu masing-masing satu kes di Klinik Kesihatan Merotai; Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) di Hospital Lahad Datu; prapembedahan dan kes dimasukkan ke Hospital Kudat; kes saringan rujukan ke Hospital Tawau; kontak rapat bagi kes ke-9,454 iaitu merupakan anak kepada kes ke-9,454 serta kes saringan tahanan di IPD Kudat,” katanya dalam kenyataan mengenai perkembangan terkini kes Covid-19 di sini semalam.

Menurut beliau, 31 kes baharu dilaporkan hari ini yang turut melibatkan empat kes bagi Kluster Bunga di Negeri Sembilan dan satu kes di Kluster Sungai, Kedah.

“Daripada 31 kes baharu itu, tiga kes adalah kes import yang mendapat jangkitan di luar negara manakala 28 kes penularan dalam negara,” jelas beliau.

Bagi Kluster Bunga, empat kes baharu dilaporkan dalam kluster itu melalui persampelan kedua bagi sejumlah 22 kru kapal yang masih berada di atas kapal yang berlabuh di Port Dickson.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 2-3

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION



Health Ministry personnel screening people who attended Friday prayers last week at Masjid Alor Merah, Masjid Suka Menanti and Masjid Sultanah Bahiyah for Covid-19 at the Alor Star Hospital on Sunday.

5,402 PEOPLE SCREENED

SABAH SEES VIRUS SPIKE WITH 25 CASES

17 positive cases came from Benteng LD cluster, 8 of which are foreigners, says Health D-G

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SABAH yesterday recorded the highest number of new Covid-19 cases nationwide with 25, of which 17 were from the Benteng LD cluster.

Health director-general Tan Sri

Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said that in total, 31 new cases were recorded yesterday, with 28 local transmissions and three imported cases.

From the 28 local transmissions, 19 cases involved Malaysians while nine were foreigners.

"Under the Benteng LD cluster in Sabah, 17 Covid-19 positive cases were recorded, eight of which involved foreigners.

"One case involved a senior citizen during a screening at the Merotal health clinic.

"A person undergoing Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) screening at the Lahad Datu Hospital tested positive. Another positive case was found during a pre-surgical screening at

a hospital in Kudat while another case involved a referral case at the Tawau Hospital.

"A close contact case was also recorded, involving the son of case 9454. Another case, meanwhile, was detected at the Kudat district police headquarters involving a detainee," he said in a statement.

To date, 5,402 individuals have been screened from the Benteng LD cluster.

Dr Noor Hisham said Negri Sembilan registered four positive cases from the Bunga cluster while Kedah recorded one case from the Sungai cluster.

To date, 59 individuals have been screened from the Bunga cluster, which originated from the crew of a ship currently

docked in Port Dickson.

The four new cases, he said, were detected during the second sampling from 22 crew members. This brings the total number of cases from the cluster to 10.

Meanwhile, Dr Noor Hisham said the three new imported cases hailed from Indonesia. Two involved Malaysians in Sabah who returned from Indonesia, while the remaining one involved an Indonesian in Kuala Lumpur who entered Malaysia on Aug 31.

"The Indonesian was hospitalised at the Sungai Buloh Hospital after displaying symptoms and subsequently tested positive during the second sampling on Sept 13," he said.

Dr Noor Hisham said the 31 new cases nationwide brings the cumulative cases to 9,946, and active Covid-19 cases to 615.

He said 11 Covid-19 patients were warded in Intensive Care Units while five patients require breathing assistance.

No new fatalities were recorded yesterday, with the death toll remaining at 128 cases or 1.29 per cent from the cumulative number of cases.

AKHBAR : THE STAR
 MUKA SURAT : 9
 RUANGAN : NATION

Covid-19: Current situation globally (As at 7pm Sept 14, 2020)												
Malaysia												
	New cases		Total cases		Total deaths		Total recovered					
	31		9,946		128		9,203					
Asean+	Philippines	Indonesia	China	Japan	Singapore	S. Korea	Thailand	Myanmar	Vietnam	Cambodia	Brunei	Laos
Confirmed cases	265,888	221,523	85,194	75,218	57,454	22,285	3,475	3,015	1,063	275	145	23
Deaths	4,630	8,841	4,634	1,439	27	363	58	24	35	0	3	0
Recovered	207,504	158,405	80,415	66,899	56,764	18,489	3,312	699	918	274	139	21
Global Top 10	US	India	Brazil	Russia	Peru	Colombia	Mexico	South Africa	Spain	Argentina		
Confirmed cases	6,708,458	4,850,887	4,330,455	1,068,320	729,619	716,319	668,381	649,793	576,697	555,537		
Deaths	198,520	79,784	131,663	18,635	30,710	22,924	70,821	15,447	29,747	11,352		
Recovered	3,974,949	3,780,107	3,573,958	878,700	566,796	599,385	471,623	577,906	N/A	419,513		

'Vigilance key to curbing Covid-19'

Increased and more effective surveillance needed, say health experts

By ASHLEY TANG
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PETALING JAYA: The country is doing well in managing the spread of Covid-19 although the virus appears to be spreading in the community over the past week, according to health experts.

"Enforcing quarantine on those who enter Malaysia from other countries is the right move.

"There should also be more stringent measures to stop immigrants without permits," said Universiti Malaya Department of Social and Preventive Medicine Faculty of Medicine Prof Dr Moy Foong Ming.

She also added that currently most of the cases in the country were imported and had spread to

the community.

Despite this, Dr Moy said the country had been doing very well in fighting Covid-19 with the controlled number of cases, adding that the country's healthcare system was coping well too.

She pointed out the public was getting used to the new normal while the commercial sector too had been doing their part in practising the standard operating procedure (SOP).

Dr Moy noted that it was unnecessary to implement a nationwide MCO, adding that a MCO within a specific location with an influx of cases would be sufficient.

The country recorded an increase of Covid-19 cases ranging from 45 cases to a high of 182 cases since Sept 7 with new outbreaks coming

from Sabah and Kedah.

The outbreak in Sabah originated from the Lahad Datu police headquarters' lock-up which then spread to the Tawau prison while in Kedah the outbreaks came from, among others, healthcare workers.

Universiti Sains Malaysia medical epidemiologist and biostatistician Assoc Prof Dr Kamarul Imran Musa said the recent outbreak strongly indicated that the spread of Covid-19 was being generated in the community.

As such, Dr Kamarul said the surveillance of Covid-19 must be continued rigorously, or be enhanced, especially for dense areas such as the Klang Valley.

He said the government, especially the Health Ministry, was facing a real challenge in slowing down or

stopping the spread of Covid-19 altogether due to several factors, such as the high percentage of asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic Covid-19 cases, the mode of spread through droplets and the size of the country.

"With increased and more effective surveillance, the government will be able to identify new clusters or new infections faster and act sooner.

"Similarly, if the population is more aware and more vigilant of the risk of Covid-19 and take extra precaution to protect themselves and others from themselves as well, the risk will be reduced," he said.

Dr Kamarul added that the model of intervention that was taking place at a few districts in Kedah -

the enhanced MCO - was the most possible model that the government would use to halt the community spread of Covid-19.

"This targeted enhanced MCO will identify the point of the new cluster, set the perimeter and restrict all movement within the perimeter," he said.

Malaysian Public Health Physicians' Association president Datuk Dr Zainal Ariffin Omar also did not believe that there would be an MCO for the entire nation, adding that it would only be restricted to Kedah and Sabah since there had been an outbreak.

Dr Zainal said the government could consider other measures such as a travel advisory to these two states or quarantine those coming from hotspot areas.

Poll: M'sians coping well with Covid-19

By FATIMAH ZAINAL
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PETALING JAYA: Among six Asean countries, Malaysians are the fourth most likely to have tested for Covid-19, second least likely to have exhibited Covid-19 symptoms and also the second most likely to stay at home.

According to a study by research firm YouGov, Thais were the most likely to have tested for Covid-19 in the past week, with 25% saying they have done so.

Although Thailand recently went 100 days without any locally transmitted cases, it is increasing Covid-19 testing and contact tracing to prevent another wave of outbreak after a local disc jockey tested positive.

The study also said among other measures taken by Thailand included introducing rapid testing in July for international travellers at the Suvarnabhumi International Airport.

Meanwhile, Indonesians were the second most likely to have been

tested for Covid-19, with almost two in 10 (18%) having done so in the past week.

"The nation currently requires mandatory testing for factory workers and testing for intercity travel.

"However, the suggested high rates of testing in Indonesia could be due to the fact that the nation primarily uses rapid antibody tests, which has since been discouraged by the World Health Organisation," said the study released last week.

The third most tested in Asean is Vietnam (16%) followed by Malaysia (9%), the Philippines (7%) and Singapore (5%).

The study said a possible explanation as to why Singaporeans were the least likely to be tested is that they were also currently the least likely to be exhibiting Covid-19 symptoms.

"When asked if they had experienced dry cough, fever, loss of sense of smell, loss of taste or shortness of breath, over nine in 10 Singaporeans (93%) reported they had not.

"Asymptomatic testing is strictly

prohibited in the nation.

"Meanwhile, Malaysians are the second least likely to have exhibited Covid-19 symptoms in the past week, with nine in 10 (91%) reporting no symptoms," said the study.

This is followed by Vietnam and the Philippines (both 88%), Thailand (85%) and Indonesia (84%), with its people found to be the most likely to be exhibiting symptoms within Asean (84%).

The online survey conducted by YouGov in partnership with the Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial College London was done between Aug 17 and Aug 23.

It sought to look at how people were coping with Covid-19 across six Asean nations - Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam.

The survey, which polled 6,073 people aged 18 and over, also found that Filipinos were the most likely to stay at home.

"In spite of the lockdown being lifted mid last month, Filipinos remain the most likely to remain at home, with two in five (41%)

How different Asean nations are dealing with Covid-19

Survey results by YouGov and Imperial College London



answering they did not leave the house. The nation currently has the highest number of Covid-19 cases in Asean," said the study.

This is followed by Malaysians at 32% with the nation's infectivity rate surging to a critical level, while

the third most likely to stay at home were Singaporeans (29%).

This is followed by Indonesians (16%), Thais (12%) and the Vietnamese (10%), which is also the country with the lowest confirmed number of cases in the region.

Healthcare workers urged to stay suited up

PETALING JAYA: Healthcare workers should take proper precautions by wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and not let their guard down to prevent Covid-19 from spreading among themselves and the community, say health experts.

For the safety of all healthcare workers, Malaysian Public Health Medicine Specialist Association president Dr Zainal Ariffin Omar believed that it was perhaps better for them to wear PPE to safeguard themselves.

"It is very tiring to wear PPE for long hours. There are those who are working more than eight hours a day and many more who are on double shifts. Then you see others who have let their guard down and that is when they get infected," he said when contacted yesterday.

On Sept 10, Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said that cases were rising among frontliners, adding that about 53% of the cases among healthcare workers were infections spread by their own colleagues.

He urged all healthcare workers to protect themselves first and foremost before treating their patients.

In the Sungai cluster, two healthcare workers from a private medical centre had passed the virus on to their family and colleagues.

On the increased infections among healthcare workers, Dr Zainal said it could be due to healthcare workers not following the standard operating procedure (SOP).

Universiti Putra Malaysia medical epidemiologist Assoc Prof Dr

Malina Osman concurred that healthcare workers should wear PPE as they served as frontliners who dealt directly with the public.

"They should protect themselves and patients from any possibility of infection," she said.

However, Medical Practitioners Coalition Association of Malaysia president Dr Raj Kumar Maharajah pointed out that forcing healthcare workers to use PPE all the time might not serve its purpose considering that they could get infected by unconfirmed Covid-19 patients

and from public functions outside the healthcare facility.

Currently, Dr Raj said safety protocols were adequate but that some healthcare workers did not practise physical distancing, wash hands regularly or wear masks in the hospital pantry or rest room.

"We take it for granted that our colleagues cannot be positive. We should not let our guard down. Healthcare workers who are suspicious of their status should get tested to prevent infecting their patients and colleagues," he said.

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RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

Daily new infections dip to 31

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PETALING JAYA: The number of daily new Covid-19 infections dropped further to 31 as of noon yesterday.

This is down from 47 new cases the day before.

Health Director-General Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said this brought the national tally to 9,946 cases.

According to Noor Hisham, 28 of the new cases were infections from local transmission.

Nineteen of them are Malaysians and nine are foreigners, he said yesterday.

Of the three imported cases, two were reported in Sabah and one, and Indonesian, was in Kuala Lumpur when he tested positive for Covid-19.

Of the locally transmitted cases,

23 were reported in Sabah, four in Negri Sembilan and one from the Sungai cluster in Kedah.

Noor Hisham said the four new cases that were found in the Bunga cluster in Negri Sembilan were among 59 individuals who were screened yesterday.

A second round of screening was also carried out on 22 crewmen who are still on board a ship docked in Port Dickson.

Of the 18 people screened in Perlis yesterday, one was confirmed positive but there were no new cases in Penang.

The death toll remains at 128.

Seven patients were discharged from hospital yesterday, bringing the number of recoveries to 9,203.

Active cases now stands at 615, with 11 patients in intensive care units, with five needing ventilator support.