

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan COVID-19

1,767 jangkitan baharu, kes di Sarawak tertinggi

12 lagi kematian dilaporkan dari empat negeri

Oleh Noor Atiqah Sulaiman
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Putrajaya: Jumlah kes baharu COVID-19 di negara ini semalam dicatatkan pada 1,767 jangkitan dengan Sarawak terus menyumbang angka harian tertinggi.

Selepas mendahului negeri lain dengan merekodkan 351 kes kelmarin, penularan di Sarawak menyaksikan angka itu melonjak kepada 607 jangkitan baharu (34.4 peratus), semalam.

Daripada jumlah itu, sebanyak 319 kes (52.6 peratus) adalah da-

ripada kluster dan saringan kontak rapat kes positif yang aktif dijalankan di lapangan.

Selangor menyusuli Sarawak dengan 483 kes baharu (27.3 peratus), selain Kuala Lumpur yang mencatat 133 jangkitan (7.5 peratus).

Negeri lain yang turut merekodkan tiga digit kes baharu ialah Sabah (117) dan Kelantan (103), manakala Perlis mencatat sifar jangkitan.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata pertambahan 1,758 penularan tempatan dan sembilan kes import itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kini mencecah 363,940 dengan 16,300 kes aktif.

"Sebanyak 12 kematian baharu akibat COVID-19 dilaporkan, hari ini (semalam) membabitkan

rakyat Malaysia berumur antara 37 hingga 89 tahun. Sabah dan Sarawak masing-masing mencatat empat kes, Selangor (tiga) serta Terengganu (satu)," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sembilan kluster baharu COVID-19 dikenal pasti membabitkan empat kluster tempat kerja, komuniti (tiga), keagamaan (satu) dan pusat tahanan (satu).

Kluster tempat kerja terbabit ialah Kluster Jalan Puncak Borneo di Kuching, Sarawak, yang sudah menjangkiti 61 kes, dan Kluster Jalan Raja Laut (Lembah Pantai, Cheras, Kepong serta Ti-tiwangsa di Kuala Lumpur - 20 kes).

Selain itu, Kluster Jalan Hishamuddin (Lembah Pantai - sembilan kes) dan Kluster Lebu-Wasau (Putrajaya, Lembah Pan-

tai serta Seremban - 11 kes).

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, kluster komuniti ialah Kluster Tabanak (Lahad Datu, Sabah - 15 kes), Kluster Kampung Gayang (Tuaran, Sabah - 23 kes) dan Kluster Taman Malim Jaya (Melaka Tengah dan Jasin, Melaka - 13 kes).

"Kluster pusat tahanan ialah Kluster Jalan Salleh (Muar, Johor - 23 kes), manakala kluster keagamaan pula Kluster Jalan Bukit Belida (Seremban - 15 kes)," katanya.

Setakat jam 12 tengah hari semalam, 1,290 pesakit COVID-19 dilaporkan sembuh, menjadikan jumlah kumulatif 346,295 kes (95.2 peratus).

Sebanyak 199 kes pula dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) dengan 82 memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

Suntikan vaksin di hospital swasta percuma

Kuala Lumpur: Pemberian vaksin COVID-19 di hospital swasta adalah percuma kerana kos belakan itu ditanggung oleh kerajaan.

Presiden Persatuan Hospital Swasta Malaysia (APHM), Datuk Dr Kuljit Singh, berkata sebahagian kos pemberian vaksin pula akan ditanggung oleh pihak hospital swasta sebagai tanggungjawab sosial korporat (CSR) kepada negara.

"APHM berterima kasih kepada Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba kerana membenarkan hospital swasta terbabit dalam Fasa 2 dan 3 Program Imunisasi COVID-19 Kebangsaan (PICK) sebagai Pusat Pemberian Vaksin (PPV).

"Hospital swasta sedia menjalankan proses vaksinasi kepada orang awam mengikut kadar dicadangkan kerajaan menerusi ProtectHealth Corporation Sdn Bhd.

"Bayaran bagi mendapatkan vaksin ini akan ditanggung oleh kerajaan dan orang awam tidak perlu membuat sebarang pembayaran," katanya dalam satu kenyataan semalam.

Dr Kuljit bagaimanapun berkata, APMH berpendapat adalah lebih baik hospital swasta dibenarkan memperoleh sendiri bekalan vaksin COVID-19 terutama untuk petugas barisan hadapan ekonomi dan orang awam yang memerlukan vaksinasi awal bagi tujuan tertentu.

Katanya, kebenaran memperoleh sendiri bekalan vaksin itu berupaya memperkasakan lagi program vaksinasi negara.

"Kami berpandangan baki dua fasa program imunisasi negara wajar dikaji semula bagi membolehkan berlaku peningkatan dalam proses vaksinasi.

"Sudah semestinya individu berisiko dalam fasa kedua tidak harus dipinggirkan, namun penerima dalam fasa ketiga perlu dipertimbangkan untuk menerima vaksin mereka lebih awal," katanya.

Dr Adham sebelum ini dilaporkan berkata, hospital swasta akan terbabit dalam fasa dua dan tiga program itu sebagai Pusat Pemberian Vaksin.

Beliau berkata, kerajaan akan memberikan vaksin secara percuma kepada hospital bagi memaksimumkan akses pengagihan vaksin dengan lebih meluas kepada rakyat.

Kakitangan tambahan ke Bumi Kenyalang

Kuching: Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) akan mengerah lebih ramai kakitangan untuk membantu menangani peningkatan kes COVID-19 di Sarawak ketika ini.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba, berkata keputusan itu dicapai dalam mesyuarat, malam kelmarin dan bakal membabitkan penambahan antara 300 hingga 500 petugas pelbagai kategori.

Beliau berkata, ia termasuk doktor, jururawat, pembantu kesihatan, pegawai teknologi makmal, jururadiologi dan kakitangan yang akan membuat ujian di lapangan.

Sebagai permulaan, katanya, kakitangan di Zon Hijau negeri itu akan ditugaskan bagi membantu di kawasan terjejas yang dikategorikan Zon Kuning, Jingga dan Merah.

"Selepas itu, kita akan mengerah kakitangan dari negeri lain yang mencatat kes harian rendah untuk membantu Sarawak menangani peningkatan jangkitan COVID-19 ketika ini.

"Kita pernah melaksanakan kaedah sebegini di Sabah sebelum ini dan melihat ia mampu menangani peningkatan kes dengan berkesan," katanya.



Dr Adham beramah mesra bersama orang ramai yang hadir bagi mendapatkan vaksin COVID-19 di Pusat Pemberian Vaksin Stadium Perpaduan, Petra Jaya, semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

Beliau berkata demikian kepada pemberita selepas melawat Pusat Pemberian Vaksin (PPV) di Stadium Perpaduan, Petra Jaya, di sini semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, Dr Adham menjelaskan, penambahan kakitangan itu sangat diperlukan di Sarawak ketika ini, terutama bagi melaksanakan pengesa-

nan kontak di kawasan pedalaman.

"Isu kekurangan kakitangan untuk melaksanakan 3T, iaitu pengesanan, ujian dan rawatan, amat mendesak di Sarawak ketika ini.

"Kita perlu mengambil langkah segera dengan menambah kakitangan, termasuk membawanya

dari negeri lain," katanya.

Selain itu, beliau berkata, KKM memastikan kesiapsiagaan dari segi peralatan perubatan, ubat-ubatan serta peralatan perlindungan diri (PPE) yang mencukupi untuk memenuhi keperluan berikutan peningkatan kes COVID-19 di Sarawak sejak Januari lalu.

Terkini COVID-19 1,290

Pulih, dibenar keluar hospital, semalam

1,767 Kes baharu disahkan, semalam

1,345 Jumlah kematian dicatat

363,940 Jumlah kes disahkan positif

16,300 kes yang masih dirawat

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : COVID-19

Tambah kakitangan

Pelan KKM bantu tangani peningkatan kes Covid-19 di Sarawak

Oleh Mohd Mohd Roji Kawi
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Kuching

Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) menambah kakitangan bagi membantu menangani peningkatan kes jangkitan Covid-19 di Sarawak ketika ini.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba berkata, 300 hingga 500 kakitangan membabitkan doktor, jururawat, pembantu kesihatan, pegawai teknologi makmal, jururadiologi serta kakitangan lain akan membuat

ujian di lapangan.

Beliau berkata, pada peringkat awal, kakitangan yang bertugas di zon hijau di Sarawak akan ditugaskan bagi membantu di kawasan terjejas yang dikategorikan dalam zon kuning, jingga dan merah.

"Selepas itu, kita akan menegerah kakitangan dari negeri lain yang kes hariannya rendah untuk membantu Sarawak dalam menangani peningkatan jangkitan Covid-19 sekarang.

"Kaedah ini pernah kita laksanakan di Sabah sebelum ini dan kita melihat ia mampu menangani peningkatan kes dengan berkesan,"

katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian kepada media selepas mengadakan lawatan ke Pusat Pemberian Vakzin (PPV) di Stadium Perpaduan di Petra Jaya di sini, semalam.

Dr Adham berkata, penambahan kakitangan amat diperlukan di Sarawak ketika ini terutamanya bagi melaksanakan pengesanan kontak di kawasan pedalaman.

"Isu kekurangan kakitangan untuk melaksanakan 3T iaitu pengesanan, ujian dan rawatan amat mendasak di Sarawak ketika ini, justeru, kita perlu mengambil langkah segera dengan

menambah kakitangan termasuk membawa dari negeri lain," katanya.

Selain itu, katanya, KKM juga memastikan kesiapsediaan peralatan perubatan, ubat serta peralatan perlindungan diri (PPE) yang mencukupi untuk melaksanakan tugas yang semakin mencabar di Sarawak ketika ini.

Ia berikutan peningkatan kes yang ketara di Sarawak sejak Januari lalu dan sehingga semalam jumlah keseluruhan jangkitan adalah sebanyak 20,352 kes dengan jumlah harian tertinggi direkodkan sebanyak 555 kes pada 9 April lalu.

RINGKAS

409,784 lengkap dos kedua vaksin

Kuala Lumpur: Seramai 409,784 individu dalam kumpulan fasa pertama Program Imunisasi Covid-19 Kebangsaan melengkapkan dua dos suntikan vaksin mereka setakat, kelmarin.

Menteri Kesihatan Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba berkata, bagi tempoh sama, 609,153 individu menerima dos pertama, menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan pemberian dos pertama dan kedua vaksin Covid-19 di negara ini adalah 1,018,937 individu.

Menerusi satu infografik yang dikongsikan di laman Twitter rasminya semalam, Dr Adham berkata, lima negeri menerima suntikan dos pertama vaksin tertinggi ialah Selangor dengan 80,195 dos diikuti Sarawak (63,539 dos), Kuala Lumpur (57,152 dos), Johor (56,663 dos) dan Sabah (54,309 dos).

Sementara itu, lima negeri yang melengkapkan kedua-dua dos suntikan vaksin Covid-19 tertinggi setakat ini ialah Selangor dengan 54,820 individu, diikuti Perak (46,592 individu), Sabah (41,948 individu), Kuala Lumpur (34,683 individu) dan Pahang (32,688 individu).

Bilangan penerima dos pertama dan kedua vaksin sebanyak 1,018,937 individu

AKHBAR : KOSMO
 MUKA SURAT : 4
 RUANGAN : NEGARA

Kluster keagamaan babit saringan prapekerjaan, Sarawak tertinggi

Kes aktif lebihi angka 16,000

Oleh SITI A'ISYAH SUKAIMI

PUTRAJAYA – Hasil saringan prapekerjaan terhadap seorang lelaki berusia 30 tahun mengesan kluster baharu semalam yang juga kluster keagamaan di Seremban, Negeri Sembilan dikenali sebagai Kluster Jalan Bukit Belida.

Kes indeks tersebut dilaporkan positif Covid-19 pada 9 April lalu dan sehingga semalam, 15 kes dikesan selepas saringan terhadap 27 individu serta melibatkan sebuah pusat keagamaan terletak di Jalan Bukit Belida 1, Seremban.

Ia antara sembilan kluster baharu melibatkan empat kluster tempat kerja, tiga kluster komuniti serta masing-masing satu kluster keagamaan dan pusat tahanan yang turut menyumbang kepada 1,767 kes harian dengan jumlah kes aktif sebanyak 16,300.

Sarawak kekal mencatatkan kes baharu tertinggi sebanyak 607 kes, diikuti Selangor (483 kes) dan Kuala Lumpur (133 kes).

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, kluster tempat kerja yang dikenal pasti ialah Kluster Jalan Puncak Borneo di Kuching, Sarawak dengan 61 kes hasil saringan bersasar melibatkan pelatih sebuah pusat latihan di Jalan Puncak Borneo, Kuching.

Menurutnya, Kluster Jalan Raja Laut di Lembah Pantai,



PETUGAS Masjid Jamek Kampung Baru, Kuala Lumpur mengagihkan bubur lambuk dalam keadaan hujan lebat semalam. – FARIZ RUSADIO

Cheras, Kepong dan Titivangsa, Kuala Lumpur dengan 20 kes iaitu kes indeks wanita berusia 47 tahun serta melibatkan sebuah syarikat perkhidmatan di Jalan Raja Laut, Lembah Pantai.

"Kluster Jalan Hishamuddin juga di Lembah Pantai dengan sembilan kes iaitu kes indeks wanita berusia 58 tahun serta melibatkan sebuah syarikat pengangkutan di Jalan Sultan Hishamuddin, Tasik Perdana, Lembah Pantai.

"Selain itu, Kluster Lebu Wawasan di Putrajaya dan Lembah Pantai serta Seremban dengan 11

kes iaitu kes indeks wanita berusia 39 tahun serta melibatkan sebuah pusat pentadbiran awam di Lebu Wawasan, Presint 7, Putrajaya," katanya dalam kenyataan akhbar semalam.

Beliau berkata, kluster komuniti pula ialah Kluster Tabanak di Lahad Datu, Sabah dengan 15 kes iaitu kes indeks wanita berusia 78 tahun.

"Kluster Kampung Gayang pula di Tuaran dengan 23 kes iaitu kes indeks lelaki berusia 69 tahun serta melibatkan sebuah majlis sosial yang diadakan pada 28 Mac di Kampung Gayang.

COVID-19
 Angka terkini kes Covid-19 di Malaysia sehingga semalam

	Jumlah
Kes baharu	1,767
Import:	9
Tempatan:	1,758
Pulih	1,290
• Kematian	12
• Masih dirawat	16,300
• Jumlah kes sembuh	346,295
• Jumlah Kematian	1,345
Jumlah kes keseluruhan	363,940

"Satu lagi kluster komuniti ialah Kluster Taman Malim Jaya di Melaka Tengah dan Jasin, Melaka dengan 13 kes iaitu kes indeks lelaki berusia 32 tahun," katanya.

Ujarnya, kluster pusat tahanan pula dikenali sebagai Kluster Jalan Salleh di Muar, Johor dengan 23 kes hasil saringan bersasar sebuah pusat tahanan di Jalan Salleh, Muar.

Tambahnya, terdapat 12 kematian di Selangor, Sarawak, Sabah dan Terengganu melibatkan tiga lelaki dan lapan wanita berusia antara 37 hingga 89 tahun.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 11
RUANGAN : VAKSIN UNTUK RAKYAT

500 petugas kesihatan digerakkan ke Sarawak



Abang Johari (kanan) menerima kunjungan hormat Dr Adham di Pejabat Ketua Menteri di Wisma Bapa Malaysia, Kuching pada Selasa.

KUCHING - Kira-kira 500 kakitangan Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) akan dimobilisasi ke Sarawak dalam masa terdekat bagi membantu negeri itu mengekang peningkatan kes Covid-19.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba berkata, mobilisasi itu melibatkan kakitangan KKM dari negeri dan bahagian lain di Sarawak yang berada dalam zon hijau merangkumi doktor, jururawat, pembantu perubatan, pegawai makmal, radiologi dan mereka yang melakukan ujian pantas di lapangan.

"Apabila kita melakukan pengesanan kontak di kawasan pedalaman tempat wabak itu terdeteksi, kita memerlukan ramai kakitangan untuk membuat aktiviti saringan," katanya kepada pemberita selepas melawat Pusat Pemberian Vaksin di Stadium Perpaduan di sini pada Selasa.

Sementara itu, mengenai kadar kebolehjangkitan (Rt) di Sarawak, Dr Adham berkata, pada Selasa ia telah meningkat kepada 1.1 berbanding 1.08 pada Isnin.

"Untuk Sarawak, kita telah beri jaminan memandangkan Rt 1.1, bermakna untuk Fasa Kedua Program Imunisasi Covid-19 Kebangsaan ini, ia (pengagihan vaksin) perlu diberi pertimbangan yang lebih serius bagi melindungi semua rakyat," katanya.

Dr Adham berkata, berdasarkan pemantauan dan analisis yang dijalankan setakat ini, terdapat trend peningkatan kes harian Covid-19 di Sarawak bermula pada 9 Januari lepas.

Dr Adham bersama-sama rombongan KKM membuat kunjungan hormat ke atas Ketua Menteri Sarawak, Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg di Wisma Bapa Malaysia. - *Bernama*

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 12

RUANGAN : VAKSIN UNTUK RAKYAT

Kes positif kembali melonjak

Sebanyak 1,767 kes baharu dan 12 kematian direkodkan pada Selasa

Oleh **TUAN BUQHAI RAH**
TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN

PUTRAJAYA

Kes harian positif Covid-19 dilihat tidak stabil apabila ia kembali melonjak kepada 1,767 kes dengan 12 kematian.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor

Hisham Abdullah berkata, pertambahan itu menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kes di Malaysia adalah sebanyak 363,940 kes.

"Terdapat sembilan kes import dan 1,758 kes penularan dalam negara yang melibatkan seramai 1,508 rakyat tempatan serta 250 warga asing.

"Kes aktif di seluruh Malaysia sebanyak 16,300 kes," katanya dalam kenyataan pada Selasa.

Menurutnya, seramai 199 pesakit Covid-19 dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) termasuk 82 kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

"Sebanyak 12 kes kematian melibatkan pesakit



DR NOOR HISHAM

rakyat tempatan, sekali gus menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan sebanyak 1,345 kes.

"Kesemua pesakit berumur 37 hingga 88 tahun mempunyai latar belakang penyakit kronik," katanya.

Sarawak kekal negeri tertinggi melaporkan kes iaitu sebanyak 607 kes."

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sebanyak 1,290 kes pulih sepenuhnya daripada Covid-19 dilaporkan.

"Jumlah kumulatif kes pulih adalah 346,295 kes bersamaan 95.2 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes," katanya.

Mengulas lanjut mengenai penularan dalam negara, beliau berkata, Sarawak kekal negeri ter-

tinggi melaporkan kes iaitu sebanyak 607 kes.

"Daripada jumlah itu, sebanyak 319 kes adalah daripada kluster dan saringan kontak rapat kes positif Covid-19 yang aktif dijalankan di lapangan.

"Selangor merekodkan 483 kes, diikuti Kuala Lumpur (133), Sabah (117), Kelantan (103), Pulau Pinang (92), Johor (74), Kedah (39), Perak (36), Melaka (17), Pahang (14) dan Terengganu (13).

"Putrajaya merekodkan tujuh kes dan Labuan tiga kes, manakala tiada pertambahan kes direkodkan di Perlis," katanya.

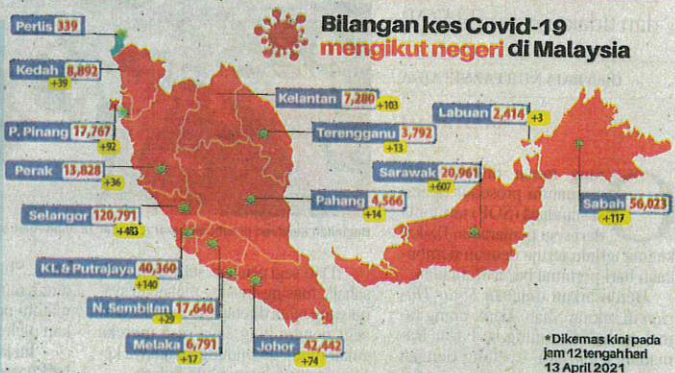
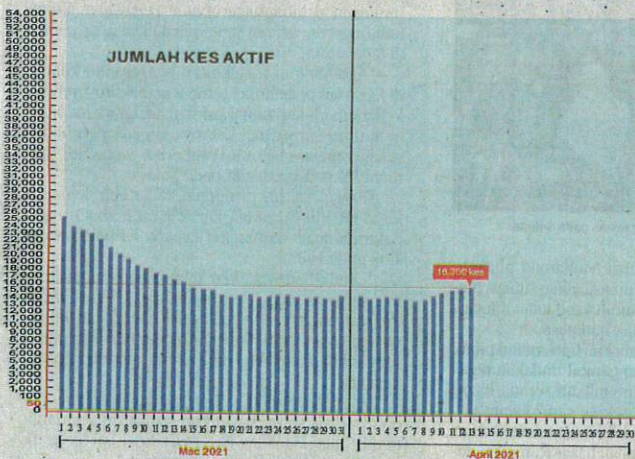
Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sebanyak 21 kes yang

dilaporkan adalah berka-itan kluster penjara yang membabitkan Kluster Jalan Salleh (11), Kluster Penjara Jalan Harapan (tujuh) dan Kluster Telok Mas (tiga).

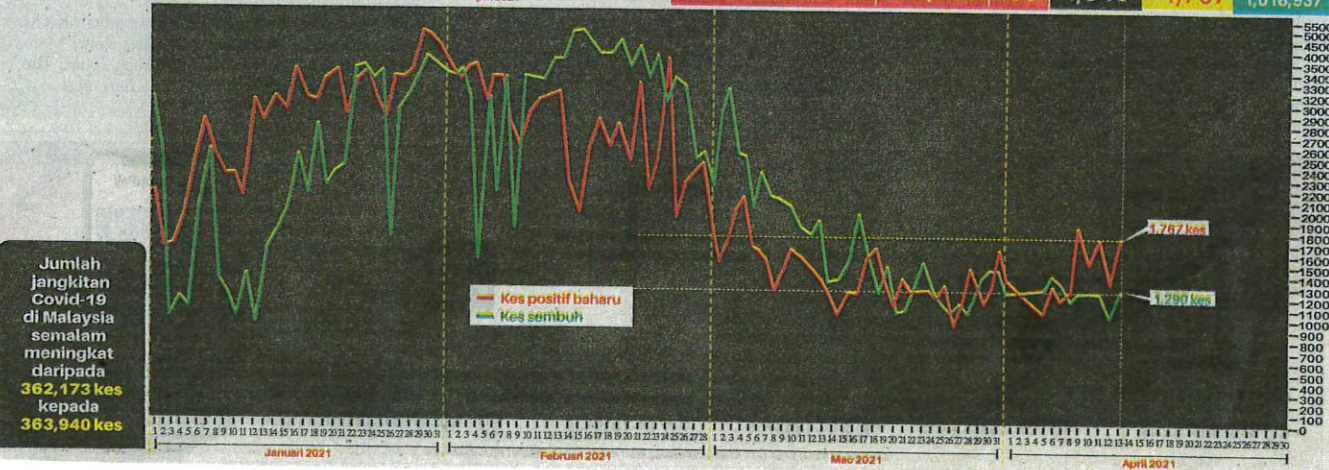
Menurutnya, terdapat sembilan kluster baharu dikenal pasti pada Selasa melibatkan empat kluster tempat kerja, tiga kluster komuniti, masing-masing satu kluster keagamaan dan kluster pusat tahanan.

"Kluster tempat kerja ialah Jalan Puncak Borneo (Sarawak), Jalan Raja Laut (Kuala Lumpur), Jalan Hishamuddin (Kuala Lumpur) dan Lebuh Wawasan (Putrajaya)," kata beliau.

SITUASI TERKINI KES COVID-19 DI MALAYSIA



JUMLAH KES BAHARU DAN SEMBUH DILAPORKAN SETIAP HARI					
JUMLAH KESELURUHAN	363,940	PULIH:	346,295	ICU:	199
		KEMATIAN:	1,345	KES BAHARU	+1,767
				SUDAH DIVAKSIN	1,018,937



Jumlah jangkitan Covid-19 di Malaysia semalam meningkat daripada 362,173 kes kepada 363,940 kes

REKOD: SINAR HARIAN/EPIC

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

PANDEMIC UPDATES

1,767 NEW CASES RECORDED

Sarawak continues to register the highest number of cases at 607, says Health D-G

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THE Health Ministry recorded 1,767 new Covid-19 cases yesterday, raising the total number of infections in the country to 363,940, with 16,300 active cases.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said Sarawak continued to register the highest number of cases at 607 (34.4 per cent), followed by Selangor (483 or 27.3 per cent) and Kuala Lumpur (133 or 7.5 per cent).

"Other states with new daily infections were Sabah with 117 cases, Penang (92), Johor (74), Perak (36), Negri Sembilan (29), Melaka (17), Pahang (14), Terengganu (13), Putrajaya (seven) and Labuan (three). Perlis registered no new cases," he said in a statement yesterday.

Dr Noor Hisham said of the total number of new daily cases, 1,758 were local infections (1,508 Malaysians and 250 foreigners),

while the rest were imported (two Malaysians and seven foreigners).

"Currently, 199 patients are being treated at the Intensive Care Units with 82 on ventilator support."

He said 1,290 new recoveries were reported, raising the total number of patients who had recovered from Covid-19 infection to 346,295 or 95.2 per cent.

Twelve new deaths were reported, raising the death toll to 1,345 (0.37 per cent), he said.

Meanwhile, Dr Noor Hisham said nine more Covid-19 clusters had been identified, four of which were linked to workplaces, three community clusters, one religious cluster and one detention centre cluster.

This, he said, brought the total number of Covid-19 clusters to 1,478.

"The workplace clusters were reported in Sarawak (Jalan Puncak Borneo), Kuala Lumpur (Jalan Raja Laut and Jalan Hishamuddin) and Putrajaya (Lebu Wawasan).

"The community clusters were identified in Sabah (Tabanak and Kampung Gayang) and Melaka (Taman Malim Jaya), while the religious cluster was reported in Negri Sembilan (Jalan Bukit Belida).

"A detention centre cluster called Jalan Salleh was identified in Johor."

Dr Noor Hisham said up to yes-



People wearing face masks in accordance with the Covid-19 standard operating procedures in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIC BY HAZREEN MOHAMAD

terday, there were 344 active clusters with the most cases reported from the Persiaran Cybersouth construction site cluster (137 cases), Jalan Puncak Borneo cluster (60) and Jalan Bambang (47).

He added that 1,134 clusters had ended, including 10 yesterday.

They are the Jalan Sekerat cluster, Jalan Taiping cluster, Meha construction site cluster, Jalan

Nusa Mega cluster, Cyber 72 cluster, Jalan Industri Tiga Pontian cluster, Taman Alam cluster, Bukit Kiara construction site cluster, Buloh cluster and Pasai cluster.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

INCREASE IN INFECTIVITY RATE

FRONTLINERS TO BE SENT TO SARAWAK

500 health personnel mobilised to help curb spread of Covid-19, says health minister

KUCHING

ABOUT 500 Health Ministry staff will be mobilised to Sarawak to help contain the increase in Covid-19 cases in the state, said Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba yesterday.

He said the staff would include doctors, nurses, medical assistants, laboratory officers and radiologists from other states and also from green zones in Sarawak.

"When we do contact tracing in interior areas of the outbreak, we need many staff to do the screening," he told reporters after visiting the vaccination centre at Stadium Perpaduan here yesterday.

Meanwhile, on the infectivity rate (Rt) in Sarawak, Dr Adham said it increased to 1.1 yesterday from 1.08 the day before.

He said based on the monitoring and analysis carried out, the increasing trend in Covid-19 cases in Sarawak began since Jan 9.

On the visit to the vaccination centre, Dr Adham said Sarawak was capable of handling vaccination for up to 40,000 people a day.



Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba (second from right) visiting the vaccination centre at Stadium Perpaduan in Kuching yesterday.
PIC BY NADIM BOKHARI

On the Covid-19 vaccination for media personnel, he said those who were categorised as frontliners would get the vaccination under phase two of the National Immunisation Programme (NIP).

Earlier, Dr Adham paid a courtesy call on Sarawak Chief Minister Datuk Patinggi Abang Johari Tun Openg at the latter's office at Wisma Bapa Malaysia.

Meanwhile, a total of 409,784 individuals in the first phase of NIP have completed their vaccine shots up to yesterday.

Dr Adham earlier in his Twitter post said 609,153 individuals were given the first dose during the same period, bringing the total number of doses administered so far to 1,018,937.

Based on an infographic shared on his Twitter account, Selangor had the highest recipients of the first dose at 80,195, followed by Sarawak (63,539), Kuala Lumpur (57,152), Johor (56,663) and Sabah (54,309).

Selangor also recorded the highest number of recipients

who had completed both doses, totalling 54,820 individuals, followed by Perak (46,592), Sabah (41,948), Kuala Lumpur (34,683) and Pahang (32,688).

On the number of registrations for the NIP, Dr Adham said it was 8,602,156, or 35.5 per cent, with Selangor recording the highest number with 2,291,633 registrations.

According to the NIP, the implementation period of the first phase of vaccination is from February to April, involving

500,000 frontliners, including health workers.

The programme will continue with the second phase from April to August involving 9.4 million senior citizens aged 60 and above, as well as the vulnerable groups with comorbidities, in addition to persons with disabilities.

The third phase, scheduled from May to February next year, is for individuals aged 18 and above, targeting about 14 million people. **Bernama**

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NATION

Sarawak on ministry's radar

Adham: We need to be prepared to handle sudden surge in cases

By SHARON LING
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KUCHING: Following a spike in new Covid-19 cases and infectivity rate, Sarawak is now on the Health Ministry's radar.

Its minister Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba said the infectivity rate (Rt) in the state increased to 1.1 yesterday compared to 1.08 on the previous day, which was higher than the national figure of 1.06.

"Rt of 1.1 means 10 people can infect 11 people. The number of cases in Sarawak has also been increasing since January.

"This is something we need to resolve. We need to step up the preparedness of health facilities to handle the possibility of sudden surges," he told reporters after observing the Covid-19 vaccination programme at the Indoor Stadium here yesterday.

Rt is an indicator of how fast Covid-19 is spreading at a particular point in time.

Dr Adham was here to discuss the Covid-19 situation with the state government in view of the spike in cases.

Sarawak's daily new infections have been among the highest in the nation in recent days.

The state has reported triple-digit daily figures of new cases since mid-February, with most coming from community and workplace clusters.



Ongoing effort: Dr Adham (in blue suit) talking to frontliners while observing the National Covid-19 Vaccination Programme at the Indoor Stadium in Kuching. — ZULAZHAR SHEBLEE/The Star

Dr Adham said the ministry would assist the state government in terms of manpower, personal protective equipment and other measures needed to contain the spike.

He said up to 500 additional health workers, comprising doctors,

nurses, medical assistants and lab technicians, would be deployed to Sarawak from other states to carry out contact tracing, testing and treatment in areas with a high number of cases.

"We need a lot of personnel to do

contact tracing and testing. We are in the process of arranging the deployment," he said, adding that health workers from green zones in Sarawak would also be mobilised.

He said the ministry was looking to see if there were any new variants

of the Covid-19 virus in Sarawak.

"In particular, we are looking at the oil and gas industry which has workers from outside Sarawak. We need to ensure they are safe," he said.

In addition, Dr Adham called for standard operating procedure to be strictly enforced to curb the spread of Covid-19.

"There has been a lack of compliance with the SOP recently. We hope that with compliance to the SOP, we can suppress the infection," he said.

On the vaccination programme, Dr Adham said Sarawak was well prepared and had already started using mass vaccination centres such as the Indoor Stadium.

"Sarawak has the capability to vaccinate up to 40,000 people a day, depending on the supply of vaccines," he said.

At a press conference on Monday, the minister said Covid-19 was being spread through family and social gatherings in Sarawak, leading to the rise in cases.

He said the state had recorded 39 community clusters and 17 workplace clusters since January, adding that 21 of the community clusters stemmed from family gatherings, social events and birthday parties.

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NATION

S'wak charts 607 cases as infections continue to increase

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysia's Covid-19 daily case figures are back on an ascending trend after Sarawak registered a new record high of 607 infections.

The state's figures comprised 34.4% of the country's 1,767 new cases yesterday, said Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah.

"Of Sarawak's total, 319 cases were uncovered from infection clusters as well as contact tracing activities.

"About 60 of the state's new cases are from the newly identified Jalan Puncak Borneo cluster," said Dr Noor Hisham in his daily Covid-19 update.

The outbreak is linked to trainees of a training centre in Jalan Puncak Borneo, Kuching.

"A targeted screening exercise was conducted on 111 related individuals starting from April 11.

"As of yesterday, there were 61 confirmed cases," he added.

Selangor recorded 483 new cases, which is 27.3% of the country's cases and the second highest out of all states.

Three other states recorded triple-digit figures yesterday: Kuala Lumpur (133 cases), Sabah (117) and Kelantan (103).

There were also 12 more Covid-19 deaths, taking the country's tally up to 1,345.

It is the first time in nearly two months since Malaysia saw double digits in Covid-19 deaths.

The last time was on Feb 27, when 10 people succumbed to the virus.

Dr Noor Hisham said all the 12 fatalities involved Malaysian citizens aged between 37 and 89.

The deaths were recorded in Sabah (four cases), Sarawak (four), Selangor (three) and Terengganu (one).

Five of the 12 deaths have been classified as "dead on arrival" by the Health Ministry.

Three of them were at Tawau Hospital in Sabah involving a 75-year-old woman with hypertension and diabetes, an 88-year-old man with asthma and a 76-year-old man with no known conditions.

The other two were an 81-year-old woman with hypertension at Keningau Hospital in Sabah and an 89-year-old woman with dementia at Hospital Hulu Terengganu.

The number of patients in intensive care units showed a hike, too, up to 199 from 188 the previous day.

Of that total, 82 are on ventilator support.

The ministry also identified nine new clusters yesterday, with the number of active ones now at 344.