

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan COVID-19

# 26 maut rekod angka tertinggi

3,733 kes positif baharu, Selangor kekal dahului jumlah jangkitan

Oleh Rafidah at Ruzki dan Bah Hafiz Aziz  
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**Putrajaya:** Sebanyak 3,733 kes positif baharu COVID-19 direkodkan semalam, menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan jangkitan wabak itu di negara ini kepada 440,677 kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata Selangor mencatat kes tertinggi iaitu 1,278 kes baharu semalam, disusuli Sarawak (454), Johor (365) dan Kuala Lumpur (338).

"KKM mengesan 3,727 kes penularan tempatan membabitkan 3,301 (88.6 peratus) warganegara dan 426 (11.4 peratus) bukan warganegara manakala enam kes import membabitkan seorang warganegara dan lima warga asing.

"Kes sembuh dilaporkan hari ini (semalam) adalah 3,211 kes menjadikan 401,934 kes kumulatif sudah pulih ketika ini atau 91.2

peratus daripada keseluruhan kes dilaporkan manakala sebanyak 37,060 kes masih aktif," katanya dalam satu kenyataan, semalam.

Beliau berkata, sebanyak 416 kes memerlukan rawatan di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) dengan 216 kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

Sementara itu, 26 kes kematian akibat COVID-19 direkodkan tengah hari semalam, angka tertinggi pernah dicatatkan di negara ini.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata tujuh kematian direkodkan di Selangor, enam di Kuala Lumpur, empat di Johor, tiga masing-masing di Kelantan dan Pahang, dua ke Pulau Pinang, manakala satu di Sarawak.

Katanya, mereka berusia antara 36 hingga 85 tahun membabitkan 14 lelaki dan 12 wanita, dengan kebanyakannya menghidap pelbagai penyakit kronik.

"Seramai 25 daripadanya adalah warganegara manakala seorang mangsa lelaki warga asing meninggal dunia di Hospital Tengku Ampuan Afzan, Kuantan.

"Empat daripada mereka tiada sejarah penyakit termasuk seorang wanita tempatan berusia 56 tahun yang jenazahnya dibawa ke Hospital Canselor Tuanku

Muhriz, Cheras," katanya.

Kes kematian direkodkan semalam menyumbang kepada 1,683 kes kumulatif di negara ini atau 0.38 peratus daripada keseluruhan kes dilaporkan sehingga tengah hari semalam.

Lima kluster masing-masing kategori tempat kerja dan komuniti, dua kluster keagamaan serta satu kluster institusi pendidikan swasta berdaftar dengan Kementerian Pendidikan (KPM) dikesan sehingga tengah hari semalam, membabitkan 403 kes positif COVID-19.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, lima kluster tempat kerja terbabit adalah Kluster Jalan Satu (16) dan Kluster Lorong Tiung (25) di Selangor; Kluster Kawasan Industri Dua (100) di Johor dan Kluster Tapak Bina Jalan Tun Hussein Onn (51) serta Kluster Kopitiam Kampung Selamat (19) di Pulau Pinang.

Katanya, kluster komuniti membabitkan Kluster Jalan Stadium (17) dan Kluster Tebedu Mawang (21) di Sarawak; Kluster Sri Tualang (27) di Kelantan; Kluster Jalan L Sungai Behrang (17) di Perak; dan Kluster Lak Lok (26) di Terengganu serta Kelantan manakala bagi kluster keagamaan, masing-masing satu dikesan di Johor iaitu Kluster Jalan Haji Mahmud (14) dan Kluster Tanah



Penduduk sekitar Bandar Baru Bangi melakukan ujian Rapid Test pada Program Saringan Komuniti SELANGOR anjuran kerajaan Selangor, di Bandar Baru Bangi, semalam. (Foto Alizuddin Saad/BH)

Merah (41) di Negeri Sembilan serta kluster Institusi Pendidikan Swasta Berdaftar bawah KPM, Kluster Desa Murni (29) dikesan di Pulau Pinang.

"Kes indeks bagi Kluster Jalan Haji Mahmud, seorang lelaki warga tempatan berusia 62 tahun dilaporkan positif COVID-19 semalam hasil saringan individu bergejala.

"Kes mula bergejala pada 28 April lalu, manakala nama kluster merujuk kepada lokaliti penularan kes-kes dilaporkan berlaku iaitu di Jalan Haji Mahmud, Sungai Tiram, Johor Bahru.

"Kes indeks bagi Kluster Tanah Merah seorang wanita tempatan berusia 21 tahun yang dilaporkan positif COVID-19 pada 26 April lalu hasil saringan individu bergejala dan kes bergejala pada 21 April.

Murni pula membabitkan pelajar dan kakitangan sebuah pu-

sat pendidikan di Taman Desa Murni, Butterworth, Seberang Perai Utara.

Sementara itu, Selangor mengambil langkah drastik dalam mengesan jangkitan COVID-19 membabitkan kes sporadik dengan memulakan ujian saringan secara besar-besaran di semua 56 Dewan Undangan Negeri (DUN), bermula kelmarin.

Ia bagi mengesan secepat mungkin kes positif dalam kalangan penduduk Selangor kerana penularan kes di negeri itu begitu membimbangkan dengan pertambahan ribuan kes baharu, setiap hari.

Pengerusi Selangor Task Force COVID-19 (STFC), Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, berkata pihaknya menggunakan prinsip pengawalan Pengesanan Kes Secara Aktif (ACD) bagi mengesan kontak secara pantas dan cekap.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : COVID-19

## Sejumlah 26 kematian dilaporkan semalam

**Kuala Lumpur:** Malaysia merekodkan penurunan kes positif baharu Covid-19 iaitu 3,733 kes, semalam berbanding 4,419 kes kelmarin, dengan jumlah keseluruhan penularan mencecah 440,677 kes.

Sejumlah 37,060 kes aktif dilaporkan semalam, bersama 26 kematian yang juga jumlah kes kematian harian tertinggi pernah direkodkan.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, Selangor melaporkan kes harian baharu tertinggi iaitu 1,278 kes hasil daripada kluster dan saringan kontak rapat kes positif yang aktif dijalankan di lapangan.

"Ja diikuti Sarawak 454 kes, Johor (365 kes) dan Kuala Lumpur (338 kes)," katanya, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata,

terdapat 416 kes positif Covid-19 sedang dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) dengan 216 kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

"Sebanyak 3,211 kes dilaporkan pulih semalam menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes pulih sepenuhnya adalah 401,934 kes atau 91.2 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes.

"Terdapat 26 kematian dilaporkan membabitkan 25

individu tempatan dan seorang warga asing yang mempunyai latar belakang penyakit kronik.

"Kes-kes itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kematian sebanyak 1,683 kes atau 0.38 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes," katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, ada 1,788 kluster direkodkan di Malaysia dengan penambahan 13 kluster baharu, semalam.

AKHBAR : KOSMO  
MUKA SURAT : 4  
RUANGAN : NEGARA

26 pesakit meninggal dunia semalam, angka sembuh lebih 400,000

## Negara catat kematian tertinggi

Oleh NOR IDAYU BOSRO

**PUTRAJAYA** – Negara merekodkan kes kematian tertinggi akibat Covid-19 apabila sejumlah 26 lagi mangsa meninggal dunia semalam.

Angka kematian itu memadam rekod kematian tertinggi yang dicatatkan kelmarin dan 18 Februari lalu masing-masing dengan 25 kematian.

Pertambahan kes kematian itu menjadikan angka korban dalam negara kini mencecah angka 1,683 sejak kematian pertama pada 17 Mac tahun lalu.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, tujuh kes kematian direkodkan di Selangor diikuti enam kes di Kuala Lumpur, Johor (empat) masing-masing tiga kes di Kelantan dan Pahang, Pulau Pinang (dua) dan Sarawak (satu).

"Mangsa terdiri daripada 14 lelaki dan 12 wanita berusia antara 36 hingga 85 tahun dengan pelbagai latar belakang penyakit seperti kencing manis, jantung, darah tinggi, strok serta gout," katanya dalam kenyataan semalam.

Dalam perkembangan sama, Noor Hisham berkata, Malaysia turut merekodkan 3,733 lagi jangkitan baharu, manakala jumlah kumulatif pesakit sembuh se-



**PENIAGA** bazar Ramadan dan Aidilfitri di Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman, Kuala Lumpur bertegang urat dengan anggota penguat kuasa selepas diarahkan menutup operasi berikutan lokasi tersebut berada dalam titik panas penularan Covid-19. – FARIZ RUSADIO

banyak 401,934.

"Jumlah kes aktif terus menunjukkan trend peningkatan kepada 37,060 dengan 416 pesakit berada di unit rawatan rapi termasuk 216 memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," katanya.

Selain itu, katanya, terdapat 13 kluster baharu dikenal pasti

melibatkan lima kluster tempat kerja, lima kluster komuniti, dua kluster keagamaan dan satu kluster institusi pendidikan Kementerian Pendidikan (KPM).

Ujarnya, kluster baharu itu melibatkan Selangor, Johor, Pulau Pinang, Sarawak, Kelantan, Perak, Terengganu dan Negeri Sembilan.

"Kluster tempat kerja ialah Kluster Kawasan Industri Dua (100 kes), Jalan Satu (16 kes), Lorong Tiung (25 kes), Tapak Bina Jalan Tun Hussein Onn (51 kes) dan Kopitiam Kampung Selamat (19 kes).

"Kluster komuniti pula ialah Jalan Stadium Negeri (17 kes),

COVID-19	
<b>Angka terkini kes Covid-19 di Malaysia sehingga semalam</b>	
	<b>Jumlah</b>
Kes baharu	3,733
Import	6
Tempatan	3,727
Pulih	3,211
Kematian	26
Masih dirawat	37,060
Jumlah kes sembuh	401,934
Jumlah Kematian	1,683
<b>Jumlah kes keseluruhan</b>	<b>440,677</b>

Tebedu Mawang (21 kes), Sri Tualang (27 kes), Jalan L. Sungai Behrang (17 kes) dan Lak Lok (26 kes)," katanya.

Katanya, kluster keagamaan ialah Kluster Tanah Merah (41 kes) dan Jalan Haji Mahmud (14 kes).

"Selain itu ialah kluster institusi pendidikan swasta yang berdaftar di bawah KPM iaitu Kluster Desa Murni dengan 29 kes," katanya.

## Penduduk Tanah Putih Baru diminta tampil buat saringan

**KUANTAN** – Polis meminta kira-kira 200 penduduk Tanah Putih Baru dekat sini, untuk tampil membuat ujian saringan Covid-19 yang dijadualkan hari ini selepas mereka meninggalkan kawasan itu sebelum pelaksanaan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan (PKPD) bermula Rabu lalu.

Ketua Polis Daerah Kuantan, Asisten Komisioner Mohamad Noor Yusof Ali berkata, ujian saringan Covid-19 itu akan dilakukan di Dewan Jubli Perak Sultan Haji Ahmad Shah, Jalan Teluk Sisek, dekat sini.

"Bagi penduduk yang meninggalkan kediaman mereka (sebelum PKPD) dan mempunyai gejala (Covid-19), mereka perlu segera ke klinik kesihatan berdekatan bagi menjalani ujian (saringan) dan tidak perlu tunggu esok (hari ini).

"Perkara ini sangat penting memandangkan Kluster Tanah Putih Baru amat cepat merebak dan setakat semalam, terdapat

57 kes dikesan positif Covid-19 selain dua kes kematian membabitkan warga emas berusia 69 dan 88 tahun," katanya selepas melakukan pemantauan di taman perumahan berkenaan semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, Mohamad Noor berkata, polis mendapat maklumat terdapat antara 100 hingga 200 penduduk yang keluar dari kawasan itu sebelum PKPD dikuatkuasakan.

"Kita ada buat lawatan dan tinjauan sebelum PKPD dilaksanakan tapi bila periksa semula, ada rumah yang sebelum ini ada orang, sudah tidak berpenghuni.

"Jadi kita minta kerjasama pihak yang terbabit, buatlah saringan bagi mengesan dan memutuskan rantaian wabak ini di daerah Kuantan," katanya.

Sementara itu, beliau berkata, walaupun PKPD dilaksanakan, operasi perniagaan tetap dibenarkan dengan syarat perlu mengikut prosedur operasi standard (SOP) ditetapkan.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN  
 MUKA SURAT : 6  
 RUANGAN : VAKSIN UNTUK RAKYAT

# 26 lagi kematian akibat Covid-19

Sebanyak 416 kes dirawat di ICU dengan 216 daripadanya memerlukan bantuan pernafasan

Oleh NAZRIN ZULKAFLI

SHAH ALAM

Jumlah kematian pada Ahad mencatatkan angka tertinggi iaitu sebanyak 26 orang manakala kes baharu positif Covid-19 menurun kepada 3,733 menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kes pandemik itu di Malaysia adalah sebanyak 440,677 kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah melalui Twitter rasmi beliau pada Ahad memaklumkan, daripada jumlah tersebut sebanyak 3,727 kes tempatan dan enam merupakan kes import.

"Selangor terus mencatatkan kes baharu tertinggi dengan 1,278 kes diikuti Sarawak iaitu 454 kes dan Johor sebanyak 365 kes," kata beliau.

Menurutnya, Kuala Lumpur pula mencatat 338 kes, Pulau Pinang (280), Kelantan (254), Negeri Sembilan (205), Kedah (176), Pahang (100), Perak (80), Melaka (66) dan Sabah (61).

"Terengganu pula mencatatkan sebanyak 49 kes manakala Putrajaya 20 kes, Labuan (6) dan Perlis (1)," katanya.

Sementara itu, Dr Noor Hisham memberitahu, sebanyak 3,211 kes sembuh dilaporkan pada Ahad menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes sembuh adalah sebanyak 401,934 kes.

Sebanyak 416 kes dirawat



DR NOOR HISHAM

di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) dengan 216 daripadanya memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

Beliau berkata, sebanyak 13 kluster baharu dikenal pasti menjadikan 436 kluster aktif daripada 1,788

jumlah kluster.

Menurutnya, kluster baharu melibatkan lima tempat kerja iaitu di Jalan Satu, Gombak; Lorong Tiung, Kuala Langat, Klang; Kawasan Industri Dua, Muar; Tapak Bina Jalan Tun Hussein Onn, Seberang Prai Tengah dan Kopitiam Kam-

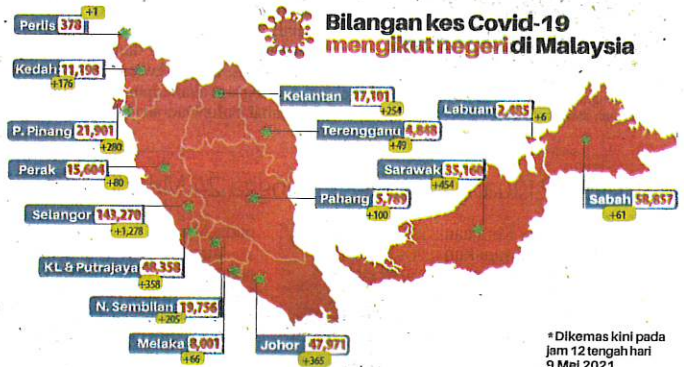
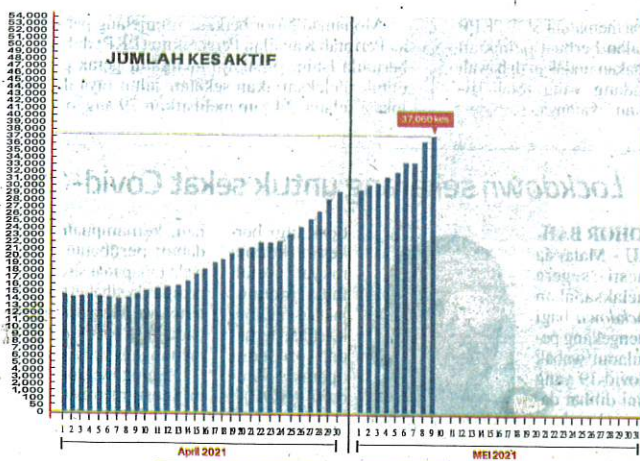
pung Selamat, Seberang Perai Utara dan Seberang Perai Tengah.

Selain itu, kata Dr Noor Hisham, terdapat lima kluster komuniti iaitu di Jalan Stadium Negeri, Kuching, Samarahan dan Serian; Tebedu Mawang, Tebedu; Sri Tualang, Pasir Mas; Jalan L Sungai Behrang, Muallim dan Lak Lok, Besut dan Kota Bharu.

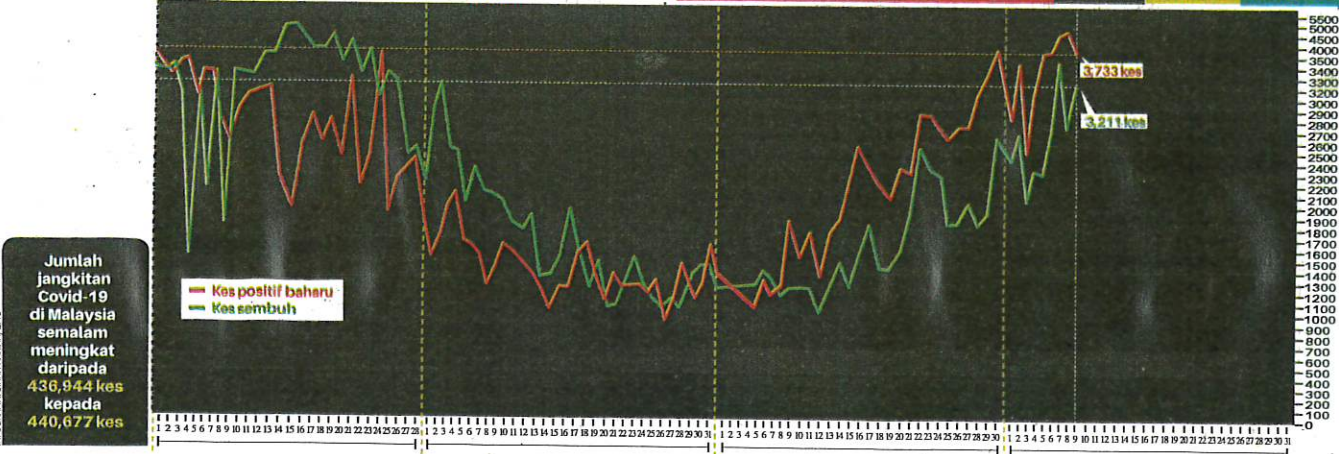
"Dua kluster keagamaan melibatkan Tanah Merah, Port Dickson dan Seremban serta Jalan Haji Mahmud, Johor Bahru dan Kota Tinggi.

"Satu kluster institusi pendidikan swasta iaitu Desa Murni, Seberang Perai Utara dan Seberang Perai Tengah," kata beliau.

## SITUASI TERKINI KES COVID-19 DI MALAYSIA



JUMLAH KES BAHARU DAN SEMBUH DILAPORKAN SETIAP HARI					
JUMLAH KESELURUHAN:	PULIH:	ICU:	KEMATIAN:	KES BAHARU:	SUDAH DIVAKSIN:
440,677	401,934	416	1,683	+3,733	1,754,156



INFOGRAFIK SINAR HARIAN/ERC

AKHBAR : UTUSAN MALAYSIA

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : DALAM NEGERI

436 kluster masih aktif, 26 kematian

## Selangor tidak berubah

Oleh MAISARAH SHEIKH RAHIM  
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**PUTRAJAYA:** Sebanyak 436 kluster Covid-19 di negara ini masih aktif dengan 13 lagi kluster baharu direkodkan semalam menjadikan keseluruhan kumulatif kluster berjumlah 1,788 dengan 1,352 kluster ditamatkan.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, daripada 13 kluster yang direkodkan adalah melibatkan lima tempat kerja, empat kluster komuniti, dua kluster keagamaan dan satu kluster institusi pendidikan swasta yang berdaftar di bawah Kementerian Pendidikan (KPM).

"Kluster tempat kerja melibatkan Kluster Jalan Satu di Gombak Selangor dengan 16 kes positif direkodkan; Kluster Lorong Tiung di Kuala Langat dan Klang, Selangor (25 kes), Kluster Tapak Bina Jalan Tun Hussein Onn di Seberang Prai Pulau Pinang (51 kes) dan Kluster Kopitiam Kampung Selamat di Seberang Perai Utara dan Seberang Perai Tengah, Pulau Pinang (19 kes).

"Kluster komuniti pula melibatkan Jalan Stadium Negeri di Kuching, Samarahan dan Serian, Sarawak (17 kes) Kluster Tebedu Mawang di Tebedu, Sarawak (21 kes); Kluster Sri Tualang di Pasir Mas, Kelantan ( 27 kes); Kluster Jalan L. Sungai Behrang Muallim, Perak (17 kes) serta Kluster Lak Lok di Besut, Terengganu dan



**PETUGAS** kesihatan membuat ujian calitan ke atas Muhammad Eusuff Mohd. Imran di Kajang, Selangor, semalam. - UTUSAN/AFIQ RAZALI

Kota Bharu, Kelantan (26 kes)," katanya dalam kenyataan semalam.

Menurut Dr. Noor Hisham, kluster keagamaan membabit-

kan Kluster Jalan Haji Mahmud di Johor Bahru dan Kota Tinggi, Johor (14 kes) Kluster Tanah Merah di Port Dickson dan Seremban, Negeri Sembilan (41

kes) selain Kluster Desa Murni melibatkan Institusi Pendidikan Swasta yang Berdaftar di bawah KPM di Seberang Perai Utara dan Seberang Perai Tengah, Pulau Pinang (29 kes).

Dalam pada itu, beliau berkata, kes positif baharu Covid-19 turun sedikit berbanding semalam iaitu sebanyak 3,733 kes sekali gus mengatasi kes sembuh 3,211 kes.

Katanya, sejumlah 37,060 kes aktif dicatatkan dengan 416 kes pesakit di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) dan kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan sebanyak 216 kes.

Ujar beliau, Selangor merekodkan kes tertinggi iaitu 1,278 diikuti Sarawak, 454 kes, Johor 365 kes, Kuala Lumpur 338 kes, Pulau Pinang 280 kes, Negeri Sembilan 205 kes.

"Kelantan mencatatkan 254 kes, Kedah 176 kes, Pahang 100 kes manakala negeri-negeri lain merekodkan kes dua angka seperti Perak (80 kes), Melaka (66 kes), Sabah 61 kes, Terengganu (49 kes) serta Putrajaya 20 kes.

"Hanya Labuan dan Perlis merekodkan kes satu angka iaitu masing-masing enam dan satu kes," katanya.

Dr. Noor Hisham berkata, daripada 26 kes kematian semalam melibatkan tujuh kes di Selangor, enam kes di Kuala Lumpur, empat kes di Johor, masing-masing tiga kes di Kelantan dan Pahang, dua kes di Pulau Pinang dan satu kes di Sarawak.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : NATION/NEWS

## PANDEMIC

# RECORD DAILY RISE IN COVID-19 DEATHS

Selangor has highest number of infections yet again

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**M**ALAYSIA recorded its highest number of daily Covid-19 related deaths when 26 fatalities were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) yesterday.

This brings the Covid-19 death toll to 1,683.

The previous high was on Feb 18 and Saturday, when 25 deaths were recorded.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said 25 people who died yesterday were Malaysians.

"Seven deaths were recorded in

Selangor, followed by six in Kuala Lumpur and four in Johor.

"Kelantan and Pahang reported three fatalities each.

"Sarawak and Penang recorded one and two Covid-19 deaths respectively," he said yesterday.

The youngest was a 36-year-old woman, who was suffering from diabetes and hypertension, as well as obesity.

She died at Sultan Ismail Hospital in Johor Baru.

He said the daily Covid-19 cases dropped slightly below 4,000; the ministry detected 3,733 new infections in the past 24 hours.

"This brought the cumulative cases to 440,677, 37,060 of which are active cases.

"From the total number of new cases detected by the ministry up



Residents taking part in a Covid-19 screening exercise in Bandar Baru Bangi in Selangor yesterday. PIC BY: AIZUDDIN SAAD

to noon today (yesterday), 3,727 were due to local transmissions, with the rest imported cases involving one local and five non-citizens."

Selangor remained the state with the highest number of cases at 1,278.

This was followed by Sarawak at 454, Johor at 365 and Kuala Lumpur at 338.

Other states that recorded three-digit figures were Kelantan (254), Penang (208); Negri Sembilan (205), Kedah (176) and Pahang (100).

He added that 416 cases were being treated in intensive care units, 216 of whom were intubated.

"The number of recoveries up to noon today (yesterday) was 3,211, which brought total recoveries to 401,934."

Thirteen new clusters were detected yesterday.

Five clusters were related to workplaces in Selangor, Penang and Johor.

Five community clusters were detected in Sarawak, Kelantan, Terengganu and Perak.

Two clusters in Johor and Negri Sembilan were categorised as religious clusters.

One of them, the Desa Murni cluster, was linked to a private education institution registered under the Education Ministry in Penang.

"From the total number of clusters detected by the ministry up to noon today (yesterday), the Kawasan Industri Dua workplace cluster in Muar, Johor, recorded the highest number of cases, with 100 out of 124 people testing positive."

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NATION

# 'Let's not be complacent'

## Community leaders call for self-discipline to break chain

By MARTIN CARVALHO  
and ILI AQILAH  
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**PETALING JAYA:** Calls are mounting for Malaysians to initiate a voluntary lockdown to flatten the Covid-19 curve.

Alliance For Safe Community chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said the people should stop debating the dos and don'ts of the current movement control order.

"This is no time to debate over what activities are allowed and what are not, or what should be allowed and what shouldn't.

"Let's do a voluntary lockdown for a specific two-week period to bring down the curve and help our health authorities cope with the situation," he said in a statement yesterday.

He made the call after a warning from Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah that complacency in fighting Covid-19 could result in over 5,000 cases daily by the end of this month if no drastic action is taken to curb the spread of the virus.

Lee argued that complacency had also set in with the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme having kicked off.

"Please, let's all rally around. Whether there is an SOP (standard operating procedure) or not, let's all do the right thing.

"Have no social gatherings, no religious meetings, no bazaars, no school, no visits, etc.

"Don't wait for the authorities to wield the big stick. Let's just discipline ourselves.

"It's not hard to do, as we have had some experience during the first wave and lockdown last year," he added.

Urging everyone to stay in, dine at home and work from home, Lee also said lack of discipline was the major cause of the worsening Covid-19 situation currently.

He said that both government and private hospitals were being overwhelmed by Covid-19 cases, resulting in frontliners being overworked.

"Yet, despite this onerous position, we still see people violating the basic SOP by not wearing face masks, washing hands or practising physical distancing," he added.

Meanwhile, Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said it would be a very crucial two to four weeks for Malaysia to contain the infection.

"We cannot succeed without the collaboration of the people.

"Stay at home if possible. Have an in-house Hari Raya among yourselves just like last year.

"Last year after Hari Raya, there was no surge in infection.

"Why can't we do it again?" the Health director-general asked.

In **Johor Baru**, former menteri besar Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nordin said Malaysia should go into an immediate lockdown to restrict human traffic to curb the further spread of Covid-19.

The Umno vice-president said such a drastic measure was needed as health protocols were no longer effective and the rakyat was beginning to show fatigue in adhering to the SOP.

"Developed countries have taken

steps to implement lockdowns to restrict human traffic because it is the best way to break the chain," he said.

"Malaysia is in a critical phase now, with the slow vaccination process being carried out and public healthcare facilities and workers being stretched to the maximum.

"All economic sectors should give way to this 'health emergency' and the nation should go into an immediate lockdown to address the increase in Covid-19 clusters and sporadic infections," he said in a statement.

Mohamed Khaled added that all Malaysians should consider forgoing Hari Raya visits in view of the rising number of Covid-19 cases, and this included VIPs and politicians.

He also urged the government to increase the functionality of the MySejahtera app rather than using it just as a QR code scanner.

The app should be equipped with the technology to inform the user that they have been in close contact with a Covid-19 positive individual through proximity notifications, he suggested.

"However, no matter how advanced the technology, the best way to break the virus chain still lies in the restriction of human movement," he added.

In **Ipoh**, non-governmental groups (NGOs) are urging the public to adhere to SOP, saying that too many are still ignorant about the need to comply.

Perak Women for Women Society's S. Sumathi said the public could make a difference if everyone

played their role as responsible citizens.

"Each and every one of us has been affected by this pandemic in one way or another.

"We can make a difference if we follow the SOP strictly. It is not just there to control us or to restrict our movement, but to ensure that things go back to near normal as soon as possible," she said.

Sumathi said members of the public were not strictly complying with SOP because many do not understand the consequence of the pandemic.

"I believe most people think that they will not get infected by the virus or just don't take matters seriously.

"If the pandemic goes out of control, there is the possibility that frontliners would be unable to control the situation," she added.

Ipoh City Watch president Dr Richard Ng said the government would need to take stringent measures including strict enforcement and supervision to ensure that the chain of transmission was broken until herd immunity had been achieved.

"I urge each and every one of us to comply with SOP and adhere to the 3Cs: avoid crowded places, confined and enclosed spaces, and close contact settings.

"Stay at home as much as we can. But if we have to go out, ensure we put on a face mask at all times, sanitise our hands and observe physical distancing.

"Never take things for granted, even if we have got our vaccine jab," he added.