AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 14
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

15,669 kes harian baharu dicatat semalam

Putrajaya: Angka penularan COVID-19 di negara ini terus mencatat penurunan tiga hari berturut-turut apabila sebanyak 15,669 kes baharu dilaporkan semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata pertambahan kes itu menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan individu yang dijangkiti virus berkenaan kini sudah mencecah dua juta iaitu sejumlah 2,011,440 kes.

Katanya, Selangor kembali menjadi negeri tertinggi mencatatkan kes harian iaitu sejumlah 2,632 kes, diikuti Sarawak (1,983), Johor (1,974), Sabah (1,784), Pulau Pinang (1,651), Kelantan (1,406) dan Kedah (1,207).

Selain itu ialah Pahang dengan 763 kes baharu, Perak (856), Terengganu (483), Kuala Lumpur (411), Melaka (329), Negeri Sembilan (143), Perlis (30), Putrajaya (14) dan Labuan (tiga).

"Daripada jumlah kes baharu yang dikesan semalam, sejumlah 15,386 kes bersamaan 98.2 peratus terdiri daripada pesakit kategori satu dan dua serta 283 kes atau 1.8 peratus lagi adalah dalam kategori tiga hingga lima," katanya dalam kenyataan semalam.

Mengenai kes yang dimasukkan di dalam unit rawatan rapi (ICU), Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sebanyak 954 kes COVID-19 sedang dirawat di dalam wad berkenaan dengan 432 kes masih memerlukan alat bantuan pernafasan.

Noor Hisham Abdullah

Dalam pada itu, Dr Noor Hisham memaklumkan terdapat 29 kluster dikesan semalam, iaitu 13 kluster tempat kerja, dalam kalangan komuniti (12) dan kumpulan berisiko tinggi (tiga).

"Terdapat 10 kluster baharu dikesan di Kelantan, Johor (lima), Perak (empat), tiga masing-masing di Pahang dan Sarawak, Selangor (dua) dan masing-masing satu di Pulau Pinang dan Kuala Lumpur," katanya.

Beliau juga berkata, terdapat 18,053 kes sembuh sekali gus menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kes pulih sepenuhnya daripada COVID-19 ialah 1,764,579 kes.

Sementara itu, berdasarkan pangkalan maklumat COVIDNOW kendalian Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM), angka korban disebabkan COVID-19 di negara ini kelmarin, terus merekodkan pola penyusutan sejak 3 September lalu dengan terbaru 104 kes kematian dilaporkan dalam tempoh 24 jam.

Sebanyak 309 kes kematian tertunggak atau 'back log' disahkan kelmarin, sekali gus menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan yang meninggal dunia ialah 413 kes.

Mengikut perangkaan itu, sebanyak 176 kes kematian di luar kemudahan kesihatan (BID) yang menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan 3,958 meninggal dunia sebelum diberi bantuan perubatan.

Selangor negeri tertinggi melaporkan kes kematian kelmarin, termasuk jumlah tertunggak iaitu 111 kes, diikuti Kedah (54), Johor (52), Sabah (39), Kelantan (38), Pulau Pinang (33) dan Negeri Sembilan (29), Pahang (15), Melaka dan Perak masing-masing 13 kes, Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur (lapan) serta Sarawak dan Terengganu masing-masing lima kes manakala Perlis, Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan dan Putrajaya tidak melaporkan sebarang pertambahan kes kematian.

Sementara itu, bagi kes aktif dengan kebolehjangkitan COVID-19 di negara ini, COVIDNOW memaklumkan sebanyak 228,124 kes dilaporkan sehingga jam 11.59 malam kelmarin, dengan 188,563 atau 82.7 peratus masih menjalani kuarantin di rumah.

Selain itu, Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan COVID-19 Bersepadu (PKRC) setakat kelmarin, menempatkan 25,350 kes (11.1 peratus), hospital (12,910), manakala unit rawatan rapi (ICU) yang memerlukan alat bantuan pernafasan ialah 687 kes dan tanpa alat bantuan pernafasan (614).

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO
MUKA SURAT : 7
RUANGAN : COVID-19

Selangor kembali rekod kes harian tertinggi

283
jumlah kes direkodkan dalam kategori 3, 4, dan 5

2,632
Kes baharu positif Covid-19 di Selangor setakat semalam

Kuala Lumpur: Penularan Covid-19 dalam negara terus mencatatkan penurunan apabila merekodkan 15,669 kes baharu semalam, berbanding 16,073 kes kelmarin.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, pertambahan itu menjadikan jumlah kes kumulatif keseluruhan jangkitan virus itu kepada 2,011,440 kes.

"Daripada jumlah yang positif itu sebanyak 283 kes (1.8 peratus) adalah kategori 3, 4, dan 5 manakala 15,386 kes (98.2 peratus) lagi adalah terdiri daripada kategori 1 dan 2.

"Daripada kes yang dilaporkan juga, 17 kes adalah kes import iaitu membabitkan tujuh warganegara dan 10 bukan warganegara," katanya dalam satu kenyataan, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, Selangor kembali merekodkan kes harian tertinggi dengan 2,632 kes diikuti Sarawak (1,983 kes) dan Johor (1,974 kes).

"Sabah merekodkan 1,651 kes disusuli Pulau Pinang (1,651 kes), Kelantan (1,406 kes), Kedah (1,207 kes) dan Perak (856 kes).

"Pahang merekodkan 763 kes, seterusnya Terengganu (483 kes), Kuala Lumpur (411 kes), Melaka (329 kes), Negeri Sembilan (143 kes), Perlis pula merekodkan 30 kes, Putrajaya (14 kes) dan Labuan (tiga kes)," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, menurut beliau, sebanyak 1,266 kes memerlukan rawatan di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) iaitu 954 kes disahkan Covid-19 manakala 312 kes adalah kes disyaki dan masih dalam siasatan.

"Daripada jumlah itu, 689 kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan dengan 432 kes disyaki Covid-19 dan 257 kes adalah dalam siasatan.

"Sementara itu, sebanyak 18,053 kes sembuh dilaporkan hari ini (semalam) menjadikan kes sembuh keseluruhan ialah 1,764,579," katanya.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO
MUKA SURAT : 8
RUANGAN : COVID-19

17,480,766 sudah lengkap suntikan

Kuala Lumpur: Sebanyak 53.5 peratus atau 17,480,766 daripada keseluruhan populasi di negara ini sudah melengkapkan suntikan vaksin Covid-19, setakat kelmarin.

Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) menerusi perkongsian di https://covidnow.moh.gov.my memaklumkan sebanyak 66 peratus atau 21,573,348 pula menerima sekurang-kurangnya satu dos.

Bagi vaksinasi harian pula, sebanyak 227,147 dos vaksin diberikan kelmarin menjadikan keseluruhan dos yang diberikan menerusi Program Imunisasi Covid-19 Kebangsaan (Pick) meningkat kepada 38,990,335.

Sementara itu, setakat jam 11.59 malam 13 September, sebanyak 104 kematian sebenar harian Covid-19 direkodkan dalam tempoh 24 jam dan 309 kes kematian tertunggak.

Perkembangan terbaharu itu menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kematian akibat Covid-19 di Malaysia meningkat kepada 21,124 kes. - Bernama

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO
MUKA SURAT : 11
RUANGAN : DEWAN RAKYAT

Terus tambah katil hospital

Kuala Lumpur: Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) menyasarkan nisbah katil hospital kepada 1,000 penduduk pada kadar 2.08 pada akhir Rancangan Malaysia Kedua Belas (RMK-12).

Menteri Kesihatan Khairy Jamaluddin berkata, pada akhir RMK-11 tahun lalu, nisbah tercapai adalah 2.01 dengan bilangan katil hospital meningkat daripada 55,952 katil pada 2016 kepada 65,508 katil tahun lalu.

"Bagi mencapai sasaran ditetapkan, KKM meneruskan inisiatif untuk menambah bilangan katil hospital menerusi pembinaan hospital baharu dan menaik taraf hospital serta fasiliti sedia ada.

"Tumpuan diberikan kepada hospital sedia ada yang mempunyai kadar penggunaan katil tinggi," katanya menjawab soalan lisan ***S Kesavan (PH-Sungai Siput)*** di Dewan Rakyat, semalam.

Kesavan meminta Khairy menyatakan apakah sasaran diambil kerajaan untuk mencapai tahap penyediaan katil hospital yang lebih tinggi.

Bagi mencapai sasaran ditetapkan, KKM meneruskan inisiatif untuk menambah bilangan katil hospital menerusi pembinaan hospital baharu"

Khairy

Selain itu, Khairy menjelaskan, faktor lain yang turut diambil kira ialah kepadatan penduduk, akses kepada perkhidmatan di hospital sedia ada dan peruntukan kewangan kerajaan.

"Selain meningkatkan bilangan katil di hospital dan fasiliti KKM, kementerian juga menggunakan pendekatan untuk mengoptimumkan bilangan katil sedia ada menerusi perkhidmatan rawatan harian di hospital utama bagi mengurangkan keperluan terhadap katil pesakit dalam.

"Pelaksanaan program hospital kluster yang perkhidmatan kepakaran dikembangkan ke hospital tanpa pakar dengan kadar penggunaan katil yang rendah," katanya.

Khairy berkata, walaupun negara dilanda pandemik Covid-19, KKM tidak menghentikan atau mengurangkan perkhidmatan kepada pesakit bukan Covid-19 terutama bagi kes kecemasan dan separa kecemasan.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NEGARA

Kes Covid-19 cecah lebih dua juta

PUTRAJAYA – Kes Covid-19 negara mencecah angka dua juta semalam dengan 2,011,440 kes, walaupun penularan harian menurun kepada 15,669.

Kali terakhir negara mencatatkan angka 15,000 ialah pada 29 Julai lalu dengan 15,656 kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, Selangor merekodkan sebanyak 2,632 kes, diikuti Sarawak (1,983 kes), Johor (1,974) dan Sabah (1,784).

"Pulau Pinang (1,651), Kelantan (1,406), Kedah (1,207), Perak (856), Pahang (763), Terengganu (483), Kuala Lumpur (411), Melaka (329) dan Negeri Sembilan (143).

"Perlis (30), Putrajaya (14) dan Labuan (tiga)," kata beliau melalui hantaran di Facebook semalam.

Selain itu, sebanyak 413 kes kematian Covid-19 termasuk kematian tertunggak atau *backlog* dilaporkan kelmarin menerusi laman web *COVIDNOW*.

Berdasarkan maklumat yang dinyatakan, sebanyak 104 kes kematian sebenar dicatatkan kelmarin, meningkat sedikit berbanding kes kematian sebenar pada Ahad sebanyak 99 kes.

SEBANYAK 413 kematian Covid-19 dilaporkan kelmarin. – GAMBAR HIASAN

Daripada 413 kes tersebut, Selangor mencatatkan 111 kes, Kedah (54 kes), Johor (52), Sabah (39), Kelantan (36), Pulau Pinang (33), Negeri Sembilan (29), Pahang (15), Melaka dan Perak (masing-masing 13), Kuala Lumpur (lapan) serta Terengganu dan Sarawak (masing-masing lima).

"Tiada kematian dilaporkan di Perlis, Putrajaya dan Labuan. Ini menjadikan jumlah kes kematian terkini mencecah 21,124 kes.

"Selain itu, sebanyak 176 kes meninggal dunia di luar hospital atau *brought-in-dead* (BID) dilaporkan semalam (kelmarin)," katanya.

Sebanyak 228,124 kes aktif dicatatkan dengan 1,269 dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) termasuk 687 kes memerlukan bantuan alat pernafasan.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
MUKA SURAT : 10
RUANGAN : NEGARA

Bersediakah kita masuk fasa endemik?

Analisis Semasa

Bersama **NUR HUDA MUSA**

PEJAM celik, pejam celik, lebih kurang dua minggu lagi kita akan memasuki bulan Oktober. Sudah pasti Oktober adalah bulan yang mendebarkan orang ramai kerana negara dijangka memasuki fasa endemik.

Ini berdasarkan maklumat yang disampaikan Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar berhubung dapatan saintis di seluruh dunia yang mengatakan sukar untuk mencapai imuniti kelompok ekoran kemunculan pelbagai varian baharu yang mengancam nyawa.

Susulan itu, sehingga kini carian kata kunci fasa endemik di media sosial menunjukkan topik tersebut menjadi bualan ramai. Pelbagai pendapat disuarakan oleh rakyat, baik yang bersetuju mahupun tidak bersetuju.

Selepas sekian lama hidup dalam suasana Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP), saya pasti ramai penduduk telah pun bersedia untuk terus hidup bersama-sama virus Covid-19.

Cuma yang membimbangkan ialah adakah prosedur operasi standard (SOP) yang dirangka kerajaan relevan dan bolehkah masyarakat memahami dan menerima fasa endemik ini?.

Pakar Perunding Perubatan Kesihatan Awam, Datuk Seri Dr. Zulkornain Ahmad berkata, memasuki fasa endemik, ia tidak bergantung kepada kadar vaksinasi tinggi sahaja, tetapi kesedaran mengenai pematuhan SOP haruslah berjalan seiring.

Mengakui masih terlalu awal untuk Malaysia beralih ke fasa endemik, Zulkornain berkata, setiap pihak perlu memainkan peranan penting bagi memastikan pematuhan SOP dapat dipertingkatkan dan dikekalkan terutama sekali apabila kes harian masih merekodkan angka tinggi.

"Apabila merentas daerah di Lembah Klang dibenarkan, boleh lihat masih ramai yang tidak cakna dengan pematuhan SOP. Hujung minggu lalu hampir semua lokasi tumpuan sesak hingga sukar untuk mengekalkan penjarakan fizikal.

"Justeru, perkara ini harus dilihat dengan lebih teliti kerana jelas menunjukkan ramai lagi yang tidak sedar. Walaupun bakal ke fasa endemik tidak bermakna virus Covid-19 sudah tiada. Kerajaan perlu memainkan peranan yang amat besar untuk memastikan orang ramai faham apa itu endemik," katanya kepada *Kosmo!* baru-baru ini.

Sementara itu, Presiden Persatuan Pakar Perubatan Kesihatan Awam Malaysia, Datuk Dr. Zainal Ariffin Omar berkata, beralih ke fasa endemik adalah baik, namun perlukan kesedaran dan kefahaman yang amat tinggi dalam diri masyarakat.

"Apabila masuki fasa endemik, bermakna kita memasuki fasa mitigasi yang mana di sekeliling kita ada virus Covid-19. Sebagai contoh, penyakit demam denggi dan banyak lagi. Covid-19 kini sudah menjadi penyakit yang memang ada dalam komuniti.

"Penting untuk orang ramai ambil langkah berjaga-jaga dengan cara ambil vaksin dan kekalkan amalan pematuhan SOP seperti memakai pelitup muka serta menjaga penjarakan fizikal secara berterusan.

"Selain itu, penyampaian maklumat yang efektif harus bermula dari sekarang untuk membolehkan semua pihak bersedia memasuki fasa tersebut," ujarnya.

Natijahnya, mahu atau tidak, kita perlu bersedia memasuki fasa endemik yang memerlukan perubahan tingkah laku dalam norma baharu.

Dalam keadaan pandemik mahupun endemik, kita tidak boleh sama sekali mengabaikan SOP. Semua orang perlu menerima hakikat bahawa virus Covid-19 kini telah menjadi sebahagian daripada hidup kita.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : VAKSIN UNTUK RAKYAT

KKM sasar tambah katil hospital pada kadar 2.08 bagi 1,000 penduduk

KUALA LUMPUR – Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) akan meningkatkan jumlah katil hospital dengan menyasarkan nisbah katil hospital untuk 1,000 penduduk pada kadar 2.08 pada akhir Rancangan Malaysia Ke-12 (RMK-12).

Menterinya, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar berkata, bagi mencapai sasaran tersebut, KKM akan meneruskan inisiatif menambah bilangan katil menerusi pembinaan hospital baharu dan menaik taraf hospital serta fasiliti sedia ada.

"Pada tahun 2020 iaitu tahun akhir RMK-11, nisbah yang tercapai adalah 2.01 iaitu bilangan katil telah meningkat daripada 55,952 katil pada 2016 kepada 65,508 katil pada 2020.

"Bagi mencapai sasaran yang ditetapkan, KKM meneruskan inisiatif untuk menambah bilangan katil menerusi pembinaan hospital baharu dan menaik taraf hospital serta fasiliti sedia ada," katanya pada Mesyuarat Pertama Penggal Keempat Parlimen ke-14 pada Selasa.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika menjawab pertanyaan **Kesavan Subramaniam (PH- Sungai Siput)** yang ingin mengetahui sasaran KKM dalam mencapai tahap penyediaan katil hospital yang lebih tinggi.

Khairy menambah, tumpuan sasaran berkenaan diberikan kepada hospital sedia ada yang mempunyai kadar penggunaan katil yang tinggi.

"Faktor lain yang turut diambil kira adalah kepadatan penduduk, akses kepada perkhidmatan di hospital sedia ada dan peruntukan kewangan kerajaan," tambah Khairy.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : VAKSIN UNTUK RAKYAT

Angka Covid-19 lepasi 2 juta

Malaysia catat 15,699 kes baharu pada Selasa, Selangor kembali negeri tertinggi

Oleh TUAN BUQHAIRAH TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN

PUTRAJAYA

Kakitangan pawagam melakukan kerja-kerja sanitasi di dalam panggung selepas kerajaan membenarkan aktiviti panggung wayang kepada individu yang lengkap dua dos vaksinasi di Tanjung Golden Village (TGV) Cinema Sunway Velocity, Kuala Lumpur pada Selasa.

Kes baharu positif Covid-19 melepasi angka 2 juta pada Selasa selepas merekodkan pertambahan 15,699 kes.

Jumlah kes harian itu bagaimanapun menunjukkan penurunan sejak dua hari lalu.

Namun, Selangor kembali berada di tangga teratas melaporkan kes tertinggi iaitu 2,632 kes diikuti Sarawak (1,983), Johor (1,974), Sabah (1,784), Pulau Pinang (1,651) dan Kelantan (1,406).

Perak pula melaporkan 856 kes, Pahang (763), Terengganu (483), Kuala Lumpur (411), Negeri Sembilan (143), Perlis (30), Putrajaya (14) dan Labuan (3).

MENDEPANI KRISIS COVID-19: APA TINDAKAN KITA?

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, pertambahan itu menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kes positif Covid-19 adalah 2,011,440 kes.

"Daripada jumlah yang dilaporkan hari ini (Selasa), terdapat 283 kes (1.8 peratus) adalah kategori tiga hingga lima dan 15,386 kes (98.2 peratus) lagi adalah terdiri daripada kategori satu serta dua," katanya dalam kenyataan.

Menurutnya, sebanyak 1,266 pesakit dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) dan 689 memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

"Sebanyak 18,053 kes sembuh dilaporkan menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan 1,764,579 kes," katanya.

Beliau berkata, terdapat 29 kluster baharu dikenal pasti membabitkan 14 kluster tempat kerja dan 12 kluster komuniti serta tiga kluster berisiko tinggi.

Daripada data yang dikeluarkan, sebanyak sembilan kluster komuniti dikesan di Kelantan, dua di Sarawak dan satu di Pahang.

Jumlah keseluruhan kluster adalah 5,182 dan 3,734 telah diisytiharkan tamat manakala 1,448 lagi masih aktif.

Varian Delta, Beta menular hampir ke semua daerah di Terengganu

KUALA TERENGGANU - Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Terengganu (JKNT) menyeru orang ramai supaya lebih berwaspada susulan penularan 21 kes varian membimbangkan (VOC) membabitkan 12 kes varian Delta (B.1.617.2) dan sembilan kes varian Beta (B.1.351) yang dipercayai menular hampir ke semua daerah di negeri ini.

JKNT melalui satu kenyataan di laman Facebooknya pada Isnin memaklumkan, setakat ini hanya daerah Kuala Nerus belum merekodkan kes varian VOC.

"Terkini, Terengganu telah melaporkan sebanyak 21 kes VOC yang melibatkan 12 kes delta dan sembilan kes beta dengan lima kes di Hulu Terengganu, Kuala Terengganu (4), Besut (4), Marang (3), Kemaman (2), Dungun (2) dan Setiu (1).

"Besar kemungkinan varian berkenaan telah menular dengan meluas dalam komuniti di semua daerah dengan sekurang-kurangnya satu jenis VOC dilaporkan di seluruh daerah kecuali daerah Kuala Nerus," jelas kenyataan tersebut.

Sehubungan itu, katanya setiap masyarakat perlu mengambil serius terhadap penularan tersebut dengan mematuhi prosedur operasi standard (SOP) ditetapkan.

"Fakta yang sangat penting dan perlu diambil serius oleh setiap rakyat Terengganu adalah kadar kebolehjangkitannya yang tinggi dan sifatnya yang sentiasa berubah-ubah.

"Walaupun individu telah mengambil vaksin, mereka masih belum kebal sepenuhnya. Jangan leka kerana anda masih perlu mengekalkan pemakaian pelitup muka dan menjaga penjarakan fizikal di mana jua anda berada," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, beliau berkata, pengambilan vaksin akan dapat membendung seseorang itu daripada mendapat jangkitan Covid-19 yang lebih teruk.

Katanya, JKNT akan terus memantapkan aktiviti kawalan seperti memperbanyakkan ujian saringan Covid-19, melakukan pengesanan kontak rapat dan pengasingan kes serta langkah kesihatan awam lain bagi membendung penularan varian itu dalam komuniti.

"Orang ramai diminta mengamalkan SOP pada tahap tinggi terutama melibatkan penjarakan fizikal bagi mengekang penularan virus berkenaan.

"Selain itu, sentiasa mengamalkan penjagaan kebersihan tangan dan diri serta langkah kesihatan awam lain bagi membendung penularan varian ini dalam komuniti," katanya.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 27
RUANGAN : SINAR NEGERI

Peniaga tidak vaksin akan ditarik lesen perniagaan

MELAKA - Tindakan tegas termasuk membatalkan lesen perniagaan akan diambil kepada peniaga negeri ini yang tidak mahu divaksin.

NORHIZAM

Exco Pertanian, Penternakan dan Pembangunan Usahawan, Datuk Norhizam Hassan Baktee berkata, tindakan itu sebagai jaminan serta memberikan keyakinan kepada orang ramai termasuk pelancong sekiranya gerbang pelancongan domestik dibuka dijangka Oktober dan November depan.

Menurutnya, usaha itu mampu mengekang penularan pandemik Covid-19 dan orang ramai akan rasa lebih selamat sekali gus peniaga-peniaga mendapat limpahan rezeki menerusi pelancongan domestik.

"Kita telah beri nasihat dan amaran, tapi kalau masih ada peniaga yang tidak mahu vaksin, saya sendiri akan mengambil tindakan tegas dan menutup perniagaan mereka kerana kita tidak mahu hanya kerana seorang, kes kembali meningkat," tegasnya.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika ditemui selepas mengadakan lawatan ke tapak rumah Projek Baiti Jannati TNB Melaka di Kampung Baroh, Bachang, di sini pada Selasa.

Norhizam yang juga Ahli Dewan Undangan Negeri (ADUN) Pengkalan Batu berkata, dianggarkan kira-kira 80 peratus peniaga dan penjaja kecil telah lengkap menerima vaksin.

Menurutnya, kerajaan negeri telah memberikan beberapa kemudahan termasuk memberi peluang orang awam 'walk in' untuk mendapatkan vaksin di Pusat Pemberian Vaksin (PPV) seperti PPV Mega Stadium Hang Jebat.

"Saya minta peniaga-peniaga yang masih belum vaksin datanglah segera," katanya.

AKHBAR : UTUSAN MALAYSIA
MUKA SURAT : 8
RUANGAN : DALAM NEGERI

Rakyat Melaka tolak vaksin?

MELAKA: Suasana di pusat pemberian vaksin (PPV) mega di Melaka terus sepi walaupun kerajaan negeri telah membenarkan orang ramai mengambil suntikan Covid-19 itu secara datang terus (*walk-in*), bermula Sabtu lalu.

Difahamkan, setakat pukul 12 tengah hari pada hari pertama inisiatif itu bermula, hanya 90 individu termasuk warga asing hadir mendapatkan vaksin di PPV Mega Stadium Hang Jebat di sini.

Bercakap kepada *Utusan Malaysia*, Pengarah Klinikal PPV Mega Stadium Hang Jebat, Dr. Nooraishah Alias, 34, berkata, pusat berkenaan mula dibuka hujung bulan lalu dan menjadi lengang selepas beroperasi selama dua minggu.

Katanya, mengikut rekod kehadiran, jumlah yang hadir mendapatkan suntikan vaksin hanya sekitar 400 orang sehari pada minggu kedua, jauh lebih rendah berbanding kuota 5,000 penerima disasarkan kerajaan negeri.

"Kita telah melakukan pelbagai cara untuk memastikan penerima hadir termasuklah menghubungi individu serta syarikat, namun tiada perubahan ketara.

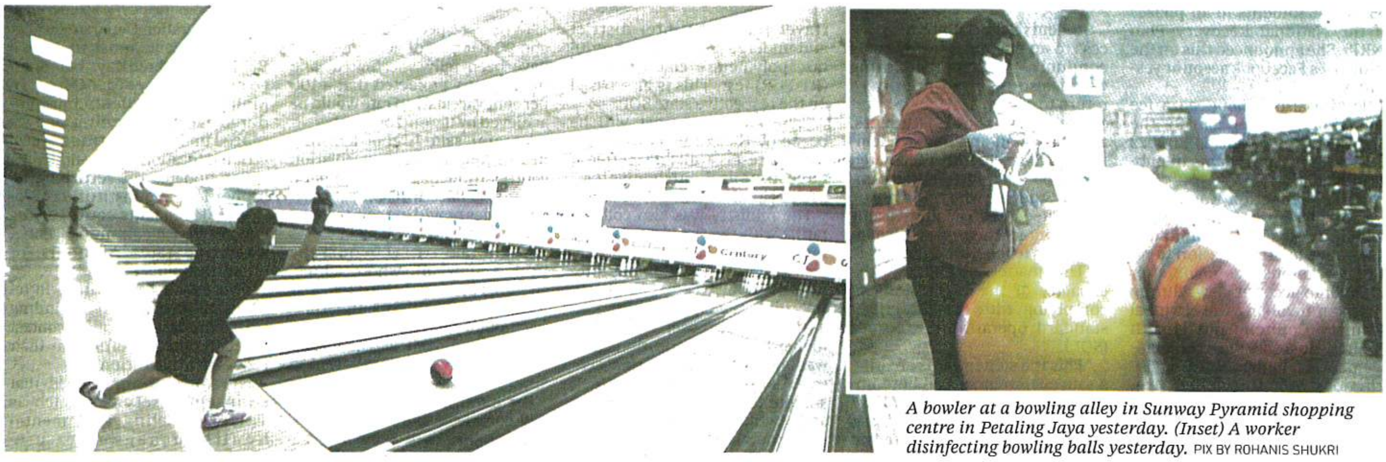
"Pada minggu kedua PPV ini dibuka, hanya 400 penerima yang hadir setiap hari," katanya ketika ditemui semalam.

Terdahulu, akhbar ini melaporkan, hampir 70,000 pendaftar vaksin melalui aplikasi MySejahtera di Melaka dikesan tidak hadir ke PPV.

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Kesihatan dan Anti Dadah negeri, Datuk Rahmad Mariman berkata, hasil maklum balas, seramai 54,000 orang memberikan pelbagai alasan termasuk mendakwa, tidak mahu menerima vaksin, namun didaftarkan oleh anak masing-masing.

Katanya, selain itu, ada yang memaklumkan tidak hadir disebabkan telah mendaftar permohonan vaksin sebanyak dua kali.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 3
RUANGAN : NEWS / STORY OF THE DAY



A bowler at a bowling alley in Sunway Pyramid shopping centre in Petaling Jaya yesterday. (Inset) A worker disinfecting bowling balls yesterday. PIX BY ROHANIS SHUKRI

Covid-19 deaths trending down but case tally tops 2 million

KUALA LUMPUR: The number of average daily Covid-19 deaths in a week in the country is continuing its downward trend, as the country's case tally tops two million.

According to the Health Ministry's CovidNow portal, the country's seven-day average of daily actual deaths was 104 as of 11.59pm on Monday, compared with 131 the day before. The seven-day average of actual deaths in the country hit a peak of 301 on Aug 7.

On Monday, 413 deaths due to Covid-19 were reported. However, this figure includes people who had died several days ago but have just been confirmed to have succumbed to Covid-19.

The country's Covid-19 death toll is now 21,124.

The country also registered an increase in brought-in-dead (BID) with 176 cases on Monday compared with 106 BID cases the day before.

The country's Intensive Care Unit (ICU) utilisation also slightly rose from 83.9 per cent on Sunday to 84.8 per cent on Monday.

Kedah and Kelantan continued to record an alarming ICU utilisation percentage, which saw both states busting its maximum capacity, at 123.1 per cent and 103.3 per cent respectively.

The ICU utilisation percentage in Penang, which stood at 101.8 per cent on Sunday, dropped to 94.9 per cent on Monday.

Apart from Penang, other states that registered significant downward trends in ICU utilisation rates are Johor (83.9 per cent from 91.9 per cent) and Perak (88.8 per cent from 93.9 per cent).

Other state and Federal Territories which have an ICU utilisation of 90 per cent and above are Selangor at 90.3 per cent and Putrajaya 95 per cent.

Labuan and Negri Sembilan continue to register ICU utilisation of below 50 per cent, with 17.4 per cent and 46.4 per cent respectively.

To date, 687 patients admitted to the ICU at healthcare facilities across the country are being ventilated.

As for the distribution of active Covid-19 cases, 82.7 per cent or 188,561 of the total 228,124 active cases were observing home quarantine.

More than 11 per cent of the active cases, or 25,352 patients were being treated and monitored at Covid-19 quarantine centres, while 5.7 per cent (of the total active cases), or 12,910 patients, were being treated in hospitals.

On daily Covid-19 infections, Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said 15,669 cases were recorded yesterday, which showed a decline for three consecutive days.

On Monday, the number of cases was 16,073.

However, the cumulative number of cases in the country has breached the two million mark, at 2,011,440 cases.

Dr Noor Hisham said Selangor returned as the state with the highest number of new cases with 2,632 infections.

It was followed by Sarawak (1,983), Johor (1,974), Sabah (1,784), Penang (1,651), Kelantan (1,406) and Kedah (1,207).

Other states recording three-digit cases were Pahang with 763 cases followed by Perak (856), Terengganu (483), Kuala Lumpur (411), Melaka (329) and Negri Sembilan (143).

Both Perlis and Putrajaya reported two-digit cases at 30 and 14 respectively, while Labuan registered three cases.

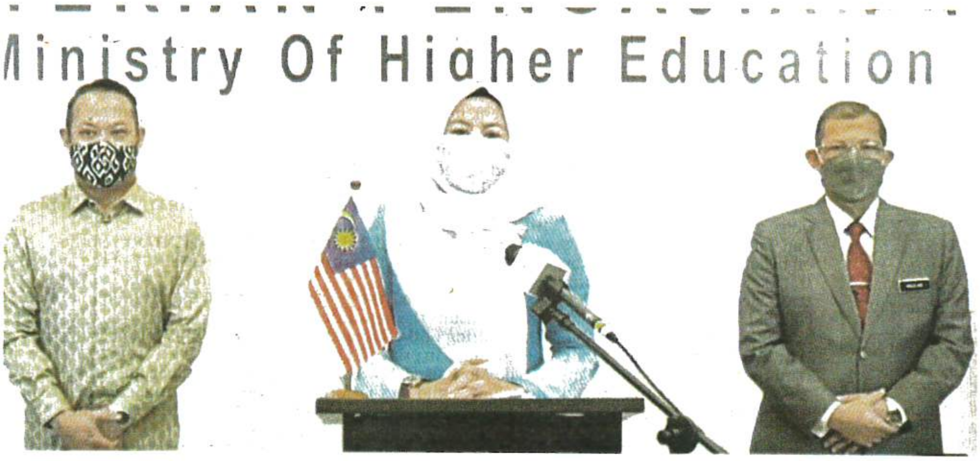
AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NEWS / STORY OF THE DAY

NewStraitsTimes . WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2021

REOPENING OF HIGHER LEARNING INSTITUTIONS

ONLY FULLY VACCINATED WILL BE LET IN

Public varsities to also reduce fees by 20pc for 1st semester of 2021/22, benefiting 555,340 students



Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad making the announcement yesterday on the reopening of higher learning institutions. PIC FROM HIGHER EDUCATION MINISTRY FACEBOOK PAGE

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UNIVERSITY students who are fully vaccinated can return to their higher learning institutions in stages starting from Oct 15.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Dr Noraini Ahmad said this was applicable to all categories of students in all phases of the National Recovery Plan (NRP). She announced this on the ministry's Facebook account yesterday.

Noraini also announced a fee reduction of 20 per cent for the first semester of the 2021/2022 session for local students in public universities.

The fee reduction would benefit 555,340 tertiary students, involving a cost of RM175 million.

Noraini said the decision to return to campus was made after taking into account views during a session involving the National Security Council and Health Ministry, together with the management of higher learning institutions, which included vice-chancellors, deputy vice-chancellors and representatives of private higher learning associations, as well as student councils and union/association representatives.

The decision would give priority to students pursuing all level of programmes that required practical work, laboratory sessions, clinical workshops and special equipment.

Students who did not have access to an environment that was conducive to virtual learning would also be given priority to return to campus.

Noraini said only students, academic staff and non-academic staff who were fully vaccinated would be allowed to enter campuses. Students who could not be vaccinated due to health reasons must contact their respective institutions for coordination.

"This matter is subject to the capacity of the institutions in complying with the prescribed standard operating procedures (SOP).

"This is a step towards creating a safe environment and herd immunity on campus."

The movement of students would be done in stages based on the academic calendars of the higher learning institutions.

"For institutions in the peninsula, students will only need to obtain a letter of permission to return to campus.

"For the institutions in Sarawak, Sabah and Labuan, they must obtain police permission to travel interstate/inter-district and undergo a reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) test. This is also based on the respective state SOP.

"The swab test cost will be borne by the students while the RT-PCR test is available for free at government health clinics," added Noraini.

The ministry was also collaborating with the Covid-19 National Immunisation Programme to implement its VACC2Campus programme to increase the number of fully inoculated individuals.

"For this purpose, residents of higher learning institutions may walk-in at any vaccination centre. They only need to bring their student card or employee card, and MyKad or passport.

"For new students, they need to bring their letter of offer to the university, along with their identity card or passport.

To date, 66 per cent of students and 90 per cent of academic staff have been fully vaccinated, and the ministry projected that a 100 per cent vaccination rate would be achieved by the end of October.

Noraini said higher-learning institutions must set up isolation centres to manage symptomatic cases and infections on campuses, besides providing self-test kits to returning students.

Meanwhile, students from the United Kingdom, whose admission was previously blocked, and international students undertaking mobility and edutourism programmes, as well as their legal dependents, would be allowed to enter Malaysia.

For international students who had completed their vaccination, Noraini said they must register with Education Malaysia Global Services (EMGS) before receiving approval to enter the country from the Immigration Department.

"The students must undergo a RT-PCR test three days before entering Malaysia. Once in Malaysia, the students must undergo health screening and be placed under quarantine at a designated location," she said.

For updates on returning to higher learning institutions, Noraini said students could call the Covid-19 KPT command centre, which operates 24 hours, or check the ministry's website.

Those facing difficulties in returning to campus, including transport issues, could contact the coordinating officer at their respective institutions.

Noraini also announced that counselling services, such as Tele-Kaunseling and mental health management programmes, would be provided for students under the #KPTPRIHATIN initiative.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 7
RUANGAN : NATION/NEWS

CRITICAL CARE

'NON-COVID PATIENTS NOT FORGOTTEN'

Khairy: Steps taken to cater for them include staff remobilisation and extension of healthcare facility operating hours

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THE Health Ministry will ensure non-Covid-19 patients receive the treatment they need, through six measures including remobilisation and outsourcing of staff and extension of healthcare facility operating hours.

Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said although the country was battling the pandemic, the Health Ministry had not stopped or reduced services rendered to non-Covid-19 patients, particularly for emergency and semi-emergency cases.

The first measure, he said, was to extend the operating hours of specialist clinics and operating theatres, including on Saturdays, for certain hospitals.

"We will optimise the usage of non-specialist hospitals and military hospitals to conduct procedures or surgeries through the concept of Cluster Hospitals.

"We will also mobilise Health Ministry and private specialists to hospitals which do not provide certain specialist services," he told the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Khairy was responding to a supplementary question from Kesavan Subramaniam (PH-Sungai Siput), who asked about the ministry's steps to ensure non-Covid patients received the treatment they needed.

Khairy, who is also Rembau member of Parliament, said the ministry would also outsource its services to reduce the waiting time for procedures or surgeries.

This outsourcing, he added, was done in stages based on the needs and current capabilities of the ministry.

"At present, the Health Ministry is working with 76 private hospitals nationwide. Up to July 31, a total of 3,974 procedures have been done.

"We also provide virtual healthcare services, including virtual clinics which have been started and would be expanded to several other hospitals and health clinics."

He also said the ministry would look into the feasibility of providing special non-Covid-19 hospitals to perform delayed elective procedures or surgeries once the country's full vaccination rate exceeds 60 per cent and serious Covid-19 cases reduce this month.

Datuk Seri Mohd Shafie Apdal (Warisan-Semporna), also asked the minister to explain steps taken to address the congestion at hospitals in Sabah's east coast, and the lack of oxygen tanks and facilities.

Khairy said in his recent visit to Sabah, the Health Ministry had, on Sept 7, sent 480 oxygen cylinders and 48 regulators to meet the urgent needs in the state.

"I visited Tawau, and have identified a site to set up a field hospital, with maybe 100 beds.

"We will take heed of what has happened in Sabah, and perhaps from time to time, we will see a spike in cases in other states which would need oxygen.

Khairy Jamaluddin

"Apart from ensuring enough oxygen facilities, the ministry will establish a rapid deployment unit, ensuring modular intensive care units and oxygen tanks can be sent quickly," he added.

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 6
RUANGAN : NATION

Simplified SOPs expected soon

Govt plans to reduce NRP dos and don'ts to 10 for easier understanding

By JOSEPH KAOS Jr
and AUSTIN CAMOENS
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Press briefing: Hishammuddin speaking at Parliament yesterday. With him are (from left) Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, Annuar, Khairy and Tengku Zafrul. — Bernama

KUALA LUMPUR: The frustration of having to scour through a complex web of Covid-19 dos and don'ts will be a thing of the past once a more simplified version of standard operating procedures (SOPs) is introduced, says Senior Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein.

He said currently, there are 181 National Recovery Plan SOPs and the government is reducing them to just 10.

"I think it will be easier for the public to understand the SOPs after we reduce them from 181 to about 10.

"The National Security Council (NSC) said they can do this in two to three weeks.

"We will get the Communications and Multimedia Ministry to announce the SOPs to the public using available platforms.

"The ministry will coordinate the announcements to ensure the information disseminated is consistent and easy for people to understand," Hishamuddin told a press conference in Parliament yesterday.

He was speaking after a meeting with Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin, Finance Minister Datuk Seri Tengku Zafrul Abdul Aziz and Communications and Multimedia Minister Tan Sri Annuar Musa.

Hishammuddin said the meeting had several agendas which centred on the easing of Covid-19 restrictions, the reopening of sectors and the transition into the endemic phase.

"The four of us have principally agreed on several Covid-19 relaxations, and this will be presented to the Prime Minister, and he will decide when to announce them," he added.

He added that the meeting also discussed whether interstate travel can be allowed.

"We spoke about this, and we feel that there are many risks we need to consider. We need to look at what activities we want to allow. There's also the issue of states being in different phases.

"It is not that simple and it would be irresponsible if we just reopened borders fully.

"But we are considering these relaxations because of people's mental well-being as they have been under lockdown for too long."

Hishammuddin said it is now up to the Tourism, Arts and Culture Ministry to show that the travel bubble plan which is set to commence tomorrow is a good and safe initiative.

"If Langkawi fails, we will not open other new travel bubbles.

"So it is incumbent on the ministry to prove to us that they can implement it in Langkawi first, before we open other destinations," he said of the Langkawi travel bubble initiative.

He added that he will meet Tourism, Arts and Culture Minister Datuk Seri Nancy Shukri to discuss the travel bubble SOPs.

This includes whether travellers must be tested before arriving in Langkawi.

"We hope there won't be a spike in cases (in Langkawi). If there are, we need to make sure we have adequate hospital capacity and so on."

On another matter, Hishammuddin who is also Defence Minister, said he will liaise with Wisma Putra over the terrorism threat travel advisory released by the Japanese embassy to its citizens in Malaysia.

"I am aware of the travel advisory and have been briefed by our military Intelligence on the issue.

"It leaned toward an issue on a social media platform.

"The Inspector-General of Police has already made a statement on the matter. There is no basis at all related to terrorism," he added.

"In terms of real threat, I can verify based on military intelligence and the Inspector-General of Police that there is no need to be worried," he said.

Watch the video
TheStarTV.com

New cases dip for the second day

PUTRAJAYA: The country's Covid-19 cumulative cases have breached the two-million mark, with 2,011,440 infections reported since the pandemic began last year.

The number of new cases saw a dip for a second day, with 15,669 reported yesterday, which was an improvement compared to Monday's 16,073 cases.

In the Klang Valley, new infections totalled 3,057, with Selangor recording 2,632 cases, followed by Kuala Lumpur (411) and Putrajaya (14).

Sarawak, which has been recording the highest number of cases in recent weeks, reported 1,983 new cases.

This is followed by Johor (1,974), Sabah (1,784), Penang (1,651), Kelantan (1,406), Kedah (1,207), Perak (856), Pahang (763), Terengganu (483), Kuala Lumpur (411), Melaka (328), Perlis (30), Putrajaya (14), and Labuan (three).

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said of the 15,669 cases, 98.2% (or 15,386) were mild to asymptomatic infections.

"A further 283 cases (1.8%) are in categories three, four and five," he said in a statement yesterday.

In the same 24-hour span, 18,053 patients were discharged from treatment, bringing the cumulative total of recoveries to 1,764,579.

The Health Ministry also identified 29 new clusters, taking the active number to 1,448.

The number of active Covid-19 cases is also on the downward trend, with 228,124 cases reported on Monday, a reduction of 9,153 cases from the previous day.

Of the total active cases, 82.7% are patients with mild infections who are undergoing home quarantine.

About 5.7% are hospitalised, while another 0.3% are in intensive care. The national ICU utilisation rate currently stands at 84.8%.

Kedah's ICU utilisation is stretched to 123.1%, while Kelantan's is struggling with a utilisation rate of 103.3%.

Non Covid-19 patients assured of treatment, says Khairy

KUALA LUMPUR: While the war against the pandemic continues, Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin assures Malaysians that non-Covid-19 patients will not be left out of the public healthcare system.

He said the Health Ministry has never stopped or reduced services to non Covid-19 patients, especially emergency and partial emergency cases.

Specialist clinics and surgeons are presently practising under extended operating hours to accommodate non-Covid-19 patients, he added.

"The operating hours of specialist clinics and surgery theatres have been extended until after work hours, including Saturdays," he told S. Kesavan (PH-Sungai Siput).

Khairy also said non-specialist hospitals and the armed forces hospitals will be optimised under the "cluster hospital" concept, where some hospitals will be used for certain procedures and surgeries.

For example, the Tuanku Mizan Hospital is used for emergency corneal paediatric ophthalmology surgery.

Khairy said Health Ministry specialists and private healthcare providers will be mobilised to hospitals that do not have specific procedures, such as the vitreoretina emergency service at the southern zone.

Private vascular surgeons in Johor are able to carry out vascular surgeries, specifically called 'ruptured aortic aneurysm'," he added.

Khairy also said the government has been outsourcing certain medical treatments to private hospitals in order to reduce waiting time among patients.

"Outsourcing is done in phases according to the needs and present abilities of the ministry based on the criteria of cases.

"Up till July 31, the Health Ministry has cooperated with 76 private hospitals and it involves 3,947 procedures," he added.

Health Ministry to form rapid deployment unit to help with supplies

KUALA LUMPUR: The Health Ministry will be forming a rapid deployment unit to send urgent oxygen supplies and modular ICUs to any states facing a surge in Covid-19 cases in the future, says Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin.

This is to ensure the same situation that happened in the past will not recur, whereby states facing a spike in cases did not have enough capacity to treat patients.

Khairy said the ministry had responded to the recent Covid-19 spike in Sabah by sending 480 oxygen cylinders and 48 oxygen regulators on Sept 7.

However, he admitted that during that latest surge, there was not enough supplies.

"That's why we sent additional supplies to Sabah.

"In Tawau, the ministry had also identified a site to set up a 100-bed field hospital," he said.

"Taking a lesson from the situation in Sabah, it is possible that from time to time, we will see states having a surge in cases and needing extra oxygen supplies," Khairy added.

"While we must ensure beds with pipe-in connection for oxygen are at a comfortable number, the Health Ministry will also be forming a rapid deployment unit to ensure we can send oxygen supplies and modular ICUs quickly to any states facing a spike in cases if new variants emerge," he said in response to Datuk Seri Shafie Apdal (Warisan-Semporna) in the Dewan Rakyat yesterday.

Shafie had asked what was the government's plan to address the shortage of emergency oxygen supplies in Sabah, which had been facing a rise in Covid-19 infections.

Earlier, Khairy said the ministry was aiming to increase the hospital bed to population ratio in the 12th Malaysia Plan to 2.08 beds per 1,000 people compared to 2.01 beds per 1,000 people now.

"To achieve this, the ministry is continuing the initiative to increase the number of hospital beds through the construction of new hospitals as well as the upgrading of hospitals and existing facilities," he said to a question by S. Kesavan (PH-Sungai Siput).

"The focus is on areas where available hospitals have the highest bed occupancy rate (BOR).

"Another factor that is also taken into account is population density, access to services in existing hospitals and government financial allocation," he said.