

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan COVID-19

# Malaysia, Singapura iktiraf sijil vaksinasi

Persetujuan memudahkan pergerakan sempadan dua negara

Oleh Essa Abu Yamin  
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**Pagoh:** Malaysia dan Singapura sepakat untuk mengiktiraf sijil vaksinasi COVID-19 masing-masing dalam tempoh terdekat bagi memudahkan pergerakan sempadan di kedua-dua negara.

Pengerusi Majlis Pemulihan Negara (MPN), Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, berkata beliau sebelum ini berhubung dengan Perdana Menteri Singapura, Lee Hsien Loong bagi membincangkan perkara itu dan republik berkenaan bersetuju dengan perkara itu.

"Dengan keadaan COVID-19

dan kadar vaksinasi di Malaysia dan Singapura belum selesai, mungkin beliau (Hsien Loong) agak berhati-hati.

"Malaysia juga mahu ke Singapura kerana hubungan kedua-dua negara ini begitu rapat, termasuk bagi urusan perniagaan setiap hari.

"Apabila sempadan negara tidak dapat dibuka lagi, ia menjadi masalah besar," katanya selepas mempengerusikan Mesyuarat Bersama Pimpinan BERSATU Johor di Pejabat BERSATU Bahagian Pagoh, di sini, semalam.

Ketika ini, Muhyiddin berkata, hanya lori dibenar masuk ke negara ini dengan pemandu kenderaan itu divaksin di Singapura.

"Jadi, ini antara perkara yang akan kita perhalusi bila ia dianggap sesuai dan Singapura bersetuju apabila vaksinasi sudah sampai ke peringkat yang lengkap.

"Apabila sijil vaksinasi Malaysia dan Singapura diiktiraf bersama, ia akan membolehkan pergerakan antara kedua-dua negara,

termasuk sempadan Thailand dan sempadan antarabangsa lain juga akan dibuka," katanya.

Beliau berkata, semua perkara itu akan diambil kira apabila vaksinasi sudah meningkat dan negara menjadi lebih selamat dengan sempadan daerah, negeri serta antarabangsa mula dibuka kelak.

"Kita akan teliti data dan pandangan pakar, termasuk pada peringkat Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) serta soal keselamatan sempadan yang di bawah Kementerian Dalam Negeri," katanya.

Kelmarin, Menteri Besar Johor, Datuk Hasni Mohammad, memberitahu Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Khas Keselamatan Negeri (JKKN) Johor bersetuju mengangkat cadangan prosedur operasi standard (SOP) pembukaan sempadan Malaysia-Singapura untuk pergerakan rentas sempadan harian (DCA) kepada Mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Khas Pengurusan Pandemik.

Hasni dilaporkan berkata, SOP



Penerima vaksin menunjukkan sijil vaksinasi selepas melengkapkan dua dos suntikan.  
(Foto Danial Saad /BH)

itu akan dikemukakan untuk menilai persediaan membenarkan pekerja Malaysia di Singapura berulang-alik sekiranya keputusan pembukaan semula sempadan mencapai kata sepakat.

Menteri Luar Negeri, Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah pada persidangan Dewan Rakyat kelmarin pula memaklumkan, Malaysia akan meneruskan rundingan dengan Singapura berhubung pembukaan semula sempadan secara berperingkat termasuk cadangan DCA, bergantung pada situasi kesihatan semasa.

Katanya, beliau difahamkan Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin mengadakan perbincangan melalui telefon dengan rakan sejawatnya, Menteri Kesihatan Singapura, Ong Ye Kung, baru-baru ini mengenai cadangan pembukaan semula sempadan Malaysia-Singapura.

Saifuddin berkata, disebabkan penularan COVID-19 masih belum reda, kedua-dua negara akan terus melaksanakan peraturan kesihatan yang ketat bagi pergerakan rentas sempadan buat masa ini.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

73 peratus pelajar IPT divaksinasi setakat Rabu lalu

**Shah Alam:** Kementerian Pengajian Tinggi (KPT) merekodkan 73 peratus pelajar institusi pengajian tinggi (IPT) di seluruh negara menerima vaksin COVID-19 setakat Rabu lalu.

Timbalan Menteri, Datuk Dr Ahmad Masrizal Muhammad, berkata kadar tinggi berkenaan menunjukkan bahawa pelajar IPT memahami kepentingan vaksinasi.

"Dalam kalangan kakitangan, kadar mencecah 91 peratus dan kita mahu pastikan kampus selamat," katanya selepas melawat Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Shah Alam, semalam, bagi melihat persediaan dan kesiapsiagaan UiTM menerima kemasukan pelajar bagi sesi akademik 2021/2022 bulan depan.

Yang turut hadir, Naib Canselor UiTM, Prof Dr Roziah Mohd Janor.

Pada masa sama, beliau tidak menolak kemungkinan ada kakitangan IPT menolak untuk divaksinasi.

"Pensyarah mungkin ada, tetapi saya tiada data lengkap, namun pelajar saya cukup yakin, tiada yang enggan divaksin sebab apabila vaksinasi lebih 18 tahun dibuka, paling ramai orang muda, itu bermakna mereka cukup tahu bahawa vaksin penting," katanya.

Sementara itu, seramai 23,703 remaja berusia 12 hingga 17 tahun atau 0.8 peratus remaja di negara ini sudah menerima dos lengkap vaksinasi COVID-19.

Data portal COVIDNOW setakat jam 6.30 pagi semalam menunjukkan, 579,204 orang atau 18.4 peratus remaja sudah menerima satu dos vaksin.

Ia menjadikan keseluruhan 19.2 peratus atau 602,907 remaja berusia 12 hingga 17 tahun sudah menerima sekurang-kurangnya satu dos vaksin.

Baki 2,544,593 remaja atau 80.9 peratus belum lagi menerima suntikan vaksinasi.

Berdasarkan kemajuan program imunisasi remaja mengikut negeri, Labuan mencatatkan rekod paling tinggi dengan 47.7 peratus, diikuti Sabah (39.2), Sarawak (28.5), Perlis (24.5), Kedah (22.7) dan Pahang (21.2).

Kelantan pula merekodkan pemberian imunisasi sebanyak 18.4 peratus, disusuli Perak (17.9), Terengganu (16.4), Melaka (13), Negeri Sembilan (13) dan Johor 12.1 peratus.

Kawasan Lembah Klang yang terdiri daripada Selangor, Kuala Lumpur dan Putrajaya merekodkan 6.8 peratus, manakala Pulau Pinang mencatatkan enam peratus.

Program Imunisasi COVID-19 Kebangsaan

# Sela masa dos kedua AZ dipendekkan ke 6 minggu

Langkah bertujuan memudahkan penerima mulai 1 Oktober

Oleh Ilah Hafiz Aziz  
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**Kuala Lumpur:** Jangka masa menunggu dos kedua vaksin AstraZeneca (AZ) akan dipendekkan dari tempoh sembilan minggu kepada enam minggu sahaja, bermula 1 Oktober ini.

Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin, berkata ia bermakna penerima vaksin AZ akan menerima dos kedua dalam tempoh enam minggu selepas suntikan pertama.

"Langkah ini bertujuan memudahkan penerima dos vaksin AZ. Sebelum ini, jarak masa dos kedua AZ adalah 12 minggu, sebelum ia dipendekkan ke sembilan minggu, pada Julai lalu," katanya.

Selain itu, Khairy berkata, KKM kini dalam proses rundingan dengan syarikat pengeluar vaksin bagi mendapatkan perolehan data untuk tujuan vaksinasi kanak-kanak berusia 12 tahun ke bawah.

"KKM tidak lagi menggunakan terma imuniti kelompok tetapi bergerak kepada perluasan capaian vaksinasi.

"Ini bermakna kita meluaskan capaian vaksinasi kepada seramai mungkin penduduk Malaysia.

"Sebagai contoh, kita meluaskan vaksinasi kepada remaja dan akan menilai data vaksinasi



Antara remaja hadir untuk menerima suntikan vaksin di Pusat Pemberian Vaksin Axiata Arena di Kuala Lumpur, semalam. (Foto Asyraf Hamzah/BH)

kepada kanak-kanak bawah 12 tahun," katanya.

Mengenai strategi baharu kerajaan dalam memberikan vaksin seramai mungkin penduduk, termasuk kanak-kanak serta pemberian dos penggalak, beliau berkata, ia penting untuk mengawal penularan COVID-19, mengurangkan kadar kemasukan ICU serta mengurangkan kadar kematian akibat virus itu.

"Ini bagi memastikan kita dapat memasuki ke fasa endemik

dengan selamat," katanya.

Beliau berkata, Virus SARS-CoV-2 asal (Wuhan strain) mempunyai nilai R0 antara 2 hingga 3, namun dengan kemunculan varian Delta, nilai R0 itu meningkat antara 6 hingga 10.

"Varian Delta juga sudah mengubah tahap keberkesanan vaksin dan juga terhadap penularan virus. KKM akan meneruskan program vaksinasi COVID-19 supaya semua populasi yang layak diberikan vaksin sebelum

penghujung 2021," katanya.

Pada masa sama, beliau mengesahkan Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu (PBB) dan Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) untuk campur tangan dan membuat ketetapan yang sewajarnya dalam penerimaan vaksin ketika melakukan perjalanan antarabangsa.

Katanya, ada sesetengah negara yang menetapkan hanya individu yang menerima vaksin tertentu sahaja diberikan pengecualian dalam melakukan ujian pengesanan COVID-19 sebelum berlepas serta menjalani kuarantin di negara itu.

Beliau berkata, keputusan untuk memberikan kelonggaran kepada pengembara dari luar negara mestilah dibuat berdasarkan kawalan dan pencegahan penyakit serta tindakan kesihatan awam di negara berkenaan dan bukannya berdasarkan jenis vaksin.

KKM tidak lagi menggunakan terma imuniti kelompok tetapi bergerak kepada perluasan capaian vaksinasi

Khairy Jamaluddin,  
Menteri Kesihatan



## Remaja tertentu dibenar vaksinasi 'walk in'

**Kuala Lumpur:** Pemberian vaksinasi secara *walk-in* hanya dibenarkan untuk remaja yang tidak bersekolah, sedang belajar di institut pengajian tinggi awam atau swasta dan *home schooling*.

Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin, berkata selain daripada kumpulan remaja itu, pemberian vaksin akan dijalankan secara berjadual di 156 pusat pemberian vaksin (PPV) awam, integrasi dan sekolah, bermula kelmarin.

"Hari ini, masih ada yang *walk in* dan mereka yang tidak ter-

golong dalam kumpulan remaja ini, diminta untuk menunggu jadual temu janji yang dimaklumkan sama ada oleh pihak sekolah atau aplikasi MySejahtera.

"Saya nasihatkan ibu bapa supaya tidak bergegas ke PPV bersama anak untuk *walk in* vaksinasi kerana jadual suntikan remaja dibuat dengan kerjasama Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah (PKD) dan Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah (PPD) terlebih awal.

"Mereka akan bagi giliran ini kepada ibu bapa dan penjaga," katanya.

Beliau turut menasihatkan ibu bapa membawa anak mereka mengikut tarikh serta waktu yang ditetapkan bagi mengelakkan sebarang kesesakan.

"Hari ini, saya dimaklumkan kesesakan berlaku di Dewan Sivik Petaling Jaya. Ada pelbagai sebab ini berlaku tetapi yang utama adalah datang tidak mengikut waktu ditetapkan," katanya.

Beliau turut mengingatkan semua PPV terbabit, pihak Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah dan juga Pejabat Pendidikan Daerah supaya mengikut arahan atau ketetapan

yang diumumkan berhubung kaedah pemberian vaksin kepada remaja.

"Jangan ada arahan atau prosedur operasi standard (SOP) yang berbeza diberikan kepada ibu bapa bagi mengelakkan kekeliruan.

"Kita mahu membuat pemberian vaksin ini secara teratur dengan kaedah yang sudah ditetapkan," katanya sambil memberi jaminan kerajaan mempunyai bekalan vaksin yang mencukupi untuk 3.2 juta remaja di negara ini.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

## Pesakit perlu alat bantuan pernafasan di hospital menurun

**Kuala Lumpur:** Jumlah pesakit COVID-19 yang memerlukan alat bantuan pernafasan di hospital di negara ini menurun sejak 9 Ogos lalu.

Menurut portal COVIDNOW setakat jam 11.59 malam semalam, 651 kes memerlukan alat bantuan pernafasan mengikut purata tujuh hari, berbanding 921 kes seperti direkodkan pada 9 Ogos lalu.

Secara keseluruhan, kadar penggunaan alat bantuan pernafasan di seluruh negara adalah 49.9 peratus.

Berdasarkan kadar penggunaan alat bantuan pernafasan mengikut negeri, Kedah paling tinggi apabila mencatatkan 74.5 peratus, diikuti Pulau Pinang dengan 74.4 peratus dan Perak (71.4 peratus).

Penggunaan wad di unit rawatan rapi (ICU) pula merekodkan kadar 75.9 peratus, dengan Pulau Pinang mencatatkan kadar tertinggi, iaitu 99.2 peratus, diikuti Kedah (97.5 peratus), Putrajaya (90 peratus), Johor (87.3 peratus), Sarawak (87.1 peratus) dan Perak 83.1 peratus.

Sementara itu, seramai 19,156,694 individu atau 81.8 peratus daripada populasi dewasa di negara ini sudah melengkapkan suntikan vaksin COVID-19 setakat kelmarin.

Sebanyak 93.3 peratus atau seramai 21,847,551 populasi dewasa sudah menerima sekurang-kurangnya satu dos vaksin.

Selain itu, 23,703 individu atau 0.8 peratus daripada populasi remaja sudah lengkap menerima dua dos suntikan vaksin COVID-19.

Jumlah kumulatif pemberian dos vaksin menerusi Program Imunisasi COVID-19 Kebangsaan (PICK) bagi dewasa dan remaja di negara ini sudah mencecah 41,573,883 dos.

Sementara itu, 116 kes kematian akibat COVID-19 dilaporkan setakat jam 11.59 malam 23 September, menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kes kematian di negara ini kini 24,681 kes.

Daripada jumlah itu, 92 kes adalah kematian sebenar yang dilaporkan berlaku kelmarin, manakala selebihnya adalah pelaporan kes kematian tertunggak.

Sebanyak 29 daripada kematian baharu berkenaan dilaporkan berlaku di luar hospital (BID).

## Penularan COVID-19

# Kes harian catat sedikit peningkatan

### Sarawak rekod angka tertinggi, tiada jangkitan baharu di Labuan

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**Kuala Lumpur:** Kes jangkitan COVID-19 di negara ini merekodkan sedikit peningkatan berbanding semalam apabila 14,554 kes positif baharu dikesan, setakat tengah hari semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdul-

lah, berkata secara kumulatifnya, kes positif COVID-19 di negara ini melonjak kepada 2,171,232 kes.

Beliau berkata, Sarawak menjadi negeri tertinggi melaporkan kes harian dengan 2,825 kes, diikuti Selangor (2,244), Johor (1,807), Sabah (1,273), Pulau Pinang (1,231) dan Perak (1,144).

"Kelantan merekodkan 910 kes,

Secara kumulatif, kes positif COVID-19 di negara ini melonjak kepada 2,171,232 kes

Dr Noor Hisham  
Abdullah,  
Ketua Pengarah  
Kesihatan



disusuli Kedah (908), Terengganu (690), Pahang (598), Melaka (401), Kuala Lumpur (271), Negeri Sembilan (157), Perlis (65) dan Putrajaya (30).

"Sementara tiada kes jangkitan COVID-19 direkodkan di Labuan," katanya menerusi hantaran di akaun Facebook beliau, semalam.

## Pakar gesa teliti kaedah 'pemutus litar'

**Kuala Lumpur:** Langkah membendung penularan COVID-19 menerusi kaedah 'pemutus litar' atau perintah berkurung secara ketat dan singkat, perlu diteliti dan mengambil kira kesannya terhadap kesihatan mental dan sosioekonomi rakyat yang sekian lama terjejas.

Pakar kesihatan yang menyifatkan kaedah itu sama seperti Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan (PKPD) dengan prosedur operasi standard (SOP) lebih ketat, harus diperincikan untuk memastikan fungsi dan pelaksanaan berbeza dengan PKPD serta lebih efektif.

Presiden Persatuan Pakar Perubatan Kesihatan Awam Malaysia (PPPKAM), Datuk Dr Zainal Ariffin Omar, berpandangan pelaksanaan sebarang kaedah berkurung bagi mengawal penularan COVID-19 di kawasan tertentu tidak boleh disandarkan sebagai strategi utama mengawal wabak, terutama di kawasan besar.

Beliau bimbang sekiranya kerajaan bertegas untuk terus melaksanakan strategi 'buka dan tutup', ia akan memberi kesan kepada kesihatan mental rakyat dan ekonomi yang sebelum ini sudah merana akibat pelaksanaan beberapa bentuk sekatan pergerakan serta langkah berkurung.

"Kita tidak boleh lagi tutup dan buka, kalau nak tutup terus pun lagilah tak boleh. Kalau nak dilaksanakan pemutus litar seperti dilakukan Singapura, ia (kawasan) lebih besar (kawasan) dan lama. Lebih baik kerajaan fokuskan PKPD di lokaliti tertentu yang ada lonjakan kes.

"Jangan pula fokus PKPD membabitkan keseluruhan negeri, daerah dan mukim. Contoh, sekiranya lonjakan kes positif di

Kita tidak boleh lagi tutup dan buka, kalau nak tutup terus pun lagilah tak boleh. Kalau nak dilaksanakan pemutus litar seperti dilakukan Singapura, ia (kawasan) lebih besar (kawasan) dan lama. Lebih baik kerajaan fokuskan PKPD di lokaliti tertentu yang ada lonjakan kes

Dr Zainal Ariffin Omar,  
Presiden Persatuan Pakar Perubatan  
Kesihatan Awam Malaysia



Kaedah 'pemutus litar' dilaksana jika berlaku penularan luar biasa COVID-19

Keratan akhbar BH semalam.

kilang membabitkan 10 peratus daripada 3,000 pekerja, maka di situ boleh dilaksanakan kaedah sedemikian.

"Kalau di kampung pula, jika kadar positif 13 peratus, boleh dilaksanakan kaedah sama. Langkah itu barulah dapat pastikan ekonomi dan mental tak terjejas," katanya kepada BH semalam.

Kelmarin, Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin dilaporkan berkata, langkah pembendungan menerusi kaedah pemutus litar mungkin dilaksanakan sekiranya sesuatu lokasi merekodkan penularan jangkitan secara luar biasa ketika Malaysia sedang beralih ke fasa praendemik.

Sementara itu, Saintis Virologi Institut Perubatan dan Pergigian Ter maju (IPPT) Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Dr Muhammad

Amir Yunus, berpandangan langkah pemutus litar dilihat lebih sama dengan PKPD, umpama mempunyai niat besar, tetapi rumit dalam pelaksanaan mengambil kira situasi di Malaysia.

"Ini kerana langkah itu dilaksanakan berdasarkan data di negara lain. Kenapa saya katakan ia niat yang besar? Terbukti berdasarkan data di negara lain yang guna kaedah ini (pemutus litar), mereka berjaya kawal kenaikan mendadak kes dan pada masa sama memberi lebih ruang kepada fasiliti kesihatan untuk bersedia dan tidak terbeban.

"Kenapa pula saya katakan rumit dalam pelaksanaannya? Untuk kaedah ini benar-benar berkesan, kita harus sudah ada sistem ampuh dan teruji berkesan bagi menguji, mengesan, isolasi dan sebagainya, bukannya berdasarkan data pesakit yang sudah dimasukkan ke hospital.

"Untuk Malaysia, kita mungkin belum mencapai tahap itu keseluruhannya. Mungkin bagi bandar besar, keberkesanan sistem ini sudah tersedia, namun dalam konteks keseluruhan ne-

gara, sebagai contoh di bandar kecil dan pendalaman, mungkin sistem ini belum berkesan," katanya.

Pakar epidemiologi Universiti Malaya (UM), Prof Datuk Dr Awang Bulgiba Awang Mahmud, berkata kaedah pemutus litar sepatutnya tertumpu di kawasan mengalami kadar kes perkapita dan kenaikan kes yang tinggi sambil disertai ujian untuk semua penduduk kawasan terbahit.

Beliau turut mencadangkan supaya penduduk yang belum divaksinasi di kawasan yang dilaksanakan kaedah pemutus litar nanti, agar segera dibantu mendapatkan pelalihan itu selepas ujian saringan dilakukan, selain mengesyorkan beberapa kaedah terbaik menggunakan satu indeks yang mengambil kira beberapa indikator.

"Indikator pertama, kadar kes perkapita untuk menunjukkan kepadatan kes. Kedua, kadar positifiti dan peratusan kes bukan kluster untuk menunjukkan kadar penularan dalam masyarakat. Ketiga, masa berganda atau masa menjadi separuh untuk menunjukkan kadar kenaikan atau penurunan kes.

"Keempat, trend kes di kawasan terbahit naik atau menurun. Kelima, nisbah antara kes baharu dan discaj serta peratusan penggunaan katil bagi menunjukkan kemampuan fasiliti kesihatan untuk kendalikan kes. Keenam, peratusan kes setiap kategori penyakit (kategori 1 hingga 5 untuk menunjukkan keseriusan penyakit).

"Ketujuh, nilai Rt untuk lokaliti dan kelapan, model korelasi spatio-temporal dan kaedah kesemilangan, ambil kira varian varius di kawasan berkenan," katanya.

AKHBAR : KOSMO  
 MUKA SURAT : 4  
 RUANGAN : NEGARA

## Jumlah itu dicatat dalam seminggu, kurang daripada sasaran 30,000 12,607 pelancong ke Langkawi

Oleh NUR ANATI JUHARI

ALOR SETAR – Seramai 12,607 pelancong memasuki Pulau Langkawi sejak bermula projek rintis gelembung pelancongan pada 16 September lalu sehingga kelmarin.

Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Pelancongan, Seni dan Budaya, Belia dan Sukan, Pembangunan Usahawan dan Koperasi negeri, Mohd. Firdaus Ahmad berkata, jumlah itu dijangka meningkat pada penghujung tahun ini.

"Pada awalnya kami menganggarkan 30,000 pelancong akan memasuki pulau tersebut sehingga hujung bulan ini.

"Namun pengumuman prosedur operasi standard (SOP) yang ketat seperti perlu menjalani ujian saringan Covid-19 sedikit memberi kesan kepada projek rintis ini," katanya ketika merinjau keadaan di Terminal Feri Kuala Kedah, di sini semalam.

Turut hadir Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Pengangkutan negeri, Azman Nasrudin.

Katanya, pelaksanaan ujian saringan itu penting bagi memastikan tidak berlaku penularan Covid-19 di pulau tersebut membabitkan pelancong.

Selain itu, menurutnya, hasil perbincangan dengan penyelaras dan pegawai kesihatan bertugas di terminal itu, pelancong digalakkan untuk membuat ujian saringan Covid-19 lebih awal di klinik atau menggunakan kit kendiri sebelum memasuki terminal.

"Tujuannya adalah bagi mengelakkan jika ada pelancong yang buat ujian saringan di terminal didapati positif seterusnya membuatkan penumpang lain bimbang mempercepatkan pro-



SEBUAH keluarga menunggu keputusan ujian saringan Covid-19 sebelum menaiki feri ke Langkawi di Terminal Feri Kuala Kedah, Alor Setar semalam.

ses menaiki feri," ujarnya.

Tambahnya, bagi pelancong yang diarahkan berpatah balik kerana dikesan positif atau belum mencapai tempoh matang vaksinasi, mereka boleh minta menunda atau tukar tarikh penginapan.

"Pihak kami sudah mendapat persetujuan Kementerian Pelancongan, Seni dan Budaya Malaysia (MOTAC) bahawa pelancong yang sudah membuat tempahan boleh berhubung dengan pihak hotel untuk menukar tarikh atau mendapatkan bayaran balik," ujarnya.

Sementara itu, Azman berkata, lebih 200 penumpang menggunakan perkhidmatan feri ke

Langkawi di Terminal Feri Kuala Kedah dalam perjalanan pada pukul 1.30 petang tadi.

"Hari kedua ini kami dapati keadaan di sini berjalan lebih lancar berbanding semalam (kelmarin) yang mana satu trip sehari ke Langkawi masih dikecakan.

"Jika tempahan didapati meningkat, trip ke sana juga akan ditambah dari semasa ke semasa dengan pemantauan pihak feri," katanya.

Beliau juga menasihati agar kesemua pelancong mematuhi SOP ditetapkan selain memastikan sudah lengkap vaksinasi serta mencapai tempoh matang 14 hari sebelum membuat tempahan.

### COVID-19

Angka terkini kes Covid-19 di Malaysia sehingga semalam

	Jumlah
Kes baharu	14,554
Import:	9
Tempatan:	14,545
Pulih	16,751
Jumlah kes sembuh	1,950,467
Jumlah Kematian	24,681
Jumlah kes keseluruhan	2,171,232

## Kes aktif bawah 200,000 lepas hampir 2 bulan

PUTRAJAYA – Pesakit sedang dirawat dan ditinggalkan berkurangnya di bawah angka 200,000 dengan 198,284 kes dilaporkan semalam, demikian data pada laman web COVIDNOW.

Kali terakhir kes aktif direkodkan di bawah angka tersebut ialah pada 2 Ogos lalu dengan 199,051 kes, seterusnya kekal melepasi 200,000 sepanjang tempoh ini sehingga 22 September.

Dalam pada itu, maklumat yang dikemaskini pukul 11.59 malam kelmarin menunjukkan, kes aktif tersebut melibatkan 165,421 kes dikuarantin di rumah, 21,350 kes di Pusat Kuarantin dan

Rawatan Covid-19 (PKRC) dan 10,396 kes di hospital.

"Selain itu, 502 kes dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) tanpa bantuan pernafasan dan 615 kes di ICU memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," menurut laman web tersebut.

Bagi kes kematian Covid-19 pula, sebanyak 116 kes dilaporkan termasuk 92 kes kematian sebenar dalam tempoh purata tujuh hari.

"Ja dilaporkan di Selangor (33), Pulau Pinang (20), Kuala Lumpur (17), Sarawak (14), Kelantan (10), Sabah (8), Melaka (7), Perak (6) dan Kedah (1), manakala tiada kematian dilaporkan di Johor,

Negeri Sembilan, Pahang, Perlis, Terengganu, Labuan dan Putrajaya.

"Terdapat 29 kes kematian di luar hospital atau brought-in-dead (BID), menjadikan sebanyak 4,838 kes BID di seluruh negara," ujarnya.

Sementara itu, dalam perkembangan berbeza, Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, hanya Labuan tidak merekodkan jangkitan baharu Covid-19 semalam, manakala negeri-negeri lain menyumbang kepada kes harian negara sebanyak 14,554 kes dengan jumlah keseluruhan kes positif

mencecah 2,171,232 kes.

"Daripada angka tersebut, dua negeri mencatatkan kes melebihi 2,000 iaitu Sarawak (2,825 kes) dan Selangor (2,244 kes).

"Seterusnya, Johor (1,807 kes), Sabah (1,273 kes), Pulau Pinang (1,231 kes), Perak (1,144 kes), Kedah (908 kes), Kelantan (910 kes), Terengganu (690 kes), Pahang (598 kes), Melaka (401 kes), Kuala Lumpur (271 kes) dan Negeri Sembilan (157 kes).

"Dua negeri dengan kes dua digit ialah Perlis (65 kes) dan Putrajaya (30 kes)," menurutnya menerusi hantaran Facebook beliau semalam.



AHMAD MASRIZAL

## 73 peratus pelajar IPT sudah divaksin

SHAH ALAM – Kira-kira 73 peratus pelajar institusi pengajian tinggi (IPT) di seluruh negara telah menerima vaksinasi sehingga Isnin lalu.

Timbalan Menteri Pengajian Tinggi, Datuk Dr. Ahmad Masrizal Muhammad berkata, situasi ini amat positif memandangkan kumpulan tersebut akan kembali semula pusat pengajian masing-masing secara berperingkat bermula 15 Oktober ini.

"Manakala 91 peratus staf universiti di seluruh negara pula sudah divaksinasi. Bagi saya, peratusan dua kumpulan ini amat tinggi dan membanggakan.

"Saya harap jumlah ini terus meningkat dengan berbekal beberapa hari sebelum pelajar dibenarkan memulakan kuliah dalam kelas," katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas mengadakan lawatan rasmi di Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM), di sini semalam.

Minggu lalu, Menteri Pengajian Tinggi, Datuk Seri Dr. Noraini Ahmad memaklumkan lebih 1.2 juta pelajar universiti dijangka pulang ke kampus masing-masing bagi memulakan kuliah secara bersempena dengan mereka yang telah lengkap vaksinasi dibenarkan kembali ke kampus.

Mengulas lanjut, Ahmad Masrizal berkata, hasil pertemuan Noraini dan Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar sebelum ini juga menyatakan bahawa pelajar boleh mendapatkan vaksin di mana-mana klinik kesihatan awam dan swasta yang memberikan vaksin dengan syarat mesti membawa surat tawaran memasuki IPT atau kad pelajar mereka.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

# Bantu orang asli ambil vaksin

TNB Genco terlibat dalam Program Imunisasi Vaksinasi Orang Asli Gua Musang

**GUA MUSANG**

Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB) melalui anak syarikat milik penuhnya, TNB Power Generation Sdn Bhd (TNB Genco) membantu seramai 2,300 orang asli sekitar Gua Musang menerima suntikan vaksin Covid-19 menerusi Program Imunisasi Vaksinasi Orang Asli yang diadakan bermula Ogos lalu.

TNB Genco bekerjasama dengan Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Gua Musang dan Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (Jakoa) menganjurkan program tersebut melibatkan dua sesi.

Sesi pertama diadakan bermula pada 29 Ogos hingga 2 September lalu manakala sesi kedua pula bermula 14 September sehingga 17 September.

Pada sesi pertama Program Imunisasi Vaksinasi Orang Asli, seramai 2,000 masyarakat orang asli di Pos Brooke dan Pos Hendrop telah menerima suntikan vaksin Covid-19.

Program itu turut melibatkan seramai 52 petugas termasuk

sukarelawan dalam kalangan warga kerja TNB Genco, Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) dan Jakoa.

Bagi melancarkan program vaksinasi itu, TNB Genco turut menyumbang peralatan perubatan dan keperluan logistik seperti khemah, makanan dan peralatan siar raya kepada para petugas barisan hadapan, sukarelawan dan penerima vaksin.

Selain itu, TNB Genco turut memberi sumbangan pek makanan asas kepada 1,300 keluarga orang asli yang terjejas mata pencarian akibat pandemik.

Pada sesi kedua pula, TNB Genco membantu seramai 288 orang asli yang menerima vaksin. Mereka yang menerima vaksin ini terdiri daripada 90 orang asli di Pos Pulat manakala selebihnya orang asli di Pos Bihai.

Dalam program sama, TNB Genco juga turut memberi sumbangan pek makanan asas kepada 300 keluarga orang asli yang terjejas mata pencarian akibat pandemik selain turut menyediakan bantuan logistik di kedua-dua pos berkenaan.

TNB Genco sebagai anak syarikat milik penuh TNB berperanan mengurus dan mengendalikan loji tenaga domestik, perniagaan enjanaan tenaga boleh diperbaharui, operasi loji tenaga dan penyelenggaraan serta operasi terminal pukat kering.



Petugas KKM memberikan suntikan vaksin kepada salah seorang penduduk orang asli dari Gua Musang.



TNB Genco dengan kerjasama Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah Gua Musang dan Jakoa menganjurkan program yang melibatkan seramai 52 petugas termasuk sukarelawan dalam kalangan warga kerja TNB Genco, KKM dan Jakoa.



Sebahagian orang asli dari Pos Pulat mendapatkan vaksin mereka pada 14 hingga 17 September lalu. Program Imunisasi Vaksinasi Orang Asli dan Penduduk sekitar Gua Musang ini melibatkan kerjasama TNB Genco bersama Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) Gua Musang dan Jabatan Kemajuan Orang Asli (Jakoa).



Sebahagian orang asli di sekitar Gua Musang hadir untuk menerima vaksin menerusi Program Imunisasi Vaksinasi Orang Asli di Pos Brooke dan Pos Hendrop, bermula 29 Ogos hingga 2 September lalu.



Petugas KKM membantu masyarakat orang asli di sekitar Gua Musang di kaunter pendaftaran sebelum menerima suntikan vaksin.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 12

RUANGAN : VAKSIN UNTUK RAKYAT

# Saya sendiri 'tidur' di pasar raya - Khairy

KKM akan cari kaedah penyelesaian terbaik berhubung isu fungsi *check out* di aplikasi MySejahtera

Oleh TUAN BUQHAIKHAIRAH  
TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN dan  
MUKHRIZ MAT HUSJIN

PUTRAJAYA

**K**ementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) akan mencari kaedah penyelesaian terbaik berhubung isu fungsi *check out* di aplikasi MySejahtera.

Menterinya, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar berkata, fungsi *check out* bertujuan menerima maklumat lokasi lebih tepat supaya dapat mengetahui pengguna aplikasi MySejahtera berada di sesebuah lokasi bagi tempoh masa spesifik.

"Saya sendiri tidur di pasar raya kerana terlupa untuk *check out*," katanya pada sidang akhbar di kementeriannya pada Jumaat.

Khairy juga menyedari komentar yang disuarakan rakyat berhubung perkara tersebut.

"Kita akan melihat apakah kaedah terbaik untuk memastikan ciri ini diguna dengan sempurna.

"Buat masa sekarang agak susah, kita sedang menyelesaikannya," katanya.

Sebelum ini pengguna



FOTO: BERKAWA

Khairy bercakap pada sidang media perkembangan terkini penularan wabak Covid-19 di Kementerian Kesihatan pada Jumaat.

aplikasi MySejahtera mempersoalkan relevansi fungsi *check out* kerana ramai yang terlupa menekan keluar selepas selesai mengunjungi sesebuah premis.

Mengulas mengenai bayaran terhadap syarikat yang membangunkan aplikasi tersebut, KPISoft Sdn Bhd, Khairy berkata, Unit Pemodenan Tadbiran dan Perancangan Pengurusan Malaysia (MAMPU) akan menilai kerja-kerja yang dijalankan syarikat berkenaan sebelum penentuan jumlah yang perlu dibayar dibuat oleh Perbendaharaan.

"Kita akan minta MAMPU menilaikan kerja tersebut dan semua yang terlibat dalam aplikasi ini termasuk KKM, Kementerian Sains Teknologi dan Inovasi (MOSTI) akan melihat nilai yang ditentukan," katanya.

Selasa lalu, Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob di Dewan Rakyat berkata, kerajaan akan mula membayar pembangun aplikasi MySejahtera mulai April dan seterusnya.

Ia selepas tanggungjawab sosial korporat (CSR) yang dijalankan syarikat itu selama satu tahun berakhir pada 31 Mac lalu.

Dalam pada itu, Khairy turut mengumumkan jarak masa bagi dos kedua vaksin AstraZeneca akan dipendekkan daripada sembilan kepada enam minggu mulai 1 Oktober depan.

"Ini bagi memberi kemudahan kepada mereka yang telah mendapat dos pertama AstraZeneca dan mereka boleh menerima dos kedua selepas enam minggu," katanya.

## KKM berunding bagi perolehan vaksin kanak-kanak bawah 12 tahun

PUTRAJAYA - Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) sedang mengadakan rundingan dengan sebuah syarikat pengeluar vaksin Covid-19 untuk mendapatkan perolehan bagi vaksinasi kanak-kanak berusia 12 tahun ke bawah.

Menterinya, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar berkata, syarikat berkenaan dalam proses membuat persiapan untuk menghantar data-data klinikal ke seluruh dunia termasuk Malaysia.

"Cuma mereka memerlukan sedikit masa, mungkin bulan depan mereka akan hantar data ke Bahagian Regulatori Farmasi Negara (NPRA) agar pendaftaran dapat dibuat terhadap vaksin tersebut," katanya di sidang media pada Jumaat.

Menurutnya, KKM akan menilai data-data berkenaan apabila ia tersedia.

"Saya yakin mungkin ada syarikat lain juga yang akan berbuat sedemikian kerana ada beberapa syarikat yang telah melaksanakan ujian klinikal dalam kalangan kanak-kanak.

"Strategi KKM yang baharu bukan untuk mengejar imuniti kelompok sebaliknya memberi perlindungan seramai mungkin terhadap rakyat di negara ini," katanya.

Ditanya mengenai nama pengeluar syarikat vaksin tersebut, Khairy bagaimanapun enggan mendedharkannya.

"Kita akan umum apabila perjanjian dimeterai kelak," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Khairy berkata, pemberian vaksinasi remaja secara *walk-in* hanya dibenarkan untuk mereka yang

tidak bersekolah, sedang belajar di institut pengajian tinggi (IPT) dan *home schooling*.

"Perkara ini telah ditegaskan oleh Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan I, Datuk Dr Noor Azmi Ghazali dan Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan I, Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon semasa sesi sidang media pada Rabu.

"Saya juga ingin mengingatkan semua pusat pemberian vaksin (PPV) supaya mengikut arahan atau ketetapan yang telah diumumkan berhubung kaedah pemberian vaksin kepada remaja.

"Saya mohon supaya tidak ada arahan atau prosedur operasi standard (SOP) yang berbeza diberikan kepada ibu bapa bagi mengelakkan kekeliruan," ujarnya.

Sementara itu, Khairy menggesa Pertubuhan Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu dan Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) campur tangan dalam isu diskriminasi terhadap jenis vaksin yang digunakan di Malaysia.

Ujar beliau, sesetengah negara menetapkan bahawa hanya individu yang menerima vaksin tertentu sahaja diberikan pengecualian daripada melakukan ujian pengesanan Covid-19 sebelum berlepas, menjalani kuarantin setelah tiba di negara berkenaan dan sebagainya.

"Perkara seperti ini tidak sepatutnya berlaku kerana penting untuk kita faham bahawa vaksin melindungi individu daripada risiko mendapat jangkitan lebih teruk serta mengurangkan gejala penyakit," katanya.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN  
 MUKA SURAT : 13  
 RUANGAN : VAKSIN UNTUK RAKYAT

## Bincang iktiraf sijil vaksin Malaysia-Singapura

Bagi memudahkan urusan rentas sempadan kedua-dua negara untuk pelbagai urusan harian

Oleh ZULHISHAM ISAHAK

**MUAR**

**P**erbincangan pengiktirafan sijil vaksinasi secara bersama-sama antara Malaysia dan Singapura akan diadakan bagi memudahkan urusan rentas sempadan kedua-dua negara untuk pelbagai urusan harian.

Pengerusi Majlis Pemulihan Negara (MPN), Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin

berkata, pembukaan sempadan itu juga berupaya mengukuhkan kestabilan ekonomi ekoran aktiviti eksport dan import yang banyak membabitkan kedua-dua pihak.

"Antara perkara yang akan kita perhalusi apabila dianggap sesuai dan bersetuju (setelah) vaksinasi sudah sampai ke peringkat lengkap, sijil kita dan sijil Singapura diiktiraf bersama-sama.

"Ini akan membolehkan pergerakan antara kedua-dua negara dan sempadan lain pun akan dibuka. Semua itu akan diambil kira. Tetapi pastinya bila vaksinasi sudah meningkat, negara sudah menjadi lebih selamat, maka



MUHYIDDIN

sempadan-sempadan berkenaan akan mula dibuka," katanya di sini pada Jumaat.

Muhyiddin berkata, beliau ada berhubung dengan Perdana Menteri Singapura, Lee Hsien Loong bagi membincangkan perkara berkenaan yang turut dipersetujui Hsien Loong.

Bagaimanapun beliau berkata, langkah itu memerlukan penelitian khusus membabitkan soal keselamatan dan kesihatan.

Jelas Muhyiddin, pihaknya akan meneliti data dan sains serta pandangan daripada pakar-pakar termasuk di peringkat Kementerian Kesihatan termasuk soal keselamatan sempadan di bawah Kementerian Dalam Negeri.

## Kes baharu kembali meningkat ke 14,554

**KUALA LUMPUR** - Kes baharu Covid-19 pada Jumaat kembali meningkat dengan 14,554 kes berbanding 13,754 kes untuk tempoh yang sama pada Khamis.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah menerusi perkongsian dalam platform media



DR NOOR HISHAM

sosialnya berkata, dengan angka terbaharu itu, jumlah kumulatif kes di negara kini 2,171,232 kes.

Beliau berkata, Sarawak merekodkan kes harian tertinggi dengan 2,825 kes, disusuli Selangor (2,244), Johor (1,807), Sabah (1,273), Pulau Pinang (1,231) dan Perak (1,144).

Negeri yang mencatatkan tiga angka bagi kes Covid-19 pula ialah Kedah dengan 908 kes, Kelantan (910), Terengganu (690), Pahang (598), Melaka (401), Kuala Lumpur (271) dan Negeri Sembilan (157).

"Perlis mencatatkan 65 kes dan Putrajaya 30 kes manakala Labuan tidak merekodkan sebarang kes setakat petang ini (Jumaat)," katanya.

Sementara itu, menerusi portal COVIDNOW pada Jumaat, sebanyak 116 kes kematian akibat Covid-19 dilaporkan setakat jam 11.59 malam Khamis, menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan kes kematian di negara ini kini 24,681.

Bagaimanapun, daripada 116 kematian baharu itu, 92 kes adalah kematian sebenar yang dilaporkan berlaku pada Khamis, manakala selebihnya adalah pelaporan kes kematian tertunggak dan angka boleh berubah sekiranya terdapat kes kematian yang dikemas kini.

Sebanyak 29 daripada kematian baharu itu dilaporkan berlaku di luar hospital (BID).

- Bernama

AKHBAR : UTUSAN MALAYSIA

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : DALAM NEGERI

## Kes kematian di semua negeri catat penurunan mendadak

**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysia kelmarin, mencatatkan kematian sebenar akibat Covid-19 (purata tujuh hari) iaitu 92 kes berbanding hari sebelumnya yang dilaporkan, 106 kes sebelum ia berubah kepada 115 kes.

Rekod terbabit adalah setakat pukul 10 pagi semalam, yang berdasarkan maklumat dikemas kini melalui laman web, <https://covidnow.moh.gov.my>.

Bagi jumlah kes kematian yang

dilaporkan, berlaku penurunan mendadak, sebanyak 116 kes berbanding kelmarin, 487 kes.

Jumlah kematian menjadikan keseluruhan kes terkini sebanyak 24,681 kes.

Sebanyak 29 daripada 116 kematian melibatkan kes yang dibawa ke hospital (BID) dengan jumlah keseluruhan kes tersebut sebanyak 4,809 kes.

Seramai 1,117 kes memerlukan rawatan di Unit Rawatan

Rapi (ICU), 615 pesakit memerlukan Alat Bantuan Pernafasan (ABP) manakala pesakit yang perlu ditempatkan di wad adalah seramai 10,396 orang.

Jika dibahagikan mengikut negeri, Selangor mencatatkan kematian dilaporkan 33 kes manakala kematian sebenar harian (purata tujuh hari), lapan kes diikuti Pulau Pinang (20/15), Kuala Lumpur (17/3), Sarawak (14/6), Kelantan (10/6), Sabah

(8/12), Melaka (7/3), Perak (6/5), Kedah (1/5), Johor (0/22), Pahang (0/3), Terengganu (0/2), Negeri Sembilan (0/1) dan Perlis (0/0).

Bagaimana, Labuan dan Putrajaya tidak mencatatkan sebarang kematian bagi dua kategori itu.

*Utusan Online* semalam melaporkan Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Tan Sri Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah dalam satu kenyataan

berkata, Malaysia mencatatkan penurunan kes positif Covid-19 iaitu 13,754 kes berbanding semalam, 14,990 kes sekali gus diatasi 16,628 kes sembuh.

"Kelmarin kluster komuniti mencatatkan lapan daripada 15 kluster, manakala Kelantan sekali lagi menjadi penyumbang terbanyak kluster.

"Selain komuniti, tempat kerja mencatatkan tujuh kluster," katanya.



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

ONE-DAY INOCULATION EXERCISE

# PUPILS, TEENS GET JABS IN GLITCH-FREE VAX CAMPAIGN

400 Year 6 pupils from 2 schools in Kem Kementah in KL among the first

FARAH SOLHI  
AND DAWN CHAN  
KUALA LUMPUR  
news@nst.com.my

**C**LOSE to 400 Year Six pupils from two primary schools in Kem Kementah, here, proved they are just as tough as their armed forces parents as they showed no fear for the first of two Covid-19 vaccines yesterday.

The one-day inoculation exercise for the pupils aged 12 of SK Desa Tun Hussein Onn and SK Kementah, located in an armed forces camp, went without a glitch as none showed side effects during the observation period after getting their Cominaty (Pfizer-BioNTech) jab.

SK Kementah headmaster Hilmy Mat Nayan said 159 Year 6 pupils from five classes received their inoculation in anticipation of the school reopening on Nov 1.

Hilmy said the flow of the vaccine process had been planned earlier in accordance with the directive from the armed forces, as well as SMK Desa Tun Hussein Onn, which served as the vaccination centre.

"Our aim is to prevent overcrowding and waiting time. Therefore, the vaccination for SK Kementah pupils was split into several one-hour sessions to accommodate 60 pupils at once.

"The vaccination consent forms had been collected and filled at home by their parents.

"All that was needed was for the parents to sign the consent form

and be a witness to the vaccination," he told the *New Straits Times*.

The pupils, he said, were slated to receive their second doses in three weeks.

Pupil Muhammad Yuzaiman Ikram said he was euphoric after getting his first dose as he and his two elder brothers were now partially vaccinated.

"I was so excited that I decided to don my primary school sports attire. I miss putting on my uniform and I cannot wait to return to school to be with my friends, whom I have seen only on Google Meet during online classes.

"My mother said the vaccine is beneficial for me, so I am happy to get it although I am feeling a little sore on my arm."



Hilmy Mat Nayan

they could meet each other physically after a few months.

"I am scared and I do not know what to expect. But seeing Nurul Alisha here makes me less frightened and we have assured each other that it is going to be fine," Annur Puteri Najwa said.

Meanwhile, three siblings found out that they were scheduled to be vaccinated on the same day at PPV Axiata Arena in Bukit Jalil yesterday.

Twins Aris Zamir Ahmad Zamri and Nur Julyea Arissa, both 16, together with their sister, Nur Jasmien Amani, 17, said the pro-



cess was smooth.

"The entire process took only 10 minutes from registration to getting the vaccine. And then another 15 to 20 minutes in the observation area (for any side effects)," said Nur Julyea.

They were accompanied by their father to the PPV.

Nur Julyea thanked her siblings for the moral support as she was feeling anxious at first.

"I admit that I shouldn't have watched videos of people getting vaccinated. I was terrified when I saw how big the needles were.

"Thank God, I had my siblings with me. The doctor who attended to us was also kind and gentle during the process."

Nur Julyea said she was happy to learn that her friends received their vaccination appointments yesterday as well.

Nur Jasmien, who will turn 18 this year, said she considered herself lucky to be able to receive her first Covid-19 vaccine jab before returning to Pahang Matriculation College soon.



Annur Puteri Najwa Mohd Kamarunizam

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION



A pupil of SK Desa Tun Hussein Onn receiving his Covid-19 jab at the SMK Desa Tun Hussein Onn vaccination centre in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. BY BYLTZARI CHAMSUDIN

"Some of my friends have been fully vaccinated or had at least received their first vaccine dose."

The siblings urged other students to register for vaccination.

Another vaccine recipient, Muhammad Syahmi Akmal Johansyah, 16, said the vaccination process was smooth and he felt happy to be among the early recipients from his age group.

"I have heard people talking about the side effects, but I chose to ignore them."

"Just take the vaccines because it can save you," said Syahmi, who was accompanied by his mother, Nuriliah Jalil, 46.

Nuriliah said now that her son had been vaccinated, she felt relieved and was assured of his safety when school finally reopens.

"As parents, we are worried if our kids are not vaccinated when they go back to school, so I am thankful for the programme."

The Axiata Arena PPV, which operates from 8am to 5pm, with a workforce of more than 400 on the ground, handles around 5,000 vaccine recipients a day.

A check by the *New Straits Times* at the PPV Axiata Arena saw teens and their parents queuing up as early as 7.15am.

## 'Do not take pupils to walk-in PPV for jabs'

**IPOH:** Parents have been urged not to take their children who are attending daily schools to vaccination centres (PPV) for walk-in inoculation.

Deputy Education Minister Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon said daily school students had to wait for their schools to provide their allocated dates for walk-in vaccination at selected PPV to prevent overcrowding.

"For students in normal schools or daily schools, they must follow the schedule given and parents are not supposed to take their children to any PPV."

"There is a lot of confusion on this matter and some PPVs are even congested."

"It is such an unnecessary mess. The appointment dates will be given to every school in the country."

"So they should wait for their turn and not to go to any PPV because it creates congestion there," he said when contacted yesterday.

On Tuesday, the ministry released a list of selected PPVs for children aged between 12 and 17.

There are 156 walk-in PPVs involved nationwide, which will start operations on Thursday for "scheduled walk-in".

However, daily school students have to wait for their schools to give them the allocated dates.

Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin was reported as saying that the government had approved all states to start their vaccination programme for the adolescent group, with a target of inoculating 3.2 million teenagers.

## '73pc of students at varsities, colleges inoculated so far'

**SHAH ALAM:** Up to Sept 22, 73 per cent of students at higher learning institutions nationwide have been vaccinated against Covid-19.

Deputy Higher Education Minister Senator Datuk Dr Ahmad Masrizal Muhammad said the high rates demonstrated the level of awareness on the importance of the vaccine among the student population.

"We want to ensure that campuses are safe when they re-open and students return to continue with their studies. The universities have imposed a vaccine mandate for that very reason."

"Meanwhile, 91 per cent of university staff have also been vaccinated," he said during a visit to UiTM Shah Alam to check on the preparations made before students returned to campus for the 2021/2022 academic session next month.

Present was UiTM Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr Roziah Mohd Janor.

Ahmad Masrizal, however, did not dismiss the possibility of vac-

cine hesitancy among staff in higher learning institutions.

As for the students, he said, he had yet to be aware of any such case.

"There may be lecturers (who refuse to be vaccinated), but I have to apologise because I don't have the complete data. It is possible as Covid-19 vaccination is not compulsory."

"I am confident that no students have refused to be vaccinated because youths comprised a large group who are eager to register for vaccination. This means that they are fully aware of its importance."

He said 75.6 per cent of UiTM students had been inoculated against Covid-19.

He urged those who had yet to receive their vaccine shots to do so at any of the vaccination centres or

nearby clinics by bringing along their student identification card or enrolment letter.

He hoped that parents and students would use the service provided by the government to protect themselves against the virus.

By Ruwaida Md Zain



Datuk Dr Ahmad Masrizal Muhammad

## Vaccination for students gets good response in Labuan

**LABUAN:** The implementation of Phase Two of Covid-19 vaccination for students aged 13 to 15 in the duty-free island ran smoothly and received an encouraging response from parents.

Labuan Covid-19 Immunisation Task Force chairman Rithuan Ismail said 4,108 Form One, Two and Three students were scheduled to receive the vaccine for three days under the programme, which ended yesterday.

"As early as 7am, parents and guardians brought their children to two vaccination centres at Labuan Matriculation College hall and Darul Kifayah Complex for the vaccination, which began on Sept 22."

"They did not want to miss the opportunity to get the vaccines as they wanted their children to be protected from Covid-19 before the children return to school," he said yesterday.

"Beginning Sept 25, 1,455 Year Six pupils, accompanied by their parents and guardians, started

receiving their doses at the two vaccination centres."

Rithuan said up to yesterday, 4,971 or 48.74 per cent of 10,200 students aged 13 to 17 received at least their first dose of the vaccine.

Meanwhile, Labuan Health Department director Dr Ismuni Bohari said vaccinated students would help reduce transmission of Covid-19 in schools and help to create a safe environment for students.

Labuan Education Department director Yusup Mohamad said teachers who opted not to receive the vaccine could still come to schools, but they were not allowed to conduct face-to-face teaching.

"They will be given different assignments, including focusing on the home-based teaching and learning."

Of the 1,332 primary and secondary school teachers in Labuan, only one per cent of them had refused to be vaccinated. **Bernama**

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

PREVENTING CONGESTION

## DON'T CROWD PPVs, PARENTS URGED

Khairy: Vaccine appointments will be given out by district health and education officers

THARANYA ARUMUGAM  
 AND DHESEGAAN BALA KRISHNAN  
 KUALA LUMPUR  
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**P**ARENTS have been advised not to crowd vaccination centres with their children as vaccine appointments for adolescents will be given out by district health and education officers.

Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said walk-in appointments would only be given to adolescents who have left schools, those being home-schooled as well as teenagers studying in public and private higher education institutions.

"The school management, through teachers, will inform the vaccination schedule based on each school's turn to parents and guardians. Parents and guardians must bring their adolescents according to the appointment date given.

"The scheduled vaccination method aims to prevent congestion and emergence of Covid-19 clusters (among adolescents)," he



Youths waiting at the observation area after receiving their first Covid-19 vaccine dose at the vaccination centre at Axiata Arena in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. PIC BY ASYRAF HAMZAH

said at a press conference yesterday.

He said the government was also working towards expanding the Covid-19 National Immunisation Programme (NIP) to include as many Malaysians as possible and with the aim of fully immunising all eligible adults and teens by year-end.

Besides initiating vaccination for teenagers in Malaysia, he said the ministry was evaluating data on vaccination for children under 12 years of age.

"Yesterday, I have stated that the Health Ministry is no longer using the term 'herd immunity' but is moving towards a more comprehensive vaccination, which includes studying the data on vaccination for children under age 12."

Khairy also announced that starting next month, Malaysia would begin administering the third dose of Covid-19 vaccine and booster shots to target groups.

He said booster shots differed

from a third dose based on the immune response generated by vaccine recipients, after getting their jab.

"A third dose is administered to those whose immune system generates inadequate response (towards Covid-19) with only two doses and therefore, they require a third dose to generate optimum response.

"Booster shots are given to those who, while their bodies are able to produce the optimum response after two doses, their immune response starts to wane after few months. Booster shots, therefore, will stimulate a more effective immune response.

"Currently, we are developing guidelines to administer third dose and booster shots that will be presented at the upcoming Covid-19 Vaccine Supply Access Guarantee Special Committee (JKJAV).

"I'm confident that we will start administering the third dose first, followed by the booster shots, starting next month, once we get the clinical guidelines from the experts."

Khairy also said the Pfizer-BioNTech company had submitted their dossier for booster shots to the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency (NPRA) and that the approval would be given soon.

"For the third dose, we will make a decision internally (on the use of the Pfizer vaccine) based on the guidelines submit-

ted by JKJAV," he added.

Meanwhile, Khairy said that the interval between the first and second doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine would be shortened from nine weeks to six, effective Oct 1.

Khairy said the move was adopted to make the vaccination process easier for those who have been inoculated with the AstraZeneca jab.

"Effective Oct 1, we will shorten the dosing interval for AstraZeneca vaccines from nine to six weeks, with recipients receiving their second dose after the sixth week.

"This is to make it easier for those who have received the AstraZeneca vaccine as their first dose to complete the vaccination process," he said.

The government had earlier reduced the vaccine interval from 12 weeks to nine weeks in July.

At the event, Khairy said Malaysia had lambasted the Covid-19 vaccine discrimination practised by certain countries, and urged the United Nations and the World Health Organisation to intervene and make appropriate and fair decisions on international travel.

Khairy said vaccine discrimination would defeat the purpose of having the vaccine and administering them to the population.

Discriminating the type of vaccine, he said, would only discourage innovation in vaccine manufacturing.

116 DEATHS

## New Covid-19 infections rise to 14,554

**KUALA LUMPUR:** New Covid-19 infections jumped to 14,554 cases up to noon yesterday from 13,754 cases registered on Thursday.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said Sarawak returned as the state with the highest number of infections (2,825 cases).

In the Klang Valley, Selangor recorded 2,244 cases, with 271 cases in Kuala Lumpur and 30 in Putrajaya.

Johor recorded 1,807 cases, followed by Sabah (1,273), Penang (1,231), Perak (1,144), Kelantan (910), Kedah (908), Terengganu (690), Pahang (598), Melaka (401) and Negri Sembilan (157) and Perlis (65).

Labuan did not report any new

infections yesterday.

Dr Noor Hisham said the total number of Covid-19 cases in the country stood at 2,171,232 up to yesterday.

Meanwhile, 116 deaths due to Covid-19 were recorded based on yesterday morning's data on CovidNow, bringing the national toll to 24,681. Of this, 29 were brought-in-dead cases.

From the deaths total, 33 were recorded in Selangor, followed by Penang (20), Kuala Lumpur (17), Sarawak (14), Kelantan (10), Sabah (eight), Melaka (seven), Perak (six) and Kedah (one).

The seven-day actual average continued with a downward trend and further dipped to 92 up to yesterday.

Penang remained as the state with the highest number of deaths over the past two weeks with 15.6 deaths per 100,000 people.

With 14,554 new cases reported yesterday, active cases in the country now stood at 198,284.

Of the total, 165,421 cases (83.4 per cent) were under home quarantine, 21,350 cases (10.8 per cent) were receiving treatment at low-risk Covid-19 quarantine and treatment centres, 10,396 cases (5.2 per cent) were hospitalised and the remaining 1,117 (0.6 per cent) were treated at intensive care units (ICUs).

Of the total at ICUs nationwide, 615 were on ventilator support. Ventilator utilisation rate nation-

wide is at 49.9 per cent.

The nationwide hospital bed usage is at 72.6 per cent. Johor is the state with the highest hospital bed utilisation at 89.1 per cent, with 1,857 patients now hospitalised across the state.

This is followed by Penang, where 87.7 per cent of beds are used for Covid-19 patients, and Kelantan (85.6 per cent).

A total of 75.9 per cent of ICU beds were being utilised nationwide.

Up to yesterday, 99.2 per cent of Penang ICU beds were occupied, followed by Kedah (97.5 per cent) and Putrajaya (90 per cent).

Meanwhile, 68.8 per cent of the population (22,481,986 individuals) have received one dose of the

Covid-19 vaccine, with 58.1 per cent of the population (19,180,397 individuals) having been fully vaccinated.

The Health Ministry projected that 80 per cent of the population (26,125,920 individuals) would be fully vaccinated by Nov 26.

On Thursday, 326,612 vaccine doses were administered nationwide, with 132,562 individuals receiving their first dose and 194,050 receiving their second.

A total of 79.3 per cent (6,678,198 individuals) of the Klang Valley population had been fully vaccinated, followed by Negri Sembilan with 69 per cent (779,364 individuals) and Labuan at 67.5 per cent (67,268 individuals).

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

**'LET THEM BE VACCINATORS TOO'**

## Include pharmacists in primary list for booster shots, govt urged

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Pharmacists, who are frontliners in the private healthcare sector, should be included in the primary list for Covid-19 vaccine booster shots, alongside general practitioners.

Malaysian Pharmacists Society (MPS) president Amrahi Buang said this following the recent announcement by Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin on booster shots for high-risk groups and frontliners.

He also hoped that pharmacists would be included as vaccinators, following the closure of mega vaccination centres as Malaysia had exceeded the landmark 80 per cent vaccination rate.

This, he said, was to ensure Covid-19 booster shots remained accessible to the public.

"MPS, in partnership with Universiti Sains Malaysia, has developed the Certified Training Programme on Immunisation for Pharmacists to ensure our community pharmacists are competent to administer vaccines," he said in a statement.

On a separate matter, Amrahi said MPS also noted that the National Security Council had included the additional implementation of using Covid-19 saliva test kits results before departing to Labuan.

However, according to the standard operating procedure, only registered medical practitioners in the private sector as well as health officers from the ministry have the authority to endorse the results of the saliva test kits, he said.

"Therefore, MPS would urge the government to allow community pharmacists to be able to authorise the saliva self-test kits as well for the convenience of travellers as community pharmacists are the most easily accessible healthcare providers and more than qualified to interpret the results.

"With regards to the health minister's comment that the sale of test kits be more liberalised, MPS is of the view that suppliers should print or provide a QR code on the packaging of the test kits, which is linked to instruction videos and infographics in each language for the ease of the public."



*Amrahi Buang*

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NATION

# Basic SOPs remain vital

## Health experts remind M'sians to keep following rules

By **ASHLEY TANG**  
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**PETALING JAYA:** As the Health Ministry deliberates on simplifying the Covid-19 standard operating procedures, health experts say the most crucial ones are still wearing of face masks, physical distancing and good personal hygiene.

Universiti Malaya Department of Social and Preventive Medicine Faculty of Medicine's Prof Dr Moy Foong Ming said the present SOPs are much more standardised than before.

"It is just the implementation and enforcement that need to be improved," she added.

Dr Moy said that among the top

10 SOPs are wearing of face masks in public places and at work, maintaining physical distancing and washing hands often.

Other recommendations include avoiding crowded and poorly ventilated places, indoor dining only for those fully vaccinated and a 100% vaccination rate for all staff, students, undergraduates and post-graduates in schools and academic institutions.

"Workers in all economic sectors should be 80% to 100% vaccinated for full capacity of staff working on site, while those in enclosed environments should get tested regularly.

"All worksites and indoor facilities such as cinemas, gyms, eateries, shops and malls should have their

ventilation systems checked often.

"There should be a limit on the number of people at large social gatherings (weddings, funerals, parties and festivals) and enforcement of a vaccine licence or negative test results two days before," Dr Moy said.

Malaysian Public Health Physicians' Association president Datuk Dr Zainal Ariffin Omar said the SOPs should include access for those who are fully vaccinated and the mandatory use of face masks, physical distancing and good ventilation.

He said crowded areas should be avoided, while those who are feeling unwell should stay at home.

On Sept 4, Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said the ministry was looking to simplify the SOPs at differ-

ent levels of the pandemic.

Medical Practitioners Coalition Association of Malaysia president Dr Raj Kumar Maharajah said there were too many SOPs in the past, causing much confusion.

"As we enter the endemic phase, we need clearer SOPs that are easy and practical to follow," he said.

Now that 80% of adults had been fully vaccinated, Dr Raj said it would be easy to come up with standardised SOPs across the board.

"Restrictions are safe to be lifted now. The SOP we cannot compromise on is wearing of face masks. This must be continued along with basic cleanliness, sanitisation and good indoor ventilation during functions and meetings," he said.

### Crowd of one

A man sitting at the waiting area at the Bandar Tun Razak Sports Complex in Cheras, Kuala Lumpur, which doubles as a Covid-19 Assessment Centre. It has seen fewer visitors lately as the number of daily Covid-19 cases in the Klang Valley decreases due to the rising vaccination rate.



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NATION

# Jabs for kids under 12?

## Minister in talks with a vaccine maker about procurement

By JOSEPH KAOS Jr  
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**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysia is in talks with a vaccine maker to procure vaccines meant for children under the age of 12, says Khairy Jamaluddin. Without naming the company, the Health Minister said the vaccine maker was in the midst of submitting clinical data on the vaccine that could be administered to children.

"Now that the ministry is no longer pursuing 'herd immunity', our aim is to vaccinate as many people in our population.

"After vaccinating our adult population, we have started with teenagers.

"I have had meetings with a company that produces the vaccine that recently came up with early clinical data on vaccination for children aged below 12.

"And we are negotiating to procure those vaccines," said Khairy at a press conference here.

Currently, Malaysia has started to vaccinate adolescents aged between

12 and 17, after more than 80% of its adult population have been fully vaccinated.

Meanwhile, Khairy said the ministry was currently developing guidelines on third doses and booster shots for Covid-19 vaccines, which will be tabled in the next Covid-19 Vaccine Supply Access Guarantee Special Committee (JKJAV) meeting.

"I am confident that we can start giving the third dose first, and then followed by the booster shots starting from next month once we get the views and clinical guidelines from experts," he said.

He added that Pfizer had made a registration with the National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency for its dossier on third and booster shots.

"We will approve it as soon as possible," he said.

Khairy explained that there was a distinction between a booster shot and the third dose of the Covid-19 vaccine.

"The third dose is given to those who may not have gotten the level

of protection they need from the first two doses.

"And they require a third dose to achieve an optimum immune response.

"Booster shots are given to those who have enough immune response after receiving two doses of vaccine, but its response is slowly going down," he added.

The Health Ministry said target groups would get priority for the third dose of the Covid-19 vaccine starting next month.

"The priority of giving this third dose will be focused on high-risk groups first, such as health frontline members, immuno-compromised patients, the elderly with comorbidities and individuals living or working in long-term care facilities," he said.

On another matter, Khairy has called on the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations to intervene in the vaccine passport issue where certain countries were "discriminatory" on vaccine types.

"There are some countries stipu-

lating that only individuals who receive certain vaccines will be exempted from performing the Covid-19 tests before departure, undergoing quarantine upon arrival in the country, and so on.

"This should not happen because it is important for us to understand that vaccines protect individuals from the risk of getting more severe infections as well as reduce the symptoms of the disease.

"By discriminating against the vaccine type, this will defeat the purpose of having the vaccines and administering them to the population.

"We would like to get WHO to come up with a position on the discrimination of vaccines by certain countries.

"Our view is that if the vaccines are listed by WHO, they should be recognised by all countries," he said.

Watch the video  
TheStarTV.com



## Over 19 million inoculated

**KUALA LUMPUR:** A total of 19,156,694 individuals or 81.8% of the adult population in the country have been fully vaccinated against Covid-19 as of Thursday.

Based on the Health Ministry's data on CovidNow, 93.3% or 21,847,551 of the adult population have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

At the same time, 23,703 individuals or 0.8% of the adolescent population in the country have completed their Covid-19 vaccination.

A total of 326,612 doses of the vaccine were administered on Thursday, 132,562 for first-dose recipients and 194,050 getting their second dose, bringing the cumulative total of vaccines administered under the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme to 41,573,883 doses.

The programme was launched on Feb 24 this year to curb the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. — Bernama

# Daily cases below 16k for a week

**PUTRAJAYA:** Malaysia's Covid-19 daily case figures remained below the 16,000 mark for the seventh straight day with 14,554 new infections recorded yesterday.

There were 16,751 patients discharged within the same 24-hour span, which means recoveries have outnumbered new cases for the eighth consecutive day.

Cumulatively, the country's total Covid-19 cases is now at 2,171,232 while total recoveries is at 1,950,467.

Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said that of the 14,554 new cases, about 98.9% were mild and

asymptomatic infections.

Some 163 cases (1.1%) were Categories 3 to 5 infections. There are 1,049 patients in intensive care units nationwide, with 599 on ventilators.

Of the country's 14,554 new cases, nine were imported. The local cases consisted of 13,262 Malaysians and 1,283 foreign nationals, Khairy said in his daily Covid-19 update.

Sarawak recorded the highest daily figure with 2,825 infections, followed by Selangor (2,244) and Johor (1,807).

Kuala Lumpur continued to

record low daily figures, reporting 271 new cases.

Malaysia's infectivity rate is at an Rt level of 0.90 as of Thursday. Pahang (Rt 1.05) and Perlis (Rt 1.01) are the only states in the country with an Rt level of more than 1. An Rt level of less than 1 means the infection spread is shrinking.

The Health Ministry has identified 20 new infection clusters nationwide. This brings the current total number of active cases to 1,250.

The average number of deaths in the last seven days, based on actual

date of death, is 92. This is a decline from the average of 300 in August.

The ministry's CovidNow website reported that the country's Covid-19 death cases statistic is still on a decreasing trend.

Active Covid-19 cases are now below the 200,000 mark for the first time since Aug 2.

Of the total active cases in the country, about 83% are people with mild or asymptomatic infections and are undergoing home quarantine.

Another 11% are those under isolation at quarantine centres.