AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 16
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

RUU Antilompat Parti jangka dikuat kuasa hujung September

Dibentang pada hari pertama sidang Parlimen Isnin depan

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Kuala Lumpur: Undang-undang berkaitan antilompat parti dijangka mula dilaksanakan menjelang penghujung September depan, kata Menteri di Jabatan Perdana Menteri (Parlimen dan Undang-Undang), Datuk Seri Dr Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar.

Katanya, undang-undang yang mengekang tindakan lompat parti oleh Ahli Parlimen itu akan diwartakan pada tempoh berkenaan.

Jelas Wan Junaidi, rang undang-undang (RUU) terbabit akan dibentangkan pada hari pertama sidang Parlimen, Isnin depan.

"Undang-undang berkenaan sedia untuk dibentangkan. Saya mempunyai garis masa dan ia akan dibentangkan pada 18 Julai," katanya seperti dilaporkan portal FMT yang memetik *The Borneo Post*.

Wan Junaidi berkata, beliau optimis RUU Peruntukan Larangan Ahli Dewan Rakyat Bertukar Parti itu akan dibahas dengan jayanya seterusnya diluluskan di Dewan Rakyat.

Beliau bagaimanapun enggan mengulas sama ada Pilihan Raya Umum Ke-15 (PRU-15) akan diadakan sebelum undang-undang terbabit berkuasa kuasa.

Wan Junaidi sebelum ini pernah berkata, RUU itu akan dibentang dan dilaksanakan sebelum PRU-15.

> Undang-undang itu sedia untuk dibentangkan. Saya mempunyai garis masa dan ia akan dibentangkan pada 18 Julai

Wan Junaidi Tuanku Jaafar,
Menteri di Jabatan Perdana Menteri (Parlimen dan Undang-Undang)

Beliau juga membayangkan Parlimen ada budi bicara untuk meluluskan RUU itu tanpa persetujuan Kabinet kerana ia sudah diperhalusi susulan pelantikan Jawatankuasa Pilihan Khas Parlimen (PSC).

Memetik laporan berkenaan, Wan Junaidi berkata, PSC adalah instrumen Parlimen sekali gus tidak perlu menjawab kepada cabang Eksekutif.

Bagaimanapun, beliau akan menyerahkan kepada Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob untuk memperoleh persetujuan bersama Jemaah Menteri.

Sarawak laksana pemantauan lebih rapi

Kuching: Orang ramai harus lebih berwaspada dan untuk mengelak daripada jangkitan COVID-19, termasuk mendapatkan dos penggalak kedua dengan segera.

Timbalan Premier Sarawak, Datuk Seri Dr Sim Kui Hian, berkata, ini berikutan kebimbangan kes COVID-19 akan meningkat semula, susulan penularan subvarian Omicron BA.5.

Katanya, Omicron BA.5 ialah versi virus yang paling mudah merebak dan dikhuatiri akan mencetuskan gelombang baharu wabak COVID-19.

"Sebab itu, bagi mereka yang belum mendapatkan dos penggalak kedua, segeralah mengambilnya," katanya.

Dr Sim yang juga Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Kerajaan Tempatan dan Perumahan Sarawak berkata, pihaknya kini membuat pemantauan rapi susulan peningkatan semula kes COVID-19 yang dilaporkan di Semenanjung yang dicetuskan oleh subvarian Omicron BA.5.

"Langkah berjaga-jaga harus dipertingkat kerana kita tentunya tidak mahu kesulitan yang pernah dilalui sebelum ini berulang.

"Kita tidak boleh lagi menutup pintu masuk ke Sarawak seperti yang pernah dilakukan dahulu kerana ia akan memberi kesan buruk kepada ekonomi dan sosial," katanya.

Penularan COVID-19

Orang ramai perlu mengamalkan kawalan kendiri bagi menghentikan penularan pandemik di negara ini. (Foto hiasan)

> Penularan COVID-19 ini sudah lama, kita sepatutnya sudah pandai menjaga diri masing-masing. Jika kita tidak mengamalkan kawalan kendiri, ia menjadi faktor kenaikan kes

Dr Hanafiah Bashirun,
Pakar Kesihatan Awam

Orang ramai masih perlu amal SOP

Putrajaya: Orang ramai masih perlu mengambil langkah berjaga-jaga serta mengamalkan prosedur operasi standard (SOP) yang ditetapkan bagi mengelakkan penularan COVID-19.

Pakar Kesihatan Awam, Dr Hanafiah Bashirun, berkata ini kerana kebanyakan individu dijangkiti kini tidak menunjukkan sebarang gejala yang ketara.

"Kadang-kadang individu yang dijangkiti COVID-19 ini tidak menunjukkan sebarang gejala pun, ada antara mereka yang hanya ada *mild flu* (selesema ringan). Makan ubat dan kemudian sudah baik. Itu senario biasa yang kita hadapi sekarang.

"Ketika musim perayaan ini, sudah tentu akan berkumpul, bila jumpa saudara-mara, pelitup muka sudah tentu tidak akan dipakai lagi kerana kita beranggapan, yang ada di situ semuanya sihat kerana tidak menunjukkan gejala.

"Bila kita berborak dalam keadaan dekat, itu memberi peluang untuk virus merebak kepada individu lain.

"Penularan COVID-19 ini sudah lama, kita sepatutnya sudah pandai menjaga diri masing-masing. Jika kita tidak mengamalkan kawalan kendiri, ia menjadi faktor kenaikan kes," katanya kepada *BH*.

Dr Hanafiah mengakui, perasaan takut rakyat negara ini mengenai penularan wabak itu semakin berkurangan berikutan ramai sudah mengambil suntikan vaksin, malah kebanyakannya sudah dijangkiti virus berkenaan.

Katanya, orang ramai beranggapan mereka tidak akan dijangkiti lagi dan mula membandingkan SOP negara ini dengan negara lain yang lebih longgar.

Beliau berkata, dalam fasa peralihan ke endemik, kerajaan memberi kelonggaran, namun ia bukan bermakna negara sudah bebas daripada COVID-19 dan rakyat tidak boleh mengabaikan penjagaan kendiri.

Namun, pada masa sama, katanya, pelaporan mengenai situasi COVID-19 tidak seharusnya mencetuskan panik dalam kalangan rakyat.

"Pemberitahuan situasi COVID-19 itu dilakukan supaya rakyat berhati-hati dan mengelakkan berlakunya pandemik sekali lagi.

"Bila cetuskan panik, banyak benda akan berlaku, antaranya panik ekonomi," katanya.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NEGARA

2,799 kes baharu Covid-19 kelmarin

PUTRAJAYA – Sebanyak 2,799 kes baharu dilaporkan kelmarin dengan dua kes import direkodkan sekali gus menjadikan jumlah kumulatif jangkitan setakat ini 4,554,911.

Berdasarkan data *COVIDNOW*, sebanyak 2,666 kes sembuh direkodkan dengan jumlah keseluruhan pesakit pulih adalah 4,521,578.

"Selangor terus mencatatkan jumlah kes harian tertinggi iaitu 901 kes diikuti Kuala Lumpur (668), Perak (245), Negeri Sembilan (196), Sabah (192), Pulau Pinang (147) dan Melaka (93).

"Selain itu, Putrajaya dan Johor (80), Kedah (58), Sarawak (46), Pahang (41), Kelantan (17), Labuan dan Terengganu (sembilan) serta Perlis (lapan)," katanya.

Sebanyak lapan kematian dilaporkan, namun tiada kes *brought-in-dead* (BID) menjadikan jumlah kematian setakat ini adalah sebanyak 35,809 kes, manakala jumlah BID kekal 7,593.

Sebanyak 34,107 kes dikuarantin di rumah, 19 kes di Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan Covid-19 (PKRC), 1,156 kes di hospital, 15 kes di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU) tanpa bantuan pernafasan dan 26 kes di ICU dengan bantuan pernafasan.

KERAJAAN mengingatkan orang ramai agar mematuhi prosedur operasi standard ketika berada di tempat awam. – GAMBAR HIASAN

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

'EIA APPROVED FOR FOREST FARMING'

Approval not for durian plantation, says DoE director-general

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THE Department of Environment (DoE) confirmed that an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was approved for the Gunung Inas plantation project for forest farming.

Director-general Wan Abdul Latiff Wan Jaffar said the approval was not for a durian plantation.

He said the EIA report titled "Detailed Environmental Impact Assessment for the Development of Forest Plantation in Gunung Inas Forest Reserve Mukim Bakai, Kupang and Pulai, District of Baling, Kedah Darul Aman" was approved on July 25, 2013.

"The EIA was approved after the EIA Technical Review Committee was satisfied that the prevention measures, mitigation and pollution containment were sufficient," he said in a statement released in Putrajaya on Saturday.

According to Wan Abdul Latiff, the committee comprised agencies at the federal and state levels as well as experts from stipulated fields.

Among the agencies were the Malaysian Peninsular Forestry Department, state Department of Drainage and Irrigation, Agriculture Department, Baling district office, state Mineral and Geosciences Department, state Wildlife and Park Department, state Environmental Department and Baling District and Land Office.

"In the early stages, the proposed project was undertaken by Kedah Menteri Besar Incorporated, JV Kedah Agro Plantation Sdn Bhd before it was changed to Aman Mega Sdn Bhd," he said.

Wan Abdul Latiff said the approval was for the development of forest farming in an area not exceeding 5,000ha.

He said the approval comprised three components, namely logging and silviculture (replanting of timber species or existing plants); total felling of trees for timber cloning; and the development of forest farming comprising mono-crop forest plantation for the production of rubber trees and latex.

"Based on the DoE's investigation, a Notice of Order was issued on March 10, 2021, to the project owner when it was found there was a change to the approved concept at the site, following the planting of durian trees and not cloned timber trees.

"The latest enforcement check by the Kedah DoE on May 24 revealed that no tree-seedling activity was carried out in Compartment 8 of Gunung Inas Forest Reserve in Baling.

"There was also no active logging or replanting during the Movement Control Order until today as the activity did not receive approval from the International Trade and Industry Ministry," he said.

However, Wan Abdul Latiff said ground plants had been used to cover the exposed site.

He added that the state DoE had also been ordered to continue monitoring and carry out periodic enforcement to ensure that all development complied with regulations.

"I also wish to remind the owners of projects that are subject to an EIA to always comply with the approval terms and existing laws," he said.

The *New Straits Times* yesterday reported that the company allegedly operating the Musang King durian plantation in Gunung Inas claimed that the EIA for the site had already been carried out.

The company's spokesman, however, claimed that he had no information on whether the EIA was given for a Musang King plantation or forest farming.

He also claimed that the project was not directly awarded to the company as his employer had bought it over from another company.

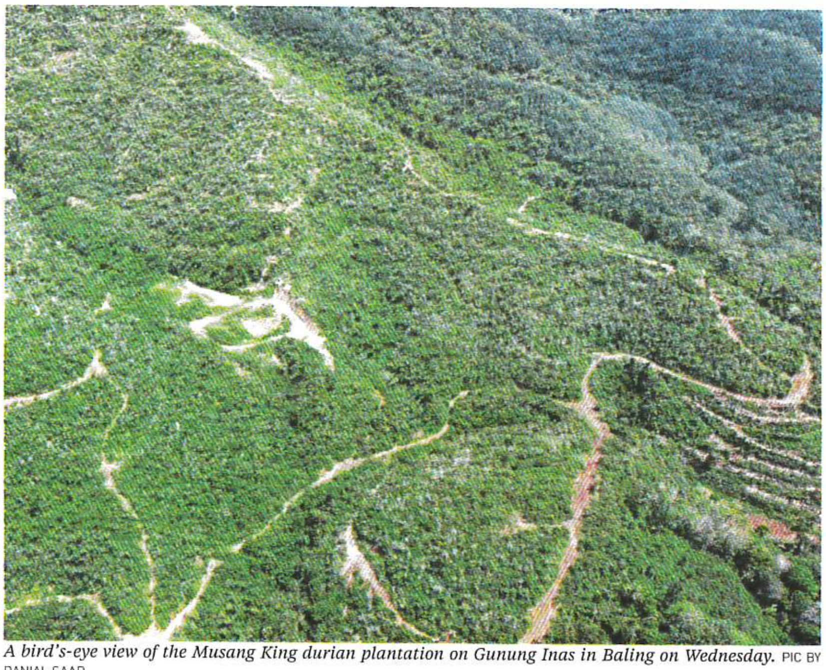
The spokesman declined to comment on claims that Musang King plantation activities had contributed to the massive floods in Kupang on Monday, which inundated 12 villages.

He claimed that logging had been carried out in the area for more than 10 years before the company bought over the site.

On Thursday, Kedah Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Muhammad Sanusi Md Nor asked whether the joint-venture company that developed the Musang King durian plantation in Gunung Inas had carried out an EIA beforehand.

Sanusi was reported as saying that getting the EIA approval would require strict compliance, including disallowing any development 300m above sea level.

He had said that these doubts prompted his administration to issue a stop-work order to the company in July 2020.



A bird's-eye view of the Musang King durian plantation on Gunung Inas in Baling on Wednesday. PIC BY DANIAL SAAD

35,323 ACTIVE CASES

2,799 new Covid-19 infections on Saturday

KUALA LUMPUR: A total of 41 Covid-19 patients were warded in intensive care units (ICU) nationwide on Saturday, with 26 requiring ventilation.

This took the ICU-utilisation rate for Covid-19 patients to 10 per cent. The nation's overall bed-use rate stood at 60.7 per cent.

They were among the 35,323 active cases reported by the Health Ministry on the CovidNow portal.

A total of 34,107 infected persons were in home quarantine, 1,156 were hospitalised and 19 were placed at Covid-19 quarantine and treatment centres.

On Saturday, 2,799 new cases, with only two imported infections, were reported to the ministry.

This was lower than Friday's 3,589 cases and Thursday's 4,020.

This raises the cumulative figure since the pandemic struck in 2020 to 4,592,710.

Selangor had the highest number of fresh cases at 910, followed by Kuala Lumpur with 668 and Perak with 245.

Eight deaths were registered, taking the total number of fatalities to 35,809.

Three deaths occurred in Selangor, two in Melaka and one each in Kedah, Perak and Sabah.

The number of people who recovered from the virus was 2,666.

On vaccination, the portal stated that 23,030,483 adults above 18 (97.9 per cent) have been fully inoculated against Covid-19 and 16,154,366 (68.7 per cent) have taken a booster shot.

Those who have received one dose of a vaccine totalled 23,091,552 (98.2 per cent).

As for children aged 5 to 11, 39.9 per cent, or 1,415,013, have been fully immunised and 49.8 per cent, or 1,766,656, have received one dose of a vaccine.

As for adolescents, 93 per cent, or 2,893,619, have got two doses and 95.6 per cent, or 2,975,348, are partially inoculated.