



**PRESS STATEMENT  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

**UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)  
SITUATION IN MALAYSIA**

**Update on the *Tabligh* Gathering in Malaysia**

14 March 2020, 7 pm – The Ministry of Health (MOH) wishes to update that 4,942 individuals who participated in the *Tabligh* gathering at the Seri Petaling mosque, Selangor have been identified. Of these, 3,069 individuals have presented to health clinics for further examination and health screening. A total of 1,634 individuals were found to have respiratory tract infection symptoms and samples have been taken for COVID-19 tests. From those examined, 137 individuals have been referred to hospitals for further management, while the remaining 2,932 individuals were placed under the 14-day home surveillance from the date they last joined the *Tabligh* gathering at Seri Petaling mosque. Investigation and contact tracing activities for individuals involved with the gathering are still ongoing.

With reference to the Press Statement of the Director General of Health Malaysia dated 14 March 2020, 5 pm, a total of **41 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported today. Of these, three (3) cases are close contacts of the cluster related to Case 33 that has been reported earlier, and one (1) case has a history of travelling to Iran. The remaining 37 confirmed cases are related to the *Tabligh* gathering cluster.

With these additional 37 cases, **cumulatively there are now 77 confirmed COVID-19 cases related to the *Tabligh* gathering cluster. These cases were detected in Sabah (26 cases), Negeri Sembilan (11 cases), Sarawak (6 cases), 5 cases respectively in Johor, Melaka, Selangor and Pulau Pinang, Kelantan (3 cases), 2 cases respectively in Perak, WP Labuan, Pahang, Kedah and WP Kuala Lumpur & Putrajaya, and 1 case in Perlis.**

All 77 cases are receiving in-patient treatment in hospitals, with one (1) case receiving treatment in the intensive care unit and in a stable condition.

## **Health Advisory**

MOH advises individuals who have participated in the *Tabligh* gathering and have not undergone examination and health screening to contact the nearest District Health Office for advice and further management. Individuals who have received the 14-day home surveillance order are strongly advised to comply to all directives to reduce the spread of the COVID-19 infection.

In addition, family members of these individuals who have received the home surveillance order are requested to:

1. Continuously remind and ensure that all directives are complied with for the greater benefit of the community;
2. Take preventive measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infection to other family members living in the same household, including ensuring that these individuals always wear facemasks when out of their own rooms and avoid close contact; and
3. Advise all family members to always maintain a high level of self-care, including good personal hygiene and a clean living environment.

Individuals or organisations planning to organise religious events or gatherings involving *Tabligh* members with the public are requested to inform the nearest District Health Office for monitoring and health advice.

Taking into account that *Tabligh* members have returned to their respective states, all State Health Departments are currently working hard to identify and screen individuals who have attended the *Tabligh* gathering as well as the close contacts of those already found positive with COVID-19. In addition, MOH wishes to inform several measures that have been taken by several State Health Departments:

1. **Perlis State Health Department** has placed 64 *Tabligh* members, who participated in the *Tabligh* gathering in Seri Petaling mosque, in Dewan Wawasan 2020 for the 14-day home surveillance.

2. **WP Labuan State Health Department** has designated Membidai Health Clinic, WP Labuan as the COVID-19 screening centre for *Tabligh* members who participated in the *Tabligh* gathering and for individuals who attended the “Klinik Hukum bersama Mufti Wilayah” program. This clinic is also opened on Saturday and Sunday, 8 am to 3 pm.
  
3. **WP Kuala Lumpur & Putrajaya State Health Department** has implemented a screening activity for *Tabligh* members at Seri Petaling mosque starting from 12 March 2020. The mosque is currently closed for cleaning and disinfection activities. This mosque is also being used as a facility for the 14-day home surveillance for *Tabligh* members and students in residence, from the date of the last COVID-19 case is detected amongst them. The public is restricted from entering the mosque to prevent further COVID-19 infection.

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation amongst individuals and participants involved with the *Tabligh* gathering, and the public will be continuously updated. The public is also advised that COVID-19 prevention and control measures must be taken seriously.

Thank you.

**DATUK DR NOOR HISHAM ABDULLAH**  
Director General of Health Malaysia

14 March 2020 @ 7.30 pm