

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : NATION

THE STAR MIS 5 NATION 27/4/2025 (AHAD)

Close watch on health products

Govt remains vigilant over potential impact from US tariffs, says minister

KOTA BARU: The Health Ministry is closely monitoring two key issues following the tariffs imposed by the United States, particularly those affecting medical devices and pharmaceutical products.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said although the US had indicated an intention to exempt pharmaceuticals from these tariffs, recent developments suggest otherwise.

"Some of the announced tariffs are still unclear, so we must remain vigilant.

"It is crucial for us to stay attentive to these two matters," he told a press conference after opening the state-level 2025 Madani Afiat programme yesterday, Bernama reported.

He was responding to questions about the potential impact of the tariffs on the nation's healthcare supply chain.

On April 22, *The Star* reported Malaysian medical product manufacturers are bracing for the potential impact as the US considers imposing tariffs on pharmaceutical imports worth US\$200bil.

Malaysia's medical device export to the United States was valued at RM13.69bil (US\$3.07bil) in 2024, making up 36.97% of the country's total medical device

Gloved up for fluid tariffs

Medical manufacturers brace for shifts in export demand

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PETALING JAYA: As the United States considers imposing tariffs on pharmaceutical imports worth US\$200bil, Malaysian medical products manufacturers are bracing for the potential impact of President Donald Trump's announcement on the local industry.

According to the Health Ministry, Malaysia's medical device exports to the United States were valued at RM13.69bil (US\$3.07bil) in 2024, making up 36.97% of the country's total medical device exports, which stood at

What we know about
President Donald Trump's
**potential tariffs on
pharmaceuticals**
so far?

The US imposed
tariffs of **US\$213bil**
on pharmaceutical
products in 2024
(RM939.33bil) in
April 2

Pharmaceutical products were
exempted from reciprocal tariffs

April 8
Trump says announcement of a major tariff
on pharmaceuticals will come soon
April 14

Bhd's managing director, said the pharmaceutical company currently does not engage in any direct export activities to the United States.

"Therefore, the recent imposition of tariffs by the US government does not have any immediate or direct impact on our operations.

"However, we remain mindful of the interconnected nature of global trade, where policy changes in one region can influence supply chains worldwide.

"While we do not anticipate any significant impact at this stage, we are closely monitoring the situation to stay ahead of any potential downstream implications.

TARIFF WARS

regulating all aspects related to smoking products, including their registration, sales, advertising and nicotine content.

"Our approach is to enforce strict regulation. Sales to minors will be completely prohibited and stringent controls will be in place to ensure there is no room for any form of leniency," he said.

Dzulkefly also said the state government would hold an important responsibility through its authority to deny business licences to entrepreneurs selling smoking products.

He viewed the collaboration as a positive step towards safeguarding public health.

The Terengganu government announced that effective Aug 1, it would enforce a ban on the sale of vape products statewide – a move to curb the sale and use of vape products, which pose health risks, particularly to the younger generation.

All eyes: The article, published on April 22, highlighting the tariff issue that will affect Malaysian medical products manufacturers.

exports, which stood at RM37.03bil.

Pharmaceutical exports to the US were worth RM560mil or 18.48% of Malaysia's total pharmaceutical exports, which amounted to RM3.03bil.

The report also quoted the Malaysian Medical Device

Dzulkefly said the ministry was determined to implement comprehensive regulation on vape products with the gazette of the Smoking Products Control for Public Health Act.

He said the Act, which functions as a stand-alone legislation, would serve as a strong foundation for

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : NATION

THE STAR MYS NATION 27/4/2025 (AHAD) Allowance issue expected to be finalised by June

KOTA BARU: The issue regarding the increase in on-call duty allowance for health workers is expected to be finalised by June at the latest, says Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

The Health Minister said a committee chaired by Tan Sri Dr Abu Bakar Sulaiman, who is a former Health director-general, is currently in the final stages of negotiations.

"The committee is actively discussing and is in the final phase of negotiations. We hope a decision can be reached soon.

"I understand the workload of health workers who work around the clock and hope that all processes can be completed by June," he told a press conference after opening the state-level 2025 Madani Afiat Programme in Tunjong here yesterday, Bernama reported.

Dzulkefly said this when asked to comment on the latest developments regarding the allowance for health workers.

He said the welfare of health workers has always been a priority for him since helming the ministry.

"Waiting is torture. I hope this matter can be concluded in May because I know they are working very hard.

"We have reached the end of the discussion. God willing, this time we will resolve the matter," he said.

It was previously reported that the ministry had received approval to increase the allowance for health workers.

It is compensation for the additional responsibilities carried out by medical officers in treating patients while on-call at hospitals after normal working hours.



On-site visit: Dzulkefly being briefed by healthcare workers at the Madani Afiat programme in Tunjong, Kota Baru. — Bernama

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 12
RUANGAN : NATION

NST M/S 12 NATION 27/4/2025 (AHAD)
U.S. TARIFFS

Ministry working to protect health supply chain

KOTA BARU: The Health Ministry is monitoring issues around medical devices and pharmaceutical products following the United States' latest tariffs.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad said although US President Donald Trump had indicated pharmaceuticals might be exempted from tariffs, recent developments suggested otherwise.

"Some of the announced tariffs remain unclear.

"It is crucial for me, as health minister, to stay attentive to these two matters," he said after opening the state-level Madani Afiat Programme in Tunjong here.

He was asked about the potential impact of US tariffs on Malaysia's healthcare supply chain.

He said the ministry was making early preparations to find alternative markets and sources to ensure the continuity of the health supply chain.

On April 2, Trump announced reciprocal tariffs on many countries, including 24 per cent on goods from Malaysia. A 90-day pause was announced on April 9.

On the Terengganu government's ban on the sale of electronic cigarettes and vape prod-

ucts from Aug 1, Dzulkefly said the ministry was determined to implement comprehensive regulations on vape products with the gazetting of the Smoking Products Control for Public Health Act 2024.

He said the act, which functions as a standalone legislation, would serve as a strong foundation for regulating all aspects related to smoking products, including their registration, sale, advertising and nicotine content.

"Our approach is to enforce strict regulation. Sale to minors will be prohibited and stringent controls will be in place to ensure there is no room for leniency."

He said state governments hold an important responsibility to deny business licences to smoking product entrepreneurs.

He said collaboration with state governments was a positive step to safeguard public health.

Terengganu Local Government, Housing and Health Committee chairman Datuk Wan Sukairi Wan Abdullah had said the ban was a proactive move by the state government to curb the sale and use of vape products, which pose health risks, particularly to the younger generation.

Bernama

HEALTH WORKERS' WELFARE

'ON-CALL ALLOWANCE HIKE SETTLED BY JUNE'

Committee discussing increase in final phase of negotiations, says Dzulkefly

KOTA BARU

THE health workers' on-call duty allowance increase issue is expected to be finalised by June, said Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

He said a committee chaired by former Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Abu Bakar Sulaiman was in the final stages of negotiations.

"The committee is discussing and in the final phase of negotiation. We hope a decision can be reached soon.

"I understand the workload of health workers who work round the clock. I hope the process can be done by June at the latest," he said after opening the state-level Madani Afiat programme in Tunjong here.



Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad (third from left) greeting participants at the state-level Madani Afiat programme in Tunjong, Kota Baru, yesterday. NSTP PIC BY NIK ABDULLAH NIK OMAR

Dzulkefly was asked to comment on the latest developments on the issue of on-call allowance for health workers.

He said the welfare of health workers was always a priority for him since he took helm of the ministry.

"Waiting is torture. I hope this matter can be concluded in May because I know they are working very hard. We are nearing the end of discussions.

"God willing, this time we will resolve the matter." It was reported that the ministry had received approval to increase the on-call duty allowance for health workers. The allowance is compensation for additional responsibilities carried out by medical officers while on-call at hospitals after normal working hours. **Bernama**

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

SINAR MIS 6 NASIONAL 27/4/2025 (AHAD)

'Jangan sampai semut beritahu ada kencing manis'

Menurut Dr Dzulkefly, ramai rakyat Malaysia tidak tahu mereka sebenarnya menghidap kencing manis

Oleh ASWANY OMAR
KOTA BHARU

"Jangan sampai semut yang memberitahu kita menghidap kencing manis."

Demikian tegas Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad mengenai rakyat Malaysia khususnya penduduk Kelantan yang tidak tahu mereka sebenarnya menghidap kencing manis.

Katanya, Tinjauan Kebangsaan Kesihatan dan Morbiditi (NHMS) 2023 mendapati, ramai rakyat Malaysia yang menghidap penyakit tidak berjangkit (NCD) secara senyap.

"Khusus untuk golongan dewasa di Kelantan sahaja satu daripada enam atau 16.3 peratus menghidap diabetes manakala satu daripada tiga atau 27.9 peratus ada tekanan darah tinggi, dan satu daripada dua atau 51.6 peratus mempunyai berat badan berlebihan atau obes," katanya selepas Majlis Perasmian Program Madani Afiat Peringkat Negeri Kelantan 2025 di sini pada Sabtu.

Menurut Dr Dzulkefly, satu daripada tiga atau 34.9 peratus mempunyai kolesterol tinggi, satu daripada empat atau 23.2 peratus tidak aktif fizikal dan satu daripada lima atau 21.4 peratus merupakan perokok.

Katanya, kebanyakan mereka diserang penyakit berkenaan akibat dua faktor iaitu pemakanan yang tidak sihat



Dr Dzulkefly (tengah) melawat reruai yang mempamerkan bahan ubatan yang tidak disaran oleh KKM pada Majlis Perasmian Program Madani Afiat Peringkat Negeri Kelantan 2025 di Kota Bharu.

dan kurang aktiviti fizikal.

Beliau berkata, setiap rawatan memerlukan kos tinggi yang mungkin boleh membelenggu pesakit.

"Contohnya, buah pinggang yang rosak memerlukan hemodialisis sebanyak tiga kali seminggu dan perlu membayar RM200 hingga RM400.

"Jika tiga kali seminggu, 52 minggu setahun, kosnya RM31,000 diperlukan dan jumlah ini boleh membeli sebuah kereta Axia Rahmah," katanya.

Justeru, beliau berharap rakyat Malaysia peka dengan kesihatan dan pemakanan kerana kos perubatan yang semakin meningkat.

Sementara itu, Dr Dzulkefly memaklumkan, Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) sedang memantau perkembangan harga peranti perubatan dan ubat-ubatan berikutan pengumuman tarif oleh Presiden Amerika Syarikat (AS), Donald Trump.

Beliau menyatakan kebimbangan terhadap kemungkinan berlakunya situasi luar jangkaan meskipun Trump telah menyatakan pengecualian tarif untuk

sektor farmaseutikal.

"Memang sebelum ini beliau (Trump) ada mengatakan mengenai pengecualian membabitkan sektor farmaseutikal... tetapi nampaknya tidak begitu.

"Jumlah tarif yang akan dikenakan belum dapat ditentukan secara khusus. Trump memang sukar dijangka, jadi kita tidak boleh membuat spekulasi," ujarinya.

Beliau turut menekankan bahawa dua aspek utama yang perlu diberi perhatian ialah bekalan peranti perubatan dan ubat-ubatan.

Sebagai langkah persediaan, KKM juga sedang mencari pasaran alternatif untuk memastikan bekalan peranti perubatan dan ubat-ubatan di negara ini mencukupi.

Mengenai jumlah Elaun Tugas Atas Panggilan (ETAP) bagi semua petugas kesihatan, Dr Dzulkefly berkata, ia dijangka dimuktamadkan selewat-lewatnya Jun ini.

"Kita masih belum boleh buat keputusan dalam masa terdekat, namun pengumuman rasmi akan dibuat tidak lama lagi," katanya.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
MUKA SURAT : 6
RUANGAN : NEGARA

KOSMO! Ahad 27 APRIL 2025

6 **NEGARA!**
KOSMO M/S C NEGERI 27/4/2025 (AHAD)

Kenaikan elaun petugas kesihatan dimuktamad Jun ini

KOTA BHARU – Keputusan Kenaikan Elaun Tugas Atas Panggilan (ETAP) kepada semua petugas kesihatan dimuktamadkan seawal-lewatnya Jun ini.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad berkata, perkara itu dalam perbincangan di peringkat akhir sebelum seba-

rang keputusan dibuat. Katanya, pengumuman rasmi mengenai perkara tersebut juga akan dilakukan secepat mungkin.

"Setakat ini, kita masih belum dapat membuat keputusan dalam tempoh terdekat dan pengumuman rasmi mengenainya akan dibuat nanti.

"Saya seboleh-bolehnya mahu perkara ini diselesaikan secepat mungkin (dalam bulan ini)," katanya pada Program Madani Afiat Peringkat Negeri Kelantan 2025 di sini semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, Dzulkefly memberitahu, pengumuman mengenai kenaikan ETAP tidak

akan dilengah kerana beliau memperjuangkan isu tersebut malah sudah mendapat perhatian Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Anwar Ibrahim yang ada menyedut dalam Belanjawan 2025.

Media sebelum ini melaporkan, Kementerian Kesihatan mendapat persetujuan menaik-

kan ETAP bagi petugas kesihatan dan pengumuman lanjut mengenainya akan dibuat nanti.

ETAP adalah imbuhan atas tanggungjawab tambahan oleh pegawai perubatan yang merawat pesakit ketika bertugas 'on-call' di hospital selepas waktu bekerja biasa.

KKM sokong haram penjualan vape

- **Johor, Perlis, Terengganu sudah melarang jualan rokok elektronik**
- **Kelantan sudah lama tidak benar jual barangan itu**

Oleh ROSLIZA MOHAMED

KOTA BHARU – Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) menyokong usaha beberapa negeri bertindak mengharamkan penjualan rokok

elektronik atau vape.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr. Dzulkefly Ahmad berkata, pendekatan mengawal selia vape itu mengikut Akta Kawalan Produk Merokok Demi Kesihatan Awam 2024 (Akta 852).

Katanya, kawalan selia secara rapi termasuk pendaftaran, penjualan kepada bawah umur, pengiklanan dan produk yang dipamerkan.

"Usaha yang dilakukan oleh Johor sejak 2016 lalu, diikuti Perlis dan Terengganu itu sangat baik."

"Ini kerana, penjualan bahan

itu adalah di bawah bidang kuasa negeri masing-masing dan pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT) untuk tidak memberi lesen kepada pengusaha premis," katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas Program Madani Afiat Peringkat Negeri Kelantan 2025 di sebuah kompleks beli-belah di sini semalam.

Katanya pada masa sama, Kelantan juga sudah lama tidak membenarkan penjualan bahan terlarang itu.

Media sebelum ini melaporkan, Perlis akan mengharamkan penjualan vape di negeri terbabit diikuti Terengganu mulai 1 Ogos depan.



DZULKEFLY (tengah) melawat gerald pameran pada Program Madani Afiat Peringkat Negeri Kelantan 2025 di sebuah kompleks beli-belah di Kota Bharu semalam. – ROSLIZA MOHAMED