

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Kapasiti hospital, pusat kuarantin cukup: PM

MAEPS jadi tempat rawatan berisiko rendah jika bilangan kes meningkat

Kuala Lumpur: Kapasiti di hospital COVID-19, Pusat Kawalan Kusta Negara (PKKN) dan Institut Latihan Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) mencukupi untuk menempatkan pesakit COVID-19, kata Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin.

Perdana Menteri berkata, penyediaan Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan COVID-19 Berisiko Rendah di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia Serdang (MAEPS) ialah antara langkah kesiapsiagaan kerajaan dalam menghadapi penularan wabak berkenaan.

"Hari ini (semalam) saya melawat kerja akhir penyediaan Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan COVID-19 Berisiko Rendah di MAEPS yang dibina sebagai persediaan bagi menempatkan pesakit COVID-19 jika bilangan kes positif wabak ini terus meningkat.

"Ia mampu menempatkan sehingga 600 orang pesakit COVID-19 pada satu-satu masa dan usaha ini diselenggarakan Agensi Pengurusan Bencana Negara (NADMA) dengan kerjasama enam pihak lain.

"Antaranya ialah Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM), Angkatan Tentera Malaysia (ATM), Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia, Angkatan Pertahanan Awam Malaysia, Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat (JKM) dan Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR)," katanya menerusi kenyataan dimuat naik di akaun Facebook rasminya, semalam.

Sambil meluahkan masa meninjau persiapan akhir itu, Muhyiddin berkata, antara perhid-

matan disediakan di pusat berkenaan ialah rawatan klinikal dan wad pesakit dalam untuk pesakit COVID-19.

Katanya, ruang resuscitation (resusitasi) untuk menstabilkan pesakit dalam keadaan kecemasan, perkhidmatan ambulans, perkhidmatan farmasi, perkhidmatan sinar-X dan perkhidmatan makmal patologi turut disediakan.

"Kemudahan disediakan kepada pesakit termasuk katil, meja, kerusi, lokar, televisyen, ruang legar, jalur lebar, komputer, surau, sistem kamera litar tertutup (CCTV), tandas, ruang mandi, bilik persalinan dan ruang istirahat.

"Bagi anggota yang bertugas pula, pusat ini menyediakan kaunter jururawat, bilik rawatan dan kecemasan, ruang rehat anggota, bilik persalinan anggota dan ruang mandi termasuk ruang persalinan pakaian perlindungan persendirian, selain bilik mesyuarat dan seminar," katanya.

Sementara itu, kerajaan semalam menerima sumbangan RM4.25 juta daripada lima syarikat untuk disalurkan ke Tabung COVID-19.

Sumbangan disampaikan wakil syarikat masing-masing kepada Perdana Menteri dalam satu majlis ringkas di Perdana Putra, Putrajaya.

Syarikat Naza Corporation Holdings Sdn Bhd menyumbangkan RM1.25 juta yang disampaikan Pengerusi Eksekutif Kumpulan dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutifnya, SM Nasaruddin SM



Muhyiddin meninjau persiapan Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan COVID-19 Berisiko Rendah di MAEPS, Serdang semalam. (Foto BERNAMA)

Penyediaan Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan COVID-19 Berisiko Rendah di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia Serdang (MAEPS) ialah antara langkah kesiapsiagaan kerajaan dalam menghadapi penularan wabak berkenaan.

Muhyiddin Yassin, Perdana Menteri



Muhyiddin menerima replika cek RM1.25 juta untuk Tabung COVID-19 daripada SM Nasarudin di Perdana Putra, Putrajaya, semalam.

Nasimuddin.

Pengerusi Eksekutif Puncak Niaga Holdings Berhad, Tan Sri Rozali Ismail dan Pengarah E-Idaman Sdn Bhd, Zaki Abdul Aziz Daud, masing-masing menghulurkan sumbangan RM1 juta.

Presiden Persatuan Pengimport dan Peniaga Kenderaan Melayu Malaysia (PEKEMA), Datuk Zainuddin Abd Rahman, pula me-

nyumbangkan RM500,000.

Pengerusi Eksekutif Kumpulan dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif Leong Hup International Berhad, Tan Sri Francis Lau, tampil memberikan dua unit ventilator dan peruntukan bernilai RM500,000.

Penerbit dan Ketua Pegawai Eksekutif The Edge Media Group, Datuk Ho Kay Tat, menyumbangkan peralatan dan keperluan ke-

sihatan bagi mendepani COVID-19 bernilai RM21 juta.

Semua sumbangan pelbagai pihak itu setakat ini menjadikan jumlah wang terkumpul, termasuk geran kerajaan sebanyak RM14.2 juta.

Tabung COVID-19 dilancarkan 11 Mac lalu, sebagai usaha kerajaan membantu rakyat terjejas ekoran wabak itu.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

SELASA, 31 MAC 2020

5

Nasional

Penularan COVID-19

PKPD dilaksanakan jika kes meningkat mendadak

Pantau perkembangan setiap Zon Merah terlebih dulu sebelum laksana keputusan

Putrajaya: Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan (PKPD) akan dilaksanakan sekiranya berlaku peningkatan kes secara mendadak di sebuah kawasan yang dikelaskan sebagai Zon Merah.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata buat masa ini, pihaknya melihat perkembangan di setiap Zon Merah terlebih dulu sebelum membuat keputusan berhubung pelaksanaan PKPD di lokasi tersebut.

"Buat masa ini, kita melihat dulu perkembangan kes di kawasan berkenaan. Selain Zon Merah, kita turut mengenal pasti Zon Kuning, iaitu kawasan yang mempunyai 21 hingga 40 kes.

"Jika ada peningkatan kes mendadak, Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) akan segera mengambil tindakan drastik seperti yang dilakukan di dua daerah, iaitu Kluang serta Hulu Langat," katanya pada sidang media harian, di sini, semalam.

Sebelum ini, *BH* melaporkan PKPD wajar diperluaskan segera jika masih ramai mengingkar arahan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP), terutama di lokasi diisytiharkan sebagai Zon Merah.

Pakar Kriminologi dan Psikologi, Program Sains Forensik, Pusat Pengajian Sains Kesihatan,



Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan COVID-19 Berisiko Rendah sedang giat disediakan di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia Serdang (MAEPS), Serdang.

Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Prof Madya Dr Geshina Ayu Mat Saat, dipetik berkata langkah itu adalah jalan terbaik sebagai usaha drastik mengawal penularan wabak COVID-19.

Kampung Dato' Ibrahim Majid dan Bandar Baharu Dato' Ibrahim Majid di Simpang Renggam, Kluang, Johor, dikenakan PKPD sejak Jumaat lalu susulan jumlah jangkitan COVID-19 yang tinggi di lokasi tersebut.

PKPD turut dikuatkuasakan di kawasan Batu 21 hingga Batu 24 Sungai Lui, Hulu Langat, Selangor; membabitkan tujuh kampung bermula semalam hingga 13 April depan.

Mengulas penularan wabak COVID-19 di Hulu Langat, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sebanyak 271 kes telah dilaporkan di daerah berkenaan dan jumlah itu adalah kadar yang tinggi.

"Daripada jumlah itu, 90 kes membabitkan Maahad Tahfiz An-Nabawiyah dan ia besar kemungkinan daripada kluster tabligh. Kluster itu kini sudah memasuki generasi kelima dan berkemungkinan ada antara mereka menetap di kawasan Hulu Langat dan Sungai Lui," katanya.

Beliau berkata, Hulu Langat pada mulanya hanya mencatatkan 71 kes tetapi apabila KKM memasuki kawasan tersebut, didapati ada peningkatan terhadap jumlah berkenaan.

"Meningkat 91 kes, iaitu 90 kes di madrasah dan satu kes di luar madrasah tersebut," katanya.

Sementara itu, Dr Noor Hisham berkata PKP berbeki dua minggu yang dilaksanakan di negara ini menjadi penentu sama ada usaha untuk memecahkan rangkaian transmisi COVID-19

berjaya atau sebaliknya.

Katanya, pihaknya yakin perkara itu dapat dicapai sekiranya rakyat menjalankan disiplin seperti yang sering diingatkan oleh kerajaan.

"Sekarang kita sudah selesai dua minggu tempoh PKP dan dua minggu lagi akan menyusul. Sekiranya masyarakat mengamalkan disiplin seperti duduk di rumah, pihak KKM pula giat menjalankan kegiatan pengesanan kes yang aktif, contohnya mengenal pasti beberapa kelompok sasaran seperti jemaah, tahfiz dan Rohingya, sudah tentu kita akan dapat memecahkan rangkaian berkenaan.

"KKM pada dasarnya menasihatkan mereka (kelompok sasaran) lebih awal. Kemudian barulah boleh memecahkan rangkaian berkenaan," katanya.

70 hospital untuk saringan, 38 sedia rawatan

Putrajaya: Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) mempertingkatkan kapasiti pengendalian kes COVID-19 menerusi pertambahan jumlah hospital untuk mengendalikan saringan dan rawatan.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata untuk tujuan saringan 70 hospital disediakan berbanding 57 sebelum ini.

Bagi tujuan rawatan COVID-19 pula, jumlah hospital dipertingkatkan daripada 26 sebelum ini kepada 38.

"Pertambahan jumlah hospital ini dibantu melalui kerjasama Angkatan Tentera Malaysia (ATM) dan Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaya (PPUM), dengan tujuh daripadanya dikhususkan untuk tujuan rawatan pesakit COVID-19.

"Dengan pertambahan jumlah hospital juga, bilangan katil untuk tujuan rawatan COVID-19 turut bertambah kepada 3,994 katil," katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, kementerian juga merancang menambahkan bilangan katil menerusi pengenalpastian dan penubuhansuaian Institut Latihan KKM untuk digunakan sebagai pusat kuarantin dan rawatan dengan kapasiti 1,997 katil.

"Fasiliti lain juga turut dikenal pasti, misalnya di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia Serdang (MAEPS) yang menyediakan 600 katil," katanya.

Mengenai kluster tabligh ijtihad di Masjid Seri Petaling, KKM sudah menyangkir 18,271 jemaah dan 14,111 sampel sudah diambil setakat ini.

"Daripada jumlah berkenaan 1,290 sampel disahkan positif, manakala 8,083 lagi negatif," katanya.

Sementara itu, Dr Noor Hisham menasihatkan individu yang mempunyai sejarah perjalanan ke luar negara supaya mengasingkan diri dengan ahli keluarga atau orang yang tinggal serumah selama 14 hari, 24 jam sehari.

Dalam tempoh itu mereka dinasihatkan mengambil langkah pencegahan seperti amalan kebersihan diri yang baik, kerap mencuci tangan dan menjarakkan diri.

"Dalam tempoh 14 hari itu, anda juga diminta memantau diri untuk sebarang gejala seperti demam, batuk, selesema, sakit tekak atau sesak nafas dan sekiranya mengalami mana-mana gejala berkenaan, segera buat panggilan ke fasiliti kesihatan terdekat dan maklumkan status kepada petugas kesihatan," katanya.

Jumlah pulih paling ramai semalam

Putrajaya: Sebanyak 91 kes sudah pulih daripada jangkitan COVID-19 direkodkan semalam, menjadikannya jumlah terbesar pesakit pulih dalam satu masa setakat ini.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata secara keseluruhan sebanyak 479 kes atau 18.2 peratus pesakit sudah sembuh di negara ini.

Bagi kes baharu pesakit yang positif yang dilaporkan semalam ialah 156, menjadikan kes positif

di negara ini sebanyak 2,626.

"Hingga kini seramai 94 pesakit kes positif COVID-19 sedang dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi (ICU). Daripada jumlah berkenaan, 62 kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," katanya dalam sidang media harian COVID-19, di sini, semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham turut menyanjatkan ada tiga kematian dilaporkan di Pusat Kesiapsiagaan dan Tindakan Cepat Krisis Kebangsaan (CPRC) setakat tengah hari semalam menjadikan jumlah ku-

mulatif kes kematian berkaitan COVID-19 kini 37.

"Kes kematian ke-35 ialah seorang wanita berusia 57 tahun dan ada latar belakang penyakit kencing manis serta sejarah perjalanan ke Indonesia. Beliau dirawat di Hospital Sungai Buloh dan disahkan meninggal dunia pada 29 Mac 2020 jam 4 petang.

"Bagi kematian ke-36, ialah seorang lelaki warganegara Malaysia berusia 47 tahun dan dirawat di Hospital Umum Sarawak pada 23 Mac sebelum disahkan me-

ninggal pada jam 8.10 pagi.

"Kes kematian ke-37 pula, beliau ialah seorang wanita berusia 46 tahun dan mempunyai penyakit darah tinggi dan penyakit autoimun. Beliau dirawat di Hospital Miri, Sarawak dan disahkan meninggal dunia pada 30 Mac 2020 jam 9.02 pagi," katanya.

Sementara itu, mengulas mengenai pesakit termuda bayi 12 hari yang dijangkiti COVID-19, Dr Noor Hisham berkata bayi berkenaan masih di bawah pemantauan hospital.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 7

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

BH SELASA, 31 MAC 2020

Nasional

Penularan COVID-19

Simpanan bekalan ubat di hospital mencukupi

Orang ramai tidak perlu bimbang: Dr Adham

Kuala Lumpur: Simpanan bekalan ubat di pusat perkhidmatan kesihatan seluruh negara ketika ini mencukupi untuk merawat COVID-19 dan penyakit lain.

Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba, berkata semakan semasa terhadap bekalan ubat di hospital mendapati Chloroquine, Hydroxychloroquine serta kombinasi Lopinavir/Ritonavir masih berupaya menampung kes penularan COVID-19.

Beliau berkata, bekalan ubat untuk merawat pesakit yang

menghidap penyakit lain dan ditempatkan di hospital berbeza susulan pengurusan krisis wabak berkenaan, juga mencukupi.

"KKM (Kementerian Kesihatan) mempunyai simpanan bekalan (ubat) mencukupi, sama ada untuk COVID-19 atau penyakit lain.

"Oleh itu, tidak perlu bimbang," katanya ketika dihubungi dalam program *Selamat Pagi Malaysia*, semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, kelmarin dilaporkan berkata penggunaan tiga jenis ubat itu yang digunakan untuk merawat COVID-19 di Malaysia dilihat memberikan kesan.

Kaedah rawatan itu merujuk kepada Chloroquine dan Hydroxychloroquine yang sebelum ini digunakan untuk pesakit malaria, namun kini diberi ke-



KKM mempunyai bekalan ubat yang mencukupi untuk rawatan pelbagai penyakit dan orang ramai tidak perlu bimbang. (Foto hiasan)



Dr Adham Baba

pada individu dijangkiti COVID-19 kerana ia bersifat antiradang.

Ditanya mengenai jangkaan keberkesanan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) yang dilanjutkan hingga 14 April depan pula, Dr Adham berkata, segenap lapisan masyarakat wajar memberi kerjasama dengan hanya duduk

di rumah sepanjang tempoh arahan itu berkuat kuasa.

"Kita mesti akur dengan PKP dan PKPD (Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan) yang kini diperluaskan mencakupi dua lokasi utama di Malaysia.

"PKPD ini jelas memperuntukkan bahawa tiada sesiapa dibenarkan keluar masuk sepanjang tempoh ia berkuat kuasa, justeru akur dengan arahan terbabit untuk kita menghentikan penularan COVID-19.

"Kita akan menghantar pasukan perubatan untuk melakukan saringan dari rumah ke rumah, namun tugas ini tidak dapat dilaksanakan jika mereka mengingkari arahan.

"Paling penting sekarang ialah duduk di rumah. Bersama kita boleh memutuskan rantaian penularan COVID-19," katanya.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

8

Nasional

SELASA, 31 MAC 2020 **BH**

PM ucap 'Selamat Hari Doktor'

Pelbagai pihak
zahirkan
penghargaan
kepada pegawai
perubatan

Kuala Lumpur: Ketika dunia kini dilanda wabak COVID-19, ramai terpaksa membataskan pergerakan sehingga menjarakkan diri antara satu sama lain kerana bimbang dijangkiti.

Namun, ada insan tetap mera-

pati dengan penuh bertanggungjawab demi memastikan sesiapa saja dirawat sehingga pulih.

Begitulah gambaran peribadi mulia golongan bergelar doktor - jasa dan pengorbanan mereka harus dihargai sewajarnya.

Sempena Hari Doktor Sedunia disambut pada 30 Mac setiap tahun, ramai dalam kalangan warganet daripada pelbagai latar belakang, termasuk kepimpinan negara, menzahirkan ucapan penghargaan kepada golongan doktor.

Perdana Menteri, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin, antara yang mengucapkan 'Selamat Hari Doktor'

dalam laman Facebook beliau semalam, dengan turut berterima kasih kepada semua barisan hadapan yang berkhidmat untuk negara.

Turut menzahirkan penghargaan sama ialah Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba, melalui laman Facebook beliau dengan ucapan 'Selamat Hari Doktor Sedunia. Terima kasih atas khidmat dan bakti yang dicurahkan'.

Menteri Kanan merangkap Menteri Perdagangan Antara-Bangsa dan Industri, Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali, berkata pengorbanan doktor amat ber-

makna kepada negara.

"Sempena Hari Doktor Sedunia, saya ingin merakamkan penghargaan kepada semua doktor yang bekerja siang dan malam, menggalas tugas amat berat dan terus berkhidmat untuk negara. Ini satu usaha dan pengorbanan yang amat bermakna buat Malaysia. Terima kasih," katanya dalam laman Twitter beliau.

Menteri di Jabatan Perdana Menteri (Parlimen dan Undang-Undang), Datuk Takiyuddin Hassan, turut memuat naik sebuah poster dalam Facebook beliau yang tertulis 'Selamat Hari Doktor. Terima kasih atas khid-

mat tanpa lelah, terima kasih berkorban masa dan tenaga, terima kasih untuk segalanya'.

Takiyuddin berkata, pepatah Inggeris menyatakan *an apple a day keeps the doctor away* tetapi ketika dunia berhadapan pandemik COVID-19, pepatah itu tidak sesuai.

"Doktor, jururawat, malah kakitangan perubatan secara keseluruhan merupakan nadi barisan hadapan yang sangat banyak membantu kita menghadapi detik getir ini. Terima kasih semua. Jasa kalian memang tidak terbalas," demikian catatannya.

BERNAMA

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : LOKAL

4A www.hmetro.com.my @hmetromy HarianMetro @hmetromy

Selasa 31.03.2020 | Harian Metro

lokal

KKM SEDIA 3,994 KATIL



Persediaan sudah dilakukan sejak Februari lalu sebelum PKP dilaksanakan

Oleh Ekhwan Haque
Fazlul Haque
ekhwan@hmetro.com.my

Kuala Lumpur

Bagi menampung persediaan menangi Covid-19, Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) menyediakan 3,994 katil untuk digunakan

pada bila-bila masa. Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, persediaan awal sudah dilakukan KKM dalam perkhidmatan hospital untuk menangi Covid-19 sejak Februari lalu sebelum Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) dilaksanakan.

Menurutnya, sejak 18 Mac lalu, KKM sudah mengenal pasti 57 hospital saringan dan 26 hospital yang menyediakan rawatan Covid-19.

"Pada ketika itu, jumlah kes positif Covid-19 sebanyak 790 kes berbanding 2,626 kes pada hari ini dan kini terdapat peningkatan 70 hospital yang menyediakan perkhidmatan saringan di semua negeri berbanding 57 sebelum ini.

"Hospital merawat Covid-19 juga bertambah

daripada 26 kepada 38 buah melalui kerjasama dengan Angkatan Tentera Malaysia dan pihak hospital universiti iaitu Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaya dengan tujuh daripada hospital berkenaan dikhususkan untuk rawatan pesakit Covid-19," katanya dalam sidang media di Putrajaya, semalam.

Dalam pada itu, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, KKM juga sedang merancang menambah bilangan katil menerusi pengubahsuaian Institut Latihan KKM (ILKKM) bagi menjadi pusat kuarantin dan rawatan dengan jumlah katil sebanyak 1,937 buah.

Katanya, kapasiti ILKKM masih boleh dipertingkatkan mengikut keperluan selain Malaysian Agro Exposition Park Serdang (MAEPS) berupaya menyediakan 600 katil.

Dalam sidang media sama, beliau berkata, bagi kluster tabligh ijtimaq di Masjid Seri Petaling, KKM sudah menyaring 18,271 jemaah dan 14,111 sampel sudah diambil setakat ini. Katanya, daripada jumlah berkenaan, 1,290 sampel adalah positif manakala 8,083 lagi negatif.

"Hospital merawat Covid-19 juga bertambah daripada 26 kepada 38 buah"
Dr Noor Hisham

Buat 300 saringan sehari di Simpang Renggam

Kuala Lumpur: Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) menyasarkan tempoh 10 hari bagi melengkapkan saringan Covid-19 bagi penduduk Simpang Renggam yang kini dikenakan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan (PKPD).

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, sehingga kini proses pengambilan sampel sedang dijalankan di kawasan berkenaan dengan menggunakan kaedah dari rumah ke rumah.

Menurutnya, dengan kemampuan sedia ada, KKM dapat menjalankan 300

saringan sehari dengan jumlah keseluruhan penduduk 3,000 orang.

"Menerusi kerjasama pelbagai agensi lain, proses nyahkuman dan nyahcemar kini giat dijalankan di kawasan yang terjejas.

"KKM juga akan jalankan pemeriksaan dari rumah ke rumah untuk pastikan golongan sasar dikesan seterusnya ujian saringan dapat dilakukan segera," katanya pada sidang media di Putrajaya, semalam.

Dua kampung berkenaan adalah Kampung Dato' Ibrahim Majid dan Bandar Baharu Dato' Ibrahim Majid diarahkan untuk menjalani PKPD bermula 26 Mac

hingga 9 April ini.

Dalam pada itu, KKM juga bekerjasama rapat dengan Pesuruhjaya Tinggi Bangsa-Bangsa Bersatu Bagi Pelarian (UNHCR) Malaysia bagi membantu mengesan warga Rohingya yang menyertai ijtimak tabligh di Masjid Sri Petaling hujung bulan lalu.

"Kami juga meminta badan bukan kerajaan (NGO) yang mengenali kumpulan ini agar meminta mereka datang menjalani ujian saringan segera.

"Kami percaya mereka juga hadir dan jika positif mereka akan menjalani proses isolasi di premis KKM yang ditetapkan," katanya.



PKPDAS memeriksa suhu badan orang awam yang ingih masuk ke sebuah farmasi di ibu kota.



Malaysia catat 37 kematian

Kuala Lumpur: Sebanyak 37 kematian dicatatkan di negara ini akibat Covid-19 sehingga jam 12 tengah hari, semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, kematian terbaharu itu membabitkan dua wanita dan seorang lelaki berusia antara 46 hingga 57 tahun.

Menurutnya, bagi ketiga-tiga kematian, pesakit menerima rawatan sejak Sabtu lalu di Hospital Sungai Buloh, Hospital Umum Sarawak, Kuching dan Hospital Miri.

"Bagi mangsa ke-35, wanita tempatan yang mempunyai latar belakang penyakit kencing manis dan sejarah perjalanan

ke Indonesia disahkan meninggal dunia pada 29 Mac jam 4 petang.

"Mangsa ke-36 daripada kes 1,941 adalah lelaki tempatan dirawat sejak 23 Mac dan disahkan meninggal dunia hari ini (semalam) jam 8.10 pagi.

"Manakala mangsa ke-37 daripada kes 2,471 adalah perempuan disahkan meninggal dunia hari ini (semalam) jam 9.02 pagi dan mempunyai latar belakang penyakit darah tinggi dan penyakit autoimun," katanya dalam sidang media di Putrajaya, semalam.

Dalam sidang media sama, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM)

merekodkan kes pulih terbesar setakat ini dengan 91 kes, semalam.

Beliau berkata, ini menjadikan jumlah kumulatif kes yang sudah pulih sepenuhnya dari Covid-19 dan discaj daripada wad adalah sebanyak 479 kes.

"Sehingga hari ini (semalam) jam 12 tengah hari, terdapat 156 kes baharu yang dilaporkan dan menjadikan jumlah kes positif di Malaysia adalah sebanyak 2,626 kes.

"Sehingga kini, seramai 94 kes positif Covid-19 sedang dirawat di Unit Rawatan Rapi dengan 62 kes memerlukan bantuan pernafasan," katanya.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

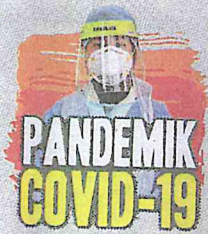
MUKA SURAT : 10

RUANGAN : LOKAL

10 • www.hmetro.com.my @hmetro my HarijanMetro @hmetro my

lokal

Selasa 31.03.2020 | Harian Metro



PANDEMIK COVID-19

Oleh Nurul Hidayah Bahaudin, Mohd Amin Jalil, Syaherah Mustafa, Omar Ahmad
ana@hmetro.com.my

Petaling Jaya

Sebanyak 47 lokasi diklasifikasi sebagai zon merah dan jingga bagi penularan wabak Covid-19 di enam negeri menjalani proses sanitasi awam serentak semalam dan hari ini.

Sanitasi awam serentak

47 lokasi dipilih berdasarkan indikasi KKM mengikut kadar kes dilapor

Menteri Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan Zuraida Kamaruddin berkata, kerajaan menerima 100,000 liter cecair kimia hasil sumbangan program tanggungjawab sosial (CSR) untuk melakukan sanitasi awam di seluruh negara.

"Pemilihan 47 lokasi membabitkan 23 zon merah dan 24 zon jingga berdasarkan indikasi Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) mengikut kadar kes dilaporkan di kawasan berkenaan.

"Proses ini dilakukan membabitkan beberapa pihak iaitu Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia

(JBPM), Alam Flora, Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM), pihak berkuasa tempatan (PBT), Jabatan Sukarelawan Malaysia (Rela) dan KKM," katanya ketika ditemui pada Program Sanitasi Awam di Pasar Besar Jalan Othman di sini, semalam.

Zuraida berkata, pelaksanaan sanitasi awam bagi menjadikan kawasan terabit selamat, sekali gus memberikan keyakinan kepada orang awam mengenai tahap keselamatan pengunjung dan peniaga.

"Saya difahamkan semburan bahan kimia itu membolehkan kuman serta virus Covid-19 dibasmi da-

lam tempoh lima minit di kawasan itu.

"Malah, bahan kimia dalam semburan itu difuluskan KKM untuk diguna pakai dan diyakini tidak mendatangkan implikasi buruk kepada manusia," katanya.

Ketua Pengarah JBPM Datuk Mohammad Hamdan Wahid yang menghadiri program itu berkata, 51 anggota terdiri daripada Pasukan Khas Bahan Kimia Berbahaya (Hazmat) dan pasukan bantuan bomba terbabit dalam program sanitasi awam di semua lokasi itu.

"Pihak bomba melakukan proses sanitasi di dalam kawasan bangunan manakala

kawasan luar bangunan dilakukan syarikat konsesi dilantik Jabatan Pengurusan Sisa Pepejal Negara (JPSPN)," katanya.

Di Johor Bahru, JBPM Johor melaksanakan operasi di dua kawasan zon merah negeri ini.

Pengarahnya, Datuk Yahya Madis berkata, operasi sanitasi berjalan serentak di Kampung Datuk Ibrahim Majid, Simpang Renggam dan Kampung Sinaran Baru, Kempas.

Katanya, mengikut data KKM, Kampung Sinaran Baru antara kawasan mempunyai kes positif Covid-19 tinggi.

Di Kota Bharu, Kelantan pula, 110 anggota daripada pelbagai agensi keselamatan dan penguatkuasa, bergabung tenaga menjalankan operasi sanitasi awam di kawasan tumpuan.

Selain Pasar Tok Guru, Cabang Tiga, Pengkalan Chepa, JBPM melakukan sanitasi di Penjara Pengkalan Chepa serta pusat pemantauan (HSC) Institusi Pendidikan Guru Kota Bharu dan Pasar Siti Khadijah.

Usaha sarna turut dilaksanakan di Seremban apabila 10 agensi kerajaan dengan 164 anggota bergabung tenaga menjayakan program sanitasi awam.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 12

RUANGAN : LOKAL



MUHYIDDIN luang masa melihat persiapan akhir di Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan Covid-19 Berisiko Rendah, semalam.

PM tinjau pusat kuarantin di MAEPS

Kuala Lumpur: Perdana Menteri meluangkan masa meninjau fasa akhir persiapan Pusat Kuarantin dan Rawatan Covid-19 Berisiko Rendah di Taman Ekspo Pertanian Malaysia Serdang (MAEPS), semalam.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin memaklumkan pusat kuarantin itu dibina sebagai persediaan menempatkan pesakit Covid-19 jika jumlah kes positif wabak itu terus meningkat.

Katanya, pusat itu mampu menempatkan sehingga 600 pesakit Covid-19 pada satu-satu masa.

"Ia diselaraskan Agensi Pengurusan Bencana Negara (Nadma) dengan kerjasama Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM), Angkatan Tentera Malaysia

(ATM), Jabatan Bomba dan Penyelamat Malaysia (JPBM), Angkatan Pertahanan Awam Malaysia (APM), Jabatan Kebajikan Masyarakat (JKM) dan Jabatan Kerja Raya (JKR).

"Antara perkhidmatan disediakan di pusat ini ialah perkhidmatan klinikal, wad pesakit, ruang menstabilkan pesakit dalam keadaan kecemasan, ambulans, farmasi, imbasan sinar X (X-ray) dan makmal patologi," katanya dalam hantaran Facebook, semalam.

Beliau berkata, fasiliti yang disediakan kepada pesakit termasuk katil, meja, kerusi, loker, televis-

yen, ruang santai, WiFi, komputer, suarau, kamera litar tertutup (CCTV), tandas, ruang mandi, bilik persalinan dan ruang istirahat.

Beliau berkata, bagi anggota bertugas pusat ini menyediakan kaunter jururawat, bilik rawatan dan kecemasan, ruang rehat anggota, bilik persalinan anggota dan ruang mandi termasuk ruang *Donning/doffing* Peralatan Perlindungan Peribadi (PPE) serta ruang mesyuarat dan seminar.

Ketika ini kapasiti di hospital Covid-19, Pusat Kusta dan Institut Latihan KKM cukup untuk menempatkan pesakit.

Pusat Kuarantin di MAEPS mampu menempatkan sehingga 600 pesakit

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
 MUKA SURAT : 4
 RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

SELASA 31 MAC 2020 • SINAR HARIAN

MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

'Dua minggu ini jadi penentu'

Sama ada usaha memecahkan rangkaian jangkitan Covid-19 berjaya atau tidak

Oleh TUAN BUQHAIRAH TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN

PUTRAJAYA

Tempoh dua minggu terakhir Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP) yang berakhir 14 April ini menjadi penentu sama ada usaha untuk memecahkan rangkaian jangkitan Covid-19 berjaya ataupun sebaliknya.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, hasil PKP nanti bergantung kepada disiplin rakyat Malaysia.

"Kita telah menyelesaikan dua minggu (PKP) dan dua minggu lagi terpulung kepada anda dan saya," katanya pada sidang media di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, kerajaan optimis dapat meratakan lengkungan kes dan mengelakkan kenaikan mendadak.

"Jika semua mematuhi perintah PKP dan kami di Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia



DR NOOR HISHAM

(KKM) akan meningkatkan pengesanan kes yang aktif, kita akan dapat pecahkan rantaian jangkitan tersebut," katanya.

Beliau berkata, kerajaan akan membuat keputusan sama ada tempoh PKP dilanjutkan atau tidak pada awal April ini bergantung kepada perkembangan terkini dan tiada kes positif yang naik mendadak dilaporkan.

Dalam pada itu, Dr Noor Hisham melahirkan kebimbangan sekiranya kes positif naik mendadak.

"Jikalau perintah PKP tidak berjaya, ramalan JP Morgan Chase & Co dan laporan Institut Kajian Ekonomi Malaysia bahawa negara ini mencapai kes

kemuncak pada April ini akan menjadi kenyataan," katanya.

Menurutnya, individu yang telah diarahkan untuk menjalani perintah pengawasan dan perhatian di rumah perlu memepati arahan Akta Pencegahan dan Pengawalan Penyakit Berjangkit 1988 (Akta 342).

"Memang ada yang ingkar. Keluar dari rumah. Kita akan lihat kemungkinan untuk kuatkuasakan tindakan sama ada untuk terus tinggal di rumah atau tinggal di pusat kuarantin yang ditetapkan.

"KKM ingin menasihatkan individu yang mempunyai sejarah perjalanan ke luar negara perlu mengasingkan diri anda daripada bergaul rapat dengan ahli keluarga atau orang yang tinggal serumah dengan anda selama 14 hari, 24 jam sehari," katanya.

Mengulas mengenai perkembangan jangkitan Covid-19 di Hulu Langat, beliau berkata, jumlah kes positif Covid-19 di daerah itu telah meningkat kepada 271 setakat tengah hari semalam.

Daripada jumlah itu, katanya, sebanyak 90 kes adalah di sekolah tahfiz di Sungai Lui. Beliau mengesahkan punca penularan wabak tersebut daripada kluster tabligh.

Kes pulih terbesar direkodkan

PUTRAJAYA - Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) merekodkan kes pulih terbesar semalam dengan 91 kes sepanjang tempoh negara dilanda wabak Covid-19.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, jumlah itu terdiri daripada pelbagai kluster termasuk tabligh.

"Ada banyak (kluster) telah pulih dan dibenar pulang hari ini (semalam)," katanya di sini semalam.

Katanya, bilangan itu menjadikan jumlah kumulatif pesakit Covid-19 yang telah pulih adalah sebanyak 479 kes.

Mengulas mengenai kes kematian, beliau berkata, sebanyak tiga kes pertambahan direkodkan oleh Pusat Kesiapiagaan dan Tindak Cepat (CPRC) Kebangsaan.

"Kes kematian ke-35 merupakan kes ke-1,952, seorang pesakit yang berumur 57 tahun dan mempunyai latar belakang penyakit kencing manis.

"Wanita berkenaan mem-

punyai sejarah perjalanan ke Indonesia dan dirawat Hospital Sungai Buloh. Wanita itu disahkan meninggal dunia jam 4 petang semalam (kelmarin)," ujarnya.

Katanya, kes kematian ke-36 pula melibatkan kes ke-1,941 yang merupakan lelaki tempatan berumur 47 tahun.

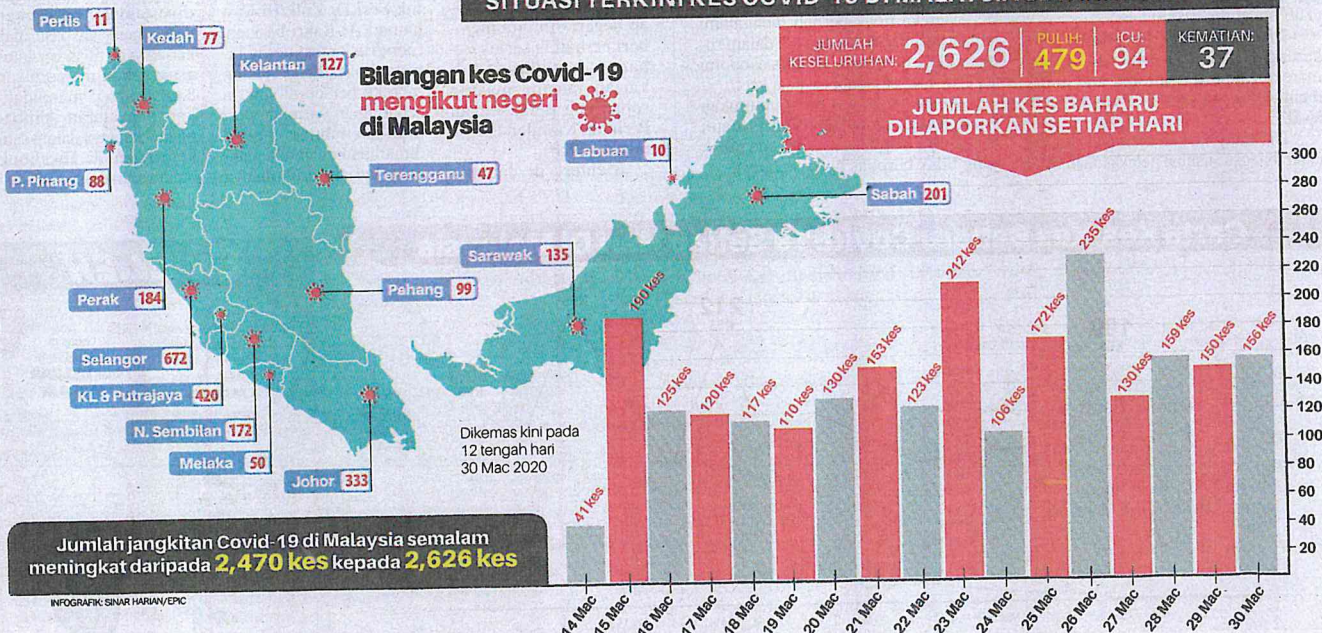
"Beliau telah dirawat di Hospital Umum Sarawak pada 23 Mac 2020 dan disahkan meninggal dunia pada jam 8.10 pagi tadi (semalam)," katanya.

Katanya, kes kematian ke-37 pula melibatkan wanita berumur 46 tahun mempunyai latar belakang penyakit darah tinggi dan penyakit autoimun.

"Dia merupakan pesakit ke 2,471 yang telah dirawat di Hospital Miri, Sarawak dan disahkan meninggal dunia jam 9.02 pagi tadi (semalam)," katanya.

Mengulas mengenai perkembangan terkini bayi berusia 12 hari yang dijangkiti Covid-19, beliau berkata, bayi berkenaan dalam pemantauan.

SITUASI TERKINI KES COVID-19 DI MALAYSIA SETAKAT SEMALAM



AKHBAR · : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 23

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

SINAR HARIAN · SELASA 31 MAC 2020

NASIONAL

Budak 5 tahun mangsa terbaru rabies

Ini merupakan kes pertama dilaporkan tahun ini di Sarawak

KUCHING

Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) semalam mengesahkan kematian seorang kanak-kanak perempuan berumur lima tahun di Sibu pada 26 Mac lepas adalah disebabkan oleh wabak rabies menjadikannya kes pertama dilaporkan tahun ini di Sarawak.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, ia juga menjadikan jumlah kes rabies meningkat kepada 23 kes sejak penyakit itu diisytiharkan sebagai wabak di negeri ini sejak 31 Julai 2017.

Kali terakhir kes wabak itu dilaporkan adalah pada 8 November tahun lepas.

Menurutnya mangsa terbaru ini digigit anjing liar pada 8 Mac lepas di bahagian muka, mulut serta kelopak mata, dan luka gigitan itu tidak

dicuci dengan aliran air yang bersih dan sabun se-jurus selepas kejadian.

"Beliau kemudiannya telah dibawa untuk mendapatkan rawatan di Hospital Sibu pada hari yang sama, mendapat suntikan vaksin antitetanus, suntikan Rabies Immunoglobulin (RIG) dan dua dos suntikan vaksin antirabies semasa dirawat di Hospital Sibu," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini semalam.

Mangsa telah didiscaj dari hospital itu dalam keadaan sihat pada 13 Mac dan diberikan lagi dos ketiga vaksin antirabies tiga hari kemudian.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, mangsa telah dibawa untuk mendapatkan rawatan di sebuah Klinik Komuniti di Bandar Sibu kerana demam pada 24 Mac dan seterusnya ke Hospital Sibu keesokan harinya kerana sakit tekak dan sukar untuk menelan air serta berhalusinasi.

"Beliau telah dimasukkan ke wad untuk rawatan lanjut. Keadaannya bertambah teruk dan telah disahkan meninggal dunia pada keesokan harinya. Punca kematian adalah 'rabies



DR NOOR HISHAM

encephalitis,'" katanya.

Sampel daripada kanak-kanak itu telah diambil pada 26 Mac dan disahkan positif rabies oleh Makmal Perubatan, Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS) tiga hari kemudian, sementara anjing liar yang menggigitnya juga dilaporkan telah mati pada 10 Mac tanpa sempat diambil sampelnya.

Berikutan kes terbaru itu, beliau menasihatkan orang ramai mengambil langkah-langkah pencegahan bagi mengelakkan daripada dijangkiti rabies yang termasuk langkah segera jika digigit anjing, pemberian suntikan antirabies dan penjagaan kebersihan dan kesihatan diri dan haiwan peliharaan.

"KKM dan JKN (Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri) Sarawak akan mempertingkatkan lagi kerjasama dengan kerajaan negeri Sarawak, Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar serta agensi-agensi lain bagi memastikan langkah-langkah pencegahan dan kawalan jangkitan virus rabies dilaksanakan secara menyeluruh," katanya.

- Bernama

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

NewStraitsTimes • TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020 •

4

NEWS / Nation

DEATH TOLL 37

3 NEW COVID-19 DEATHS, 91 MAKE FULL RECOVERY

Ministry preparing more beds and hospitals for the infected, says Health D-G

PUTRAJAYA

THREE new Covid-19 fatalities were recorded up to noon yesterday, bringing the death toll to 37.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said there were 156 new Covid-19 cases, bringing the total number of those infected to 2,626.

He said 94 patients were being treated in the Intensive Care Unit, with 62 placed under ventilator support.

However, there was also some good news in terms of those who have made full recovery — 91 were discharged yesterday, the highest ever daily figure. The overall number of those dis-

charged was 479.

Dr Noor Hisham said the ministry was preparing to add more beds for Covid-19 patients, while increasing screening hospitals from 57 to 70.

He said the number of Covid-19-designated hospitals had also been increased from 26 to 38, with seven of them earmarked specifically for treatment.

The beds for Covid-19 patients had also been increased to 3,994.

The ministry is planning to further increase the number of beds by identifying and modifying its training institutes into quarantine and treatment centres with a capacity of 1,937 beds.

"Other institutes like the Malaysian Agro Exposition Park Serdang, for example, has 600 beds ready," he said.

On the Movement Control Order (MCO), which is in place until April 14, Dr Noor Hisham said it was too early to decide whether it should be extended.

He said while there was no exponential spike in the number of reported cases, the ministry would continue to observe the

trend in the next two weeks before the MCO ended.

"The number of cases reported daily is between 100 and 200, and there was no exponential spike of 1,000 to 2,000 cases as reported in some countries.

"It is too early to say whether the MCO should be extended. It is up to us, in the next two weeks, to flatten the curve and prevent any exponential spike, thus breaking the chain of infections.

"What is more important now is to practise social distancing and avoid crowded places, as well as observe personal hygiene by washing hands frequently with soap."

He said the ministry took the approach of "expecting the worst, hoping for the best", which included increasing the number of beds and hospitals for Covid-19 patients.

Dr Noor Hisham said ministry staff also followed up with those who were placed under home surveillance to ensure the spread of the virus was curbed, apart from active tracing of close contacts among patients.



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 7

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020 • NewStraitsTimes

Nation / NEWS

7

RESTRICTIONS UNDER MCO

'LET US WORK TOGETHER WITH GOV'T'

Centralised aid distribution might severely affect vulnerable groups, say NGOs

PUTRAJAYA

WHILE good deeds of individuals and groups to help the needy are welcomed, it should be done through proper channels to prevent further spread of Covid-19.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said everyone, including non-governmental organisations (NGOs), must play their role and comply with the Movement Control Order (MCO), which was enforced to curb the spread of the virus.

"We understand the good intention to help the needy, but NGOs should abide by the MCO.

"It is imperative that everyone follows the rules, including practising social distancing, to help break the chain of infection.

"They (NGOs) can still donate to the needy by sending aid to the central distribution centre (handled by the Welfare Department)," he said here yesterday with regard to NGOs' complaints that they could not distribute food to the poor due to restrictions imposed under the MCO.

Dr Noor Hisham said the matter would be discussed with the National Security Council (NSC), which was responsible for enforcing the MCO.

NGOs involved in the distribution of food supplies to the poor and homeless want the government to collaborate with them and not "hamper" efforts to help the underprivileged.

On Saturday, Defence Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob said NGOs that helped feed the poor and homeless during the MCO had been advised to stop delivering food directly to the needy. Instead, they should send food aid to one collection point and it would then be disbursed by the People's Volunteer Corps and military personnel.

This is aimed at reducing public movement during the MCO period and to ensure the safety of the people.

Nasi Lemak Project co-founder Mastura M. Rashid said she did not agree with the proposal as NGOs involved in such work could not just ignore vulnerable groups that they had been helping



Volunteers from non-governmental organisation Kechara Soup Kitchen distributing food to the needy in Kuala Lumpur. FILE PIC

for so long.

"It is like asking a mother who has been looking after a couple of kids to stop caring for them. Furthermore, our beneficiaries trust us," said Mastura, whose group works with the urban poor.

What would be better, she said, was for the government to find a way to collaborate with NGOs involved in helping the needy and share resources and contacts. This would ensure that the needy and the homeless would get the aid they needed.

Save Environment Save Ourselves (SESO) founder and chief executive officer Tan Shi Wen shared a similar sentiment.

SESO helps distribute food to shelters and homes of the disabled, orphans, single mothers and the elderly, as well as help feed the homeless in Petaling Street, Kuala Lumpur.

Tan is concerned about vulnerable groups that might be left out in the central distribution effort.

She said each group had different needs.

She said SESO helped provide fresh produce and cooked food to shelters.

"The government should ask NGOs to come forward and work together with them or provide guidelines on how they can continue to safely do their work."

She said SESO, on its part, had implemented measures to ensure safety, such as reducing its manpower, collaborating with deliv-

ery companies to send supplies to shelters and maintaining social distancing at all times during the course of its work.

"Previously, for example, our teams used to sit and eat with the homeless while carrying out their work. Now, we hand over food packets to those we can trust so that they can distribute them. This helps minimise direct contact."

Owner of Chef On Wheels, Seet Wai Song said the proposal by the government would lead to more harm than good.

He said the move could lead to vulnerable groups being severely affected.

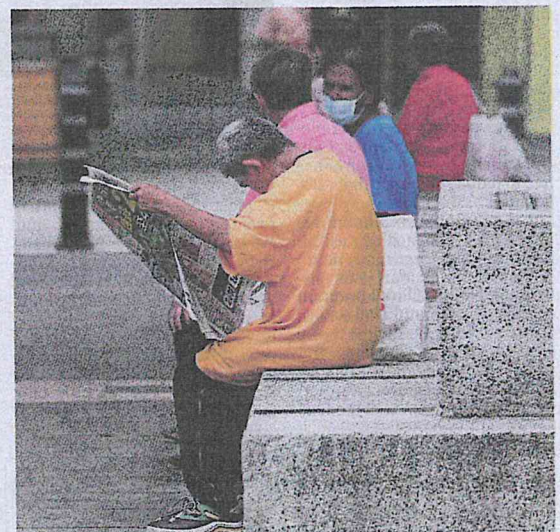
"The government should form a task force to tackle the issue and invite all the active NGOs involved in such work to plan how this can be executed."

He said NGOs were the ones who worked on the ground and they knew who and where the needy and homeless were, as well as what they required.

Alternatively, he said the authorities could draw up a Standard Operating Procedure for those involved in such work so that safety measures were in place to curb the spread of Covid-19.

Kechara Soup Kitchen director (operations) Justin Cheah said they understood the government's concerns about this matter.

However, he said, an ideal so-



Non-governmental organisations involved in feeding the poor and homeless say they want to collaborate with the government during the Movement Control Order period. PIC BY MOHAMAD SHAHRIL BADRI SAALI

lution would be for everyone involved to pool their resources and work together.

"On their part, the NGOs are concerned about certain vulnerable groups being left out of this centralised initiative.

"Some of those in need, such as refugees, might be reluctant and scared to come forward if the au-

thorities are involved in aid distribution."

Cheah said to overcome such barriers, it would help to have some representatives from NGOs in the centralised initiative because they knew the situation on the ground and were familiar faces to those in the vulnerable groups.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 12

RUANGAN : NEWS/NATION

NewStraitsTimes • TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2020

12

NEWS / Nation



A banner by Sarawak Health Department raises awareness on rabies in Kota Samarahan. The state has been declared rabies-infected since July 31, 2017. FILE PIC

FIRST CASE THIS YEAR

5-YEAR-OLD DIES OF RABIES IN SARAWAK

Girl suffered throat pains, hallucinations before succumbing to infection on March 26

KUALA LUMPUR

A 5-YEAR-OLD girl was the latest victim to succumb to rabies in Sarawak, the first case reported this year and the 23rd since the state was declared rabies-infected on July 31, 2017.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the victim from Sibu was attacked and bitten by a stray dog on March 8.

He said the girl suffered wounds on her face, mouth and eyelids. However, they were not cleansed immediately with clean running water and soap.

"She was taken to the Sibu Hospital on the same day and re-

ceived anti-tetanus vaccination, Rabies Immunoglobulin (RIG) and two doses of anti-rabies vaccine. She recovered and was discharged on March 13. The third dose of the anti-rabies vaccine was given on March 16.

"On March 24, she was taken to a community clinic in Sibu for fever and later brought to Sibu Hospital on March 25 after complaining about pain in her throat, difficulty swallowing water and was hallucinating. The patient was admitted for further treatment."

Dr Noor Hisham said her condition deteriorated and was pronounced dead the next day, with rabies encephalitis confirmed as the cause of death.

He said samples from the child were taken on March 26 and was confirmed positive for rabies by the Universiti Malaysia Sarawak laboratory on March 29.

"The stray, which bit the victim, reportedly died on March 10, but no sample was taken."

He advised the public to take precautionary measures by cleaning wounds inflicted by

strays or pets thoroughly with running water and soap for 15 minutes to remove any traces of saliva, seek immediate treatment at the nearest clinic or hospital after being bitten by aggressive pets or strays, ensure pets receive anti-rabies vaccination and prevent contact between pets and strays.

"If pet dogs or cats are found behaving differently, including being aggressive, please send them to the veterinary clinic and report to the nearest Veterinary Services Department (VSD).

"Please alert the local authorities if there are strays in the neighbourhood and always practice good personal hygiene, like washing hands correctly with water and soap after touching pets."

Dr Noor Hisham said the ministry and state health departments were committed in curbing rabies infection and would increase cooperation with the state government, VSD and other agencies in carrying out prevention and containment of the virus.

AKHBAR : THE STAR
 MUKA SURAT : 3
 RUANGAN : NATION

THE STAR, TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2020

Nation 3

Covid-19: Current situation globally
 (As at 7pm, March 30, 2020)

	Malaysia									
	New cases	Total cases	Total deaths	Total recovered						
	156	2,626	37	479						
Country/region	US	Italy	Spain	China	Germany	France	Iran	UK	Switzerland	Belgium
Confirmed cases	143,055	97,689	85,195	82,198	62,435	40,723	38,309	19,788	15,069	11,899
Deaths	2,513	10,779	7,340	3,308	541	2,611	2,640	1,231	312	431
Recovered	4,865	13,030	14,709	75,916	9,211	7,226	12,391	151	1,823	1,527

Health DG: Maintain social discipline to break the chain

By JOSEPH KAOS Jr
 newsdesk@thestar.com.my

PUTRAJAYA: As Malaysia enters the 14th day of the movement control order (MCO), the country recorded the highest number of patients recovered and discharged at 91.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, however, said Malaysians must continue to maintain social discipline in the next few weeks to "break the chain"

of the Covid-19 outbreak. "We must all come together as one and follow the stay-at-home order. The Health Ministry will continue with its public health activities and carry out active case detection.

"We can increase testing and also identify target groups. We test them and isolate them early. Then we can break the chain of Covid-19.

"The next two weeks is all up to you and me. If we can all have social discipline, I'm sure we can

'flatten the curve' and that means avoiding an exponential spike in Covid-19 cases.

"If not, the prediction by JP Morgan and the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research that there will be a surge of cases in mid-April will happen," Dr Noor Hisham said at a press conference.

He pointed out that Malaysia had 150 to 200 new cases each day with eight positive cases in 100 tests, which he described as "stable".

"We feared that there would be

sudden spikes of 900 to 1,000 cases daily. So far, the exponential spike has not happened.

"But we are prepared for the worst and also hoping for the best," he said.

Dr Noor Hisham said the country would be in a better position in the first week of April to decide whether or not the MCO would be extended.

So far, 479 Covid-19 patients in Malaysia have recovered, which translates to 18.2% of the total num-

ber of confirmed cases in the country.

Yesterday, Dr Noor Hisham also announced 156 new confirmed cases, bringing the country's tally to 2,626 cases.

He said 94 patients were currently being treated in the intensive care unit, with 62 of them requiring ventilators.

He also announced that three more patients had died, bringing the total number of Covid-19 deaths in Malaysia to 37.

Doctor charged with MCO breach

Jogger among dozens of M'sians brought to court for non-compliance

By N. TRISHA, SARBAN SINGH and REMAR NORDIN
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GEORGE TOWN: A cardiologist in Penang is among dozens of Malaysians charged with defying the movement control order (MCO).

Dr Ong Hean Teik, 61, who challenged authorities at a park on the second day of the MCO and continued jogging, pleaded not guilty at a Magistrate's Court here to two charges of obstructing public servants from discharging their duties.

He was charged with going to City Park along Jalan Persiaran Quarry at 4.45pm on March 19 without a valid reason as required under Rule 3(1) Prevention of Control of Infectious Diseases (Measures within the infected local areas) Regulations 2020.

If convicted, he faces a fine of up to RM1,000, a jail term of not more than six months or both.

He was also charged under the Penal Code with obstructing a public servant from discharging his duties at the same place at about 6pm on the same day.

The second offence is punishable with up to two years' imprisonment



ment, a maximum fine of RM10,000 or both, upon conviction.

Magistrate Jamaliah Abd Manap allowed bail at RM13,000 for both charges and ordered Ong to surrender his passport.

She also ordered him to report to the police station once a month and set June 9 for mention.

Dr Ong was represented by lawyer Bala Mahesan.

On March 19, Penang Island City Council enforcement officers spotted Dr Ong jogging at City Park and advised him to go home to observe the MCO.

Dr Ong questioned if the government and its officers were aware that the MCO was to prevent crowding and not to force people to stay indoors.

He was captured in a four-minute video clip arguing with the council



Facing the law: Dr Ong (left) arriving at the Magistrate's Court in George Town.

workers that the MCO was not an indoor curfew.

In another case in the same court, seven men who were caught playing football and jogging in a field were fined RM1,000 each with three months of community service for breaching the MCO.

The seven admitted to committing the offence at 5.15pm on March 26 at a field off Jalan DS Ramathan in Pulau Tikus.

Jamaliah ordered them to serve the three-month community ser-

vice in lieu of three months' jail.

Another 13 men are expected to be charged for a similar offence at the Magistrate's Court today.

In Seremban, three individuals, including two juveniles, were charged separately at the Magistrate's Court for violating the MCO.

In the first case, welder S. Chandramogan, 35, who pleaded guilty, was fined RM1,000 in default four months' jail.

He committed the offence at 1.15am on March 27 along Jalan Rantau-Air Kuning.

Magistrate V. Vanita also fined Chandramogan another RM1,500 in default four months' jail for failing to produce his identity card when stopped by authorities at the same place and time.

The juveniles, both 17, also pleaded guilty to voluntarily obstructing a public servant from discharging his duties in enforcing the MCO.

Both were released on RM1,000 bail each pending a report from the Welfare Department.

The court then fixed May 20 for mention.

In Johor Baru, 47 individuals were jailed for 10 days and fined RM500 in default two months' jail

by the Magistrate's Court.

Aged between 20 and 65, they pleaded guilty before magistrate Mohd Zulhilmu Ibrahim.

They had defied the MCO by moving from one place to another, aside from questioning the authority of the police, before they were arrested. They were arrested between March 20 and March 28.

All were unrepresented.

One of them, Perbargaran Mohd Ali, 27, was jailed for 20 days and fined RM5,000, for obstructing a public servant from discharging his duties.

In Kota Kinabalu, nine youths playing sepak takraw and a farmer involved in a cock-fighting match were among 40 people arrested under the MCO in the state.

Sabah Police Commissioner Datuk Zaini Jass said the youths were caught playing sepak takraw in Sabah's central Telupid district on Sunday while a 58-year-old farmer was caught at a cock-fighting ring, but some others there escaped.

KL condo under EMCO after 17 cases detected

PETALING JAYA: Residents of a condominium in Kuala Lumpur's city centre will face stricter movement restrictions after 17 confirmed Covid-19 cases were detected there, said Senior Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Starting today, the enhanced movement control order (EMCO) would affect 3,200 residents in 502 condominium units and business premises, he said.

"The Health Ministry confirmed 17 positive cases of Covid-19 at Menara City One in Jalan Munshi Abdullah, Kuala Lumpur.

"Based on the number of cases and advice from the Health Ministry, it was decided that the third phase of the MCO should be implemented, which is the enhanced MCO, from March 31 to April 13.

"This action will allow the track-

ing of cases from unit to unit within the 14 days," said Ismail Sabri in a statement yesterday.

He said non-residents or visitors would not be allowed to enter the premises and all business activities were to be stopped immediately except for the sale of essentials.

"Residents can order food via delivery service. There will be a medical base at the tower and all entrances and exits will be closed off.

"The police, army, Malaysian Civil Defence Force and Rela volunteers will be guarding the closed-off area.

"Residents who need assistance can contact the special hotline at 03-2694 3243/03-4026 7222 or 013-329 5141," said Ismail Sabri.

The enhanced MCO is already in place at two villages in Johor and seven villages in Hulu Langat due to a spike in Covid-19 cases.



Constant vigilance

Police officers manning a roadblock at Kampung Sungai Lui Batu 21 in Hulu Langat, Selangor, as part of the enhanced movement control order enforced there encompassing 3,918 villagers and 700 homes. — Bernama

Watch the video
thestartv.com



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 10

RUANGAN : NATION

Five-year-old girl is latest rabies victim

Child who died last week is first case for S'wak this year, says Health DG

By SHARON LING
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KUCHING: A five-year-old girl from Sibul who died last week after being bitten by a dog is the latest rabies victim in Sarawak, said the Health Ministry.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said a sample taken from the girl on March 26 was confirmed positive for rabies on March 29 by the medical laboratory in Universiti Malaysia Sarawak.

He said this was the first rabies case reported in Sarawak this year and the 23rd since an outbreak was declared in the state on July 31, 2017. The last rabies case before this was reported on Nov 8 last year.

"The girl was bitten in the face by a stray dog on March 8 but the wounds were not immediately washed with running water and soap. She was brought to Sibul Hospital for treatment the same day.

"She received an anti-tetanus jab, a rabies immunoglobulin jab and two doses of anti-rabies vaccine. On March 13, she was discharged in healthy condition," Dr Noor Hisham said in a statement yesterday.

He said the girl was given a third anti-

“The girl was bitten in the face by a stray dog on March 8 but the wounds were not immediately washed with running water and soap.

Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah

rabies vaccine jab on March 16.

However, on Mar 24, she was brought to a community clinic in Sibul for fever and to the Sibul Hospital the next day after suffering a sore throat, difficulties in swallowing and hallucinations.

"Her condition deteriorated and she died the following day. The cause of death was rabies encephalitis," Dr Noor Hisham said.

The dog which bit the girl was reported to have died on March 10 but no sample was taken from it, he added.