



PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

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

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

25 June 2020 – The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **40 cases** have fully recovered and discharged well today. **Cumulatively, 8,271 confirmed COVID-19 cases have fully recovered** (96.2% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

25 June 2020, 12 pm – A total of **four (4) additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **8,600 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 208 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the four (4) additional cases reported today, **three (3) are imported cases who were infected overseas**, all involving Malaysians. **One (1) local transmission case is also a Malaysian**; from a Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) screening in Enche' Besar Hajjah Khalsom Hospital, Johor. No local transmission cases among non-Malaysians were detected today.

Currently, two (2) confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in intensive care units (ICUs), and no patient is on ventilation support.

Fortunately, **no additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **121 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.41% of total cumulative cases).

Transitioning to a New Normal with New Norms

On 16 March 2020, the Prime Minister announced the enforcement of the Movement Control Order (MCO) under the provisions of the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases Act 1988 [Act 342] and the Police Act 1967 [Act 344], which comes into force on 18 March 2020. At that point in time, the total number of confirmed COVID-19 cases had reached 790 cases with the first two (2) deaths reported on 17 March 2020.

Today, 25 June 2020, is the 100th day since the enforcement of the MCO. The MCO was then extended into 4 phases, followed by the Conditional MCO (CMCO) and Recovery MCO (RMCO).

The drastic action taken by the Government to curb the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak was by restricting movement and closing international borders to prevent importation of the infection into the country. It was hoped that these measures would provide MOH with the opportunity to increase capacity of the public health response, laboratories, health clinics and hospitals, and therefore flatten the COVID-19 epidemiological curve. On 18 March 2020, the total daily laboratory test capacity for RT-PCR was just 6,210 tests. In addition, the number of beds in the hospitals and appropriate facilities, ICU beds and ventilators for COVID-19 were only 4,433 beds, 273 beds and 626 machines respectively.

During the MCO period, MOH adopted an aggressive approach in the community to continuously detect, test, isolate and treat COVID-19 cases in hospitals. The highest number of active cases for COVID-19 during all four MCO phases was on 5 April 2020, with 2,596 active cases and with an overall death rate of 1.67% of cumulative cases.

By the end of Phase 4 of the MCO on 12 May 2020, the total daily laboratory test capacity for PCR had increased to 27,233 tests (four-fold increase), while the total number of beds in hospitals, ICUs and ventilators

for COVID-19 were 8,794 beds (two-fold increase), 438 beds (1.6 fold increase) and 1,097 units (1.75 fold increase) respectively. The total number of active cases then was 2,596 cases, with 1.62% deaths out of the cumulative cases.

As of today, the 100th day since the enforcement of the MCO, the country can now conduct 36,812 RT-PCR laboratory tests (six times more than before the MCO). MOH also has 6,397 beds for COVID-19. Although there are 442 ICU beds dedicated for COVID-19 patients, these are now being used for other cases. The same applies to ventilators. The number of active cases has now dropped to just 208 cases, and death rates have dropped to 1.4% out of the cumulative cases. This indicates that Malaysia is in the recovery phase.

The success in flattening the curve of COVID-19 and reducing the transmission of COVID-19 infection in the community is the result of the actions taken by all parties, including the community and the public. Now, in order to ensure that the country fully recovers and successfully complete the RMCO phase, the public must play a bigger role by fully complying to all advisories and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).

Malaysia must be ready to transition to a new normal with new norms.

Monitoring Compliance to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) under Act 342

As announced by the Senior Minister (Security Cluster) on 5 May 2020, the Government has set up a Compliance Operations Task Force. This Task Force comprises of 14 agencies for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the SOPs of the MCO throughout the country. Some of the agencies involved are:

1. Royal Malaysian Police (PDRM)
2. Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM)
3. Civil Defence Forces (APM)
4. Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency (APMM)
5. Department of Labour

6. Department of Occupational Safety and Health
7. Public Works Department (JKR)
8. Ministry of International Trade and Industry
9. Immigration Department of Malaysia
10. Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities
 - a. Malaysian Bio-Fuel Industry
 - b. Malaysian Palm Oil Board
 - c. Malaysian Rubber Board
 - d. Malaysian Timber Industry Board
11. Ministry of Education Malaysia
12. Hospital Directors
13. Construction Industry Development Authority of Malaysia (CIDB)
14. Public Works Department (JKR) Sarawak

All agencies in this Task Force are authorised to provide advisories, warnings and, if necessary, take action against individuals, companies or industries found not to comply with the SOPs. This is subject to the provisions of the Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control Act 1988 [Act 342]. Under this Act, those found not complying with the SOPs can be fined up to RM1,000 or imprisoned for up to six months, or both.

This Act applies to various aspects of the prevention and control of the COVID-19 outbreak in Malaysia. One aspect is the management of individuals under surveillance. Monitoring of movements applies to:

- Individuals with symptoms of respiratory tract infection who have a history of visiting or residing in affected countries, but not admitted into the hospital; and
- Individuals who are close contacts of confirmed COVID-19 cases.

These individuals will undergo a 14-day Home Surveillance Order (HSO) following the guidelines set by the MOH. Individuals who fail to comply with this Order may be subject to legal action.

Congestion during Recreational Activities at Bukit Broga, Semenyih

Recently there were reports in mass media and social media on the decline in the level of compliance to SOPs among individuals, companies and industries. There are now shops and company premises that are operating but not complying with the set SOPs.

For example, there were recent viral news of high numbers of visitors to Bukit Broga in Selangor. Therefore, MOH has issued an Order to close the Bukit Broga climbing track under Section 18 of the Infectious Diseases Prevention and Control Act 1988 [Act 342] effective 27 June 2020 (Saturday) until a date that will be determined later.

The SOPs and new normal that the Government has always emphasised serve as our National Defence System against the transmission of the COVID-19 infection.

MOH therefore urges the public not to take lightly and disregard the SOPs and the new norms. MOH hopes that all our efforts thus far to break the COVID-19 infection transmission chain will be continued at all levels of society.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH would like to remind the public that COVID-19 still exists in the community. MOH urges the public to remain vigilant and take preventative measures against COVID-19 infection at all times. The public is reminded to always follow all MOH health advisories, that includes:

- Avoid the **3Cs**: **C**rowded places; **C**onfined spaces; and **C**lose conversations
- Practice the **3Ws**: **W**ash hands frequently with water and soap; **W**earing facemasks are strongly encouraged in public areas or if symptomatic; **W**arn self and others for the following, in line with MOH's advisories:
 - Avoid shaking hands or touching others

- Practice good coughing and sneezing etiquette
- Seek early treatment if symptomatic
- Stay at home and avoid from visiting others
- Regularly clean and disinfect commonly touched surfaces in common areas

In addition to the SOPs, continue to adhere to **THiS**:

- **T**: Terms set under the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO)
- **Hi**: High-risk groups such as children, infants, older adults and the disabled must be protected, and if unwell with symptoms, to seek early treatment
- **S**: Safe social distancing is practiced at all times, of at least 1 metre away from others

MOH will continue to monitor the development of the COVID-19 situation, both in the country as well as internationally, based on available information from the World Health Organization (WHO). The public will be continuously updated on the latest information. In addition, MOH will ensure that appropriate preventive and control measures are continuously implemented.

Thank you.

Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

25 June 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 25 June 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	18
Kedah	0	96
Pulau Pinang	0	121
Perak	0	258
Selangor	2 (2)	2,034
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,015
Melaka	0	256
Johor	1	689
Pahang	0	365
Terengganu	0	111
Kelantan	1 (1)	157
Sabah	0	366
Sarawak	0	570
WP Kuala Lumpur	0	2,430
WP Putrajaya	0	97
WP Labuan	0	17
Total	4 (3)	8,600

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case