AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 6 & 7
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Pelajar tak kekok amal normal baharu

Semua pihak patuhi SOP sesi pembelajaran pasca COVID-19

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Kuala Lumpur: Hari pertama sesi persekolahan semalam, selepas lebih tiga bulan ditutup akibat COVID-19, berjalan lancar dengan guru, pelajar dan kakitangan mengikuti serta mematuhi prosedur operasi standard (SOP) ditetapkan.

Kebiasaan baharu seperti pemeriksaan suhu badan, penjarakan sosial, penggunaan pelitup muka dan kebersihan diri menjadi keutamaan yang diharap terus diamalkan sehingga rantaian penularan wabak itu dapat diputuskan serta vaksin ditemui.

Malah, pematuhan terhadap SOP Garis Panduan Pengurusan Pembukaan Semula Sekolah ditetapkan Majlis Keselamatan Negara (MKN) dan Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM), dijangka dijadikan penanda aras apabila sekolah dibuka sepenuhnya untuk semua pelajar.

Kerajaan sebelum ini mengumumkan pembukaan semula sesi persekolahan akan dilaksanakan secara berperingkat dan sebagai permulaan, ia hanya membabitkan pelajar kelas peperiksaan awam iaitu Tingkatan Lima serta Enam.

Seramai 500,444 pelajar dari 2,440 sekolah seluruh negara akan menduduki Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM), Sijil Vokasional Malaysia (SVM), Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM), Sijil Tinggi Agama Malaysia (STAM) dan peperiksaan antarabangsa.

Tinjauan di beberapa sekolah seluruh negara semalam mendapati semua yang terbabit mengikuti dan mematuhi SOP serta sentiasa beringat dengan peraturan dan kebiasaan baharu.

Bagi Presiden Kesatuan Perkhidmatan Perguruan Kebangsaan (NUTP), Aminuddin Awang, berdasarkan pematuhan semalam, tidak mustahil SOP dibangunkan itu diguna pakai apabila sekolah dibuka kepada semua pelajar nanti.

Katanya, NUTP berpuas hati dengan kelancaran pelaksanaan SOP pada hari pertama hasil kerja keras semua pihak selepas kerajaan mengumumkan pembukaan semula sekolah, dua minggu lalu.

"Kebiasaan baharu di sekolah melalui pematuhan SOP perlu diteruskan dan diterima baik semua pihak termasuk ibu bapa. Bukan mudah untuk melaksanakan sesuatu yang bukan kebiasaan, tetapi pelajar akan mematuhinya," katanya ketika dihubungi *BH*, semalam.

***Guru mengambil bacaan suhu badan** pelajar yang hadir ke sekolah di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Presint 11 (1) Putrajaya, semalam.*

Di **Putrajaya**, Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Azmi Ghazali, berkata bagi memastikan SOP di sekolah dipatuhi, pegawai kementeriannya, Kementerian Pendidikan dan polis akan membuat pemantauan serta pemeriksaan mengejut.

"Kita akan buat pemantauan dan pemeriksaan mengejut bagi memastikan tiada perhimpunan ramai serta penjarakan sosial dipatuhi. Kita harap pelaksanaan SOP ini diteruskan secara konsisten dan pelajar menjalani sesi pembelajaran dalam normal baharu.

"Sekiranya ada kes COVID-19 di sekolah, kita akan menutup sekolah berkenaan buat sementara dan jika ada peningkatan kes secara mendadak, kita akan laksanakan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Diperketatkan (PKPD)," katanya.

Beliau yang ditemui media selepas melawat Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan (SMK) Putrajaya Presint 11 (1), turut mengucapkan tahniah kepada pentadbiran sekolah terbabit kerana dapat melaksanakan SOP secara kemas dan rapi.

"Ketika rehat, pelajar tidak ke kantin kerana sudah membuat tempahan sehari sebelum datang sekolah dengan pihak kantin akan membawa makanan ditempah itu ke kelas dan pelajar makan sambil dipantau guru.

"Pihak sekolah juga mewujudkan laluan tertentu untuk pelajar ke kelas atau makmal, mereka tidak akan bertembung ketika waktu puncak seperti ketika datang atau pulang dari sekolah," katanya.

Saya yakin guru peka terhadap aspek kesihatan dan keselamatan pelajar serta akan memastikan kami semua selamat.

Briana Chong,
Pelajar Maktab Nasional, Kota Kinabalu

Saya berasa selamat berada di sekolah apabila melihat SOP ketat diamalkan, malah guru turut memantau pelajar setiap masa.

Adriena Anisa Mohd Ravi,
Pelajar SMK Seri Perling, Johor Bahru

Keadaan di sekolah selamat untuk kami semua dengan garis panduan yang disediakan. Saya teruja dapat kembali belajar di sekolah.

Muhammad Hariz Mohd Sarif,
Pelajar SMK Seksyen 7, Shah Alam.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 14
RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Pemulihan COVID-19

Tiga kluster baharu dikenal pasti

Malaysia dijangka catat sifar kes harian pertengahan Julai

Oleh Ahmad Suhael Adnan
dan Noor Atiqah Sulaiman
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Putrajaya: Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) mengesahkan terdapat tiga kluster baharu yang dikenal pasti pihaknya, iaitu Kluster Bukit Bintang, Kluster Tapak Pembinaan Kuching dan Kluster Kondominium Hulu Langat.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, berkata bagi Kluster Bukit Bintang ia sudah menjangkiti 10 individu yang membabitkan warga asing dan tempatan.

Katanya, daripada jumlah itu, sembilan kes membabitkan warga Bangladesh dan seorang rakyat Malaysia.

"Kes indeks bagi kluster ini, iaitu kes ke 8,498 dikesan positif COVID-19 ketika menjalani saringan COVID-19 untuk masuk kerja dan didapati positif pada 15 Jun lalu.

"Saringan kesihatan dijalankan ke atas 274 kontak rapat, iaitu 203 adalah bukan warganegara dan 71 individu adalah warganegara Malaysia. Hasil siasatan mendapati sembilan individu dikesan positif COVID-19, manakala 265 individu lagi negatif COVID-19," katanya pada sidang media harian COVID-19, di sini, semalam.

Bagi Kluster Tapak Pembinaan Kuching pula, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, ia mula dikesan apabila individu ketiga yang dijangkiti virus berkenaan membuat saringan COVID-19 di sebuah klinik swasta dan disahkan positif pada 16 Jun lalu.

"Beliau ialah ketua penyelia kepada dua orang pekerja warga Indonesia yang dikesan positif COVID-19 pada 16 Jun lalu hasil daripada saringan yang dilakukan di tempat kerja.

"Sehingga kini 426 kontak sudah dikenal pasti dengan 62 individu didapati negatif COVID-19 dan selebihnya iaitu 364 individu masih menunggu keputusan, punca jangkitan masih dalam siasatan," katanya.

Bagi kluster ketiga yang dikesan, iaitu Kluster Kondominium di Hulu Langat pula, indeks kes bagi kluster ini adalah seorang pelajar pusat tahfiz yang dikesan positif ketika saringan COVID-19 pada 8 Jun lalu.

"Aktiviti pengesanan kes secara aktif dijalankan dan dua lagi kes positif dikesan dalam kluster ini. Kes pertama, iaitu kes ke-5,818 ialah bukan warganegara dan beliau bapa saudara angkat kepada kes indeks.

"Beliau tinggal di kediaman yang lain, namun terdapat aktiviti kunjung-mengunjung di antara mereka.

"Sehingga 24 Jun, seramai 40 kontak rapat dikenal pasti dan disaring. Daripada jumlah itu, 26 bukan warganegara dan 14 warganegara Malaysia dengan tiga kes dikesan positif, 30 kes negatif dan tujuh masih menunggu keputusan," katanya.

KKM turut memaklumkan enam kes baharu dilaporkan semalam, menjadikan jumlah kes COVID-19 di Malaysia sebanyak 8,596 kes.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, angka itu menjadikan jumlah kes aktif dengan kebolehjangkitan di negara ini sebanyak 244 kes.

Katanya, daripada jumlah kes baharu itu dua adalah kes import yang mendapat jangkitan dari luar negara dan membabitkan seorang warganegara Malaysia dan seorang pemastautin tetap.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, sehingga jam 12 tengah hari semalam, terdapat 45 kes pulih sepenuhnya dan dibenarkan pulang.

Jumlah kumulatif kes yang pulih di negara ini sebanyak 8,231 kes atau 95.8 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes.

Selain itu, Dr Noor Hisham turut memaklumkan, tiada pertambahan kes kematian disebabkan COVID-19 di negara ini dan jumlahnya kekal 121 kes bersamaan 1.41 peratus daripada jumlah keseluruhan kes.

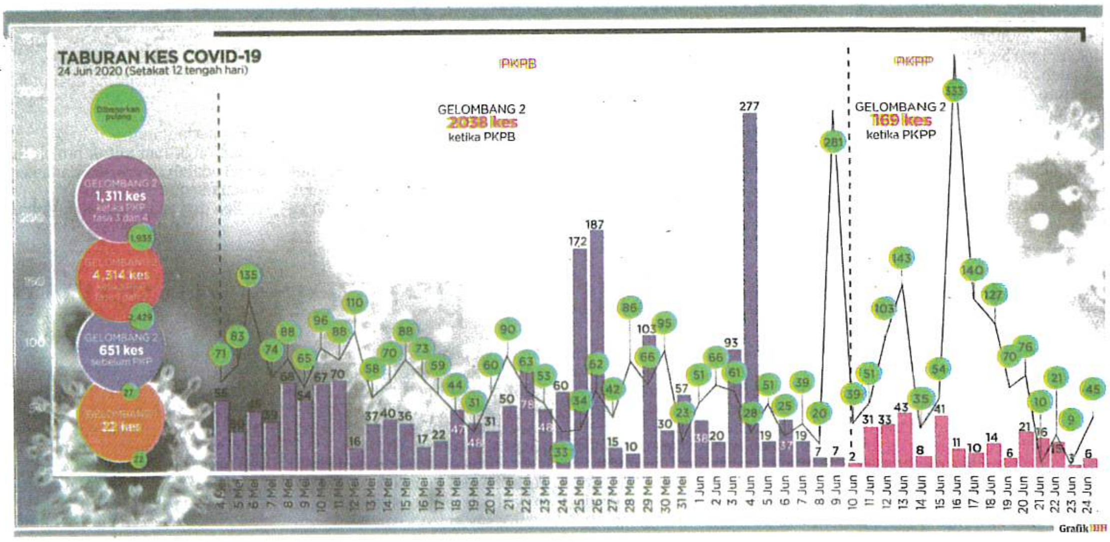
Semalam, Dr Noor Hisham juga menjangkakan Malaysia mampu mencatatkan sifar kes harian COVID-19 sekitar pertengahan bulan depan.

Beliau yakin unjuran itu mampu dicapai sekiranya rakyat Malaysia kekal patuh semua prosedur operasi standard (SOP) dan nasihat KKM, khususnya menjaga penjarakan sosial, kerap mencuci tangan, menjaga kebersihan dan memakai pelitup muka.

"Selepas dua minggu Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Pemulihan (PKPP), kita tidak mencatatkan peningkatan kes mendadak dan jumlah kes baharu masih terkawal, bererti kepatuhan rakyat sangat tinggi.

"Jumlah kes baharu juga semakin berkurangan dengan beberapa kali mencatatkan satu angka dalam sehari dan mungkin dalam sebulan lagi, jika rakyat terus patuh SOP dan nasihat KKM, kita akan berjaya capai sifar kes baharu.

"Tindakan untuk kita berjaya capai sifar kes COVID-19 ketika ini bukan pada KKM, sebaliknya bergantung sama ada rakyat patuh SOP atau tidak," katanya.



Rungutan pindaan takwim persekolahan dibincang

Seremban: Rungutan dan pandangan pelbagai pihak mengenai pindaan Takwim Penggal Persekolahan 2020 akan dirujuk dan dibincangkan pada peringkat Kementerian Pendidikan (KPM).

Timbalan Menteri Pendidikan I, Datuk Dr Mah Hang Soon, berkata pihaknya akan merujuk perkara itu kepada Menteri Kanan (Pendidikan), Dr Radzi Jidin, untuk dibincangkan pada peringkat kementerian.

Pihaknya mengakui setiap perubahan atau sebarang pindaan mengenai takwim itu akan menimbulkan pelbagai pandangan dan mungkin masalah, tetapi fokus kementerian adalah memberi keutamaan kepada perancangan pengajaran dan pembelajaran (PnP).

"Saya faham dan kita sudah terima serta dengar pandangan daripada semua pihak. Kita tahu memang ada sedikit rungutan, namun saya rasa paling penting kita kena pastikan PdP untuk pelajar sentiasa terjaga dan itu sangat penting.

"Masalah sentiasa ada, tetapi cara mengatasinya itu sesuatu yang kena kita fikirkan dan lakukan," katanya selepas melakukan lawatan ke Jabatan Pendidikan Negeri Sembilan (JPNS) dan meninjau hari pertama sesi persekolahan pasca Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan (PKP), di Kolej Vokasional Ampangan, di sini, semalam.

Kelmarin, kementerian mengeluarkan satu kenyataan mengenai pindaan Takwim Penggal Persekolahan 2020 untuk membantu pihak sekolah membuat perancangan PdP.

Bagaimanapun, pindaan itu menimbulkan rungutan dalam kalangan guru, terutama yang berkhidmat di Sabah dan Sarawak selain Kesatuan Perkhidmatan Perguruan Kebangsaan Semenanjung Malaysia (NUTP).

Sementara itu, Presiden NUTP, Aminuddin Awang, berkata kesediaan KPM berbincang mengenai takwim persekolahan adalah satu tindakan yang baik dan kesatuan itu bersedia bekerjasama serta memberikan buah fikiran mengenainya.

"Sebaiknya dalam merangka takwim baharu, pembabitan dan cadangan guru serta NUTP diambil kira kerana ia membabitkan guru yang terbabit dengan penjadualan itu," katanya.

Beliau berkata, takwim baharu itu dilihat tidak mengambil kira masa dan pengorbanan guru sepanjang tiga bulan pelaksanaan PKP dan Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Bersyarat (PKPB).

"Alasan takwim dirombak supaya silibus dapat dihabiskan tidak boleh diterima. Guru ini sudah terlatih untuk menyesuaikan diri dengan keadaan dan sudah tentu mereka dapat menghabiskan silibus ditetapkan," katanya.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO
MUKA SURAT : 11A
RUANGAN : LOKAL

Tiga kluster baharu dikenal pasti

Kuala Lumpur: Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) mendedahkan tiga kluster baharu Covid-19 iaitu Kluster Bukit Bintang, Kluster Tapak Pembinaan Kuching dan Kondominium Hulu Langat direkodkan, semalam.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, sehingga 12 tengah hari semalam, Kluster Bukit Bintang merekodkan 10 kes positif Covid-19 membabitkan sembilan warga Bangladesh dan seorang warga tempatan.

"Kes indeks bagi kluster ini (iaitu kes ke-8498) merupakan seorang lelaki bukan warganegara yang menjalani saringan Covid-19 untuk masuk kerja dan didapati positif pada 15 Jun lalu.

"Siasatan dan saringan Covid-19 ke atas semua kontak rapat sudah dijalankan. Setakat ini seramai 274 orang sudah disaring di mana 203 adalah bukan warganegara dan 71 warganegara Malaysia," katanya.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata, hasil siasatan mendapati sembilan individu dikesan positif Covid-19 dan 265 negatif.

"Tujuh daripada 10 kes positif kluster ini adalah rakan serumah kepada kes indeks. Langkah pencegahan seperti proses pembersihan dan nyah kuman sudah dijalankan di kediaman mereka serta lokasi lain yang berkaitan," katanya.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 3
RUANGAN : PEMBUKAAN SEMULA SESI PERSEKOLAHAN

PEMBUKAAN SEMULA SESI PERSEKOLAHAN

Sekolah ditutup jika ada kes

KKM akan semak semula SOP yang dijalankan sepanjang tiga hari pertama sekolah dibuka

Oleh TUAN BUQHAIRAH TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN

PUTRAJAYA

Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) akan menutup sekolah sekiranya terdapat kes positif koronavirus (Covid-19) dalam kalangan pelajar dan kakitangannya.

Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan I, Datuk Dr Noor Azmi Ghazali berkata, tindakan itu merupakan salah satu prosedur operasi standard (SOP) kementerian dalam mendepani pandemik tersebut.

"Saya percaya sekiranya ia berlaku, sekolah akan ditutup buat sementara waktu.

"KKM akan menjalankan pengesanan aktif bagi mengesan kontak rapat yang terlibat.

"Yang positif Covid-19 sudah tentu kita asingkan dan merawatnya di hospital," kata beliau pada sidang akhbar di sini semalam.

Terdahulu Dr Noor Azmi meluangkan masa hampir sejam bagi meninjau hari pertama persekolahan di Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Putrajaya Presint 11 (1) di sini.

Dr Noor Azmi berkata, beliau berpuas hati dengan SOP yang dijalankan oleh kakitangan sekolah terbabit.

"Saya sangat berpuas hati kerana pihak sekolah telah mengambil tindakan dua minggu lalu sebelum sekolah dibuka hari ini (semalam)," katanya.

Beliau berkata, bagi memastikan SOP terus dipatuhi, KKM bersama polis dan Kementerian Pendidikan akan melakukan pemeriksaan mengejut di sekolah.

Menurutnya, KKM akan menyemak semula SOP yang dijalankan sepanjang tiga hari pertama persekolahan dibuka bermula semalam.

"Pada Sabtu dan Ahad ini kita akan melihat kembali SOP yang digunakan ini sama 'okay' atau tidak ataupun perlu pertingkatkan," katanya.

FOTO: ASRIL ASWANDI SHUKOR

Dr Noor Azmi (kanan) beramah mesra dengan salah seorang pelajar Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Putrajaya Presint 11 (1), Putrajaya semalam. Turut sama Pengetua Datin Siti Norbaya Mansor (berdiri kiri) dan Ketua Polis Daerah Putrajaya, Asisten Komisioner Mohd Fadzil Ali (dua dari kanan).

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : MEMERANGI WABAK COVID-19

Imuniti badan rendah

Bekas pesakit Covid-19 mudah dapat jangkitan kuman lain

PUTRAJAYA

Ketahanan imuniti tubuh seseorang individu akan menjadi rendah selepas dijangkiti Covid-19 walaupun telah pulih sepenuhnya.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, keadaan itu berlaku akibat kekurangan antibodi IgM (immunoglobulin M) dan IgG (immunoglobulin G) selepas individu tersebut dijangkiti wabak berkenaan.

"Jadi ia mungkin memberi kesan kepada imuniti individu tersebut, sekiranya (imuniti) rendah maka dia mudah dapat jangkitan kuman lain selain Covid-19," katanya pada sidang akhbar mengenai perkembangan Covid-19 di kementeriannya di sini semalam.

Dr Noor Hisham berkata demikian ketika mengulas laporan media antarabangsa mengenai kajian yang dijalankan ke atas bekas pesakit Covid-19

Beliau berkata, rawatan susulan terhadap bekas pesakit akan diberikan bagi memantau kesihatan mereka terutamanya bagi pesakit Covid-19 dalam kategori empat dan lima.

"Kes kategori empat dan lima melibatkan radang paru-paru yang memerlukan bantuan pernafasan.

"Pesakit yang memerlukan bantuan pernafasan bererti berlaku banyak inflamasi radang dalam paru-paru yang kemungkinan menyebabkan ia akan rosak dan sebagainya," kata beliau.

Menurutnya, selain pesakit Covid-19 berisiko mengalami masalah jantung dan strok, Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia mendapati pembekuan darah juga berlaku di usus dan buah pinggang.

"Tindakan kita adalah melakukan rawatan antiradang dengan beberapa ubat pada awal peringkat empat," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Dr Noor Hisham berkata, tiga kluster baharu dikenal pasti iaitu kluster Bukit Bintang, kondominium Hulu Langat dan kluster tapak pembinaan Kuching.

Dr Noor Hisham (kanan) pada sidang media harian berkaitan jangkitan Covid-19 di Kementerian Kesihatan, Putrajaya semalam.

Enam kes baharu

PUTRAJAYA - Sebanyak enam kes baharu positif koronavirus (Covid-19) dikesan Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) semalam menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan sebanyak 8,596 kes.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, daripada jumlah tersebut, empat daripadanya melibatkan penularan tempatan membabitkan rakyat negara ini manakala dua lagi kes import.

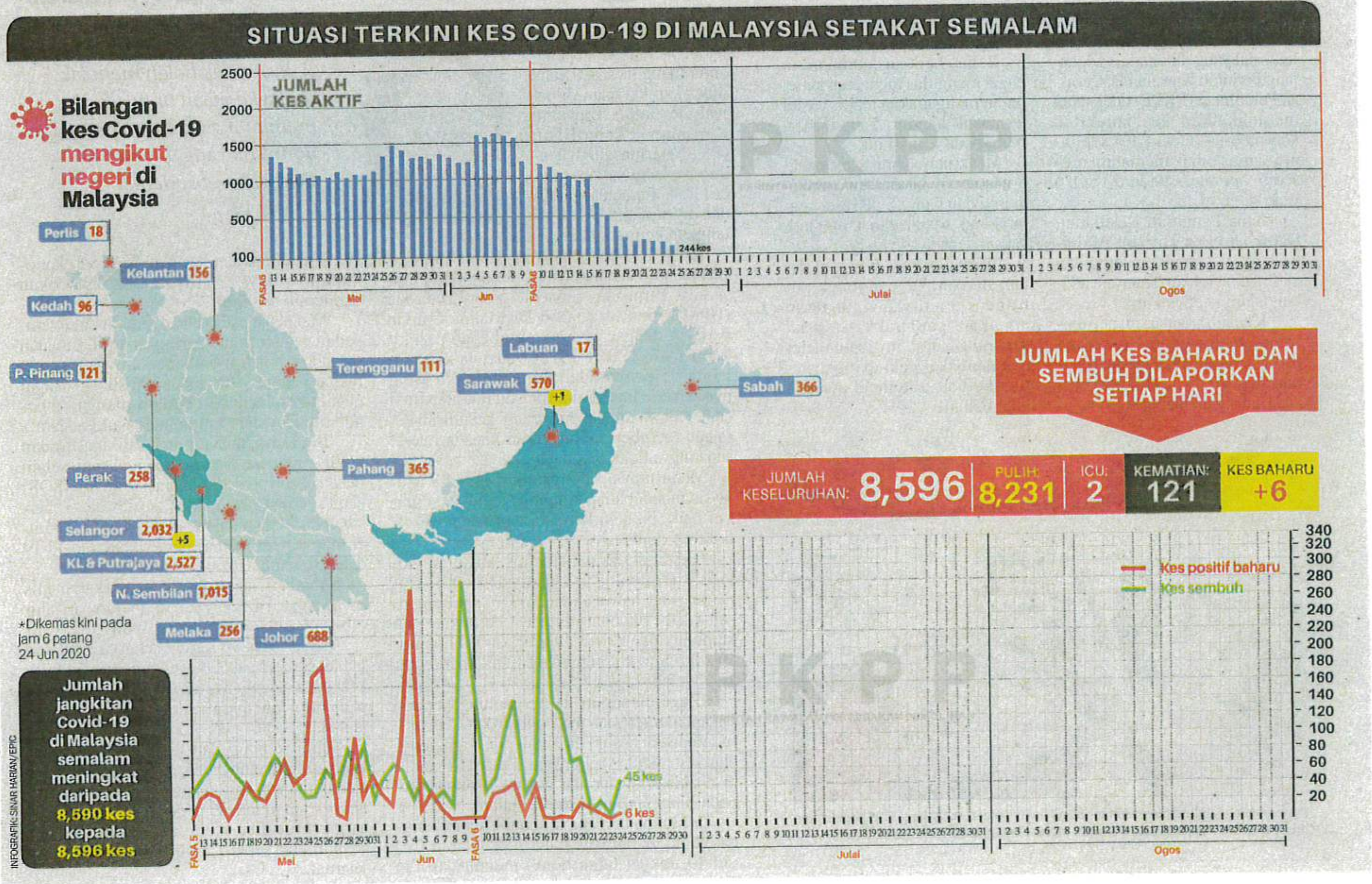
Menurutnya, daripada empat kes membabitkan rakyat tempatan, tiga daripadanya dikesan di Selangor.

"KKM mengesan masing-masing satu kes saringan pusat tahfiz, kluster Kondominium Hulu Langat, kluster Bukit Bintang dan satu kes lagi kluster tapak pembinaan Kuching," katanya.

Selain itu, katanya, sebanyak 244 kes masih dirawat di hospital ketika ini manakala dua kes positif Covid-19 sedang dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU).

"Tiada yang memerlukan bantuan pernafasan manakala kes kematian kekal pada 121 kes selepas tiada kematian berkaitan Covid-19 dilaporkan," katanya.

Sementara itu, terdapat 45 kes telah pulih dan dibenar discaj semalam menjadikan jumlah kumulatif pulih sepenuhnya adalah sebanyak 8,231 kes bersamaan dengan 95.8 peratus.



AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN
MUKA SURAT : 12
RUANGAN : PILIHANRAYA KECIL DUN CHINI

Kementerian Kesihatan minta semua pihak terlibat dalam PRK Chini patuh SOP

PUTRAJAYA - Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) meminta semua pihak yang terlibat dalam kempen Pilihan Raya Kecil (PRK) Chini supaya kekal mematuhi prosedur operasi standard (SOP) bagi mengekang penularan Covid-19.

Timbalan Menteri Kesihatan I, Datuk Dr Azmi Ghazali berkata, sekiranya semua pihak mematuhi - SOP, kes jangkitan baharu dapat dielakkan.

"PRK kali ini menjadi satu sejarah kerana dilaksanakan dalam tempoh Perintah Kawalan Pergerakan Pemulihan (PKPP) akibat pandemik Covid-19," katanya pada sidang akhbar selepas membuat tinjauan hari pertama sekolah yang dibuka semula semalam.

Beliau berkata demikian ketika diminta mengulas mengenai pematuhan SOP dalam tempoh berkempen pada PRK DUN Chini.

Sementara itu, Dr Azmi berkata, beliau akan meninjau suasana kempen di Chini dan membantu calon Barisan Nasional (BN) Mohd Sharim Md Zain.

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NEWS / STORY OF THE DAY

Health Ministry to study first 3 days of reopening before allowing rest to follow suit

PUTRAJAYA: The Health Ministry will assess the first three days of schools' reopening for examination bound classes, starting yesterday, before allowing the rest to do so.

Deputy Health Minister 1 Datuk Dr Noor Azmi Ghazali said the ministry would monitor the situation closely to see if existing standard operating procedures (SOPs) were adequate or needed to be tightened further.

"Some people have been asking why we reopened schools on Wednesday and not on Monday.

"The reason was, we have three schooling days (for Group B) starting today (yesterday) to Friday with break on Saturday and Sunday, and two days for Group A (from today [yesterday] and tomorrow [Thursday]) with break on Friday and Saturday, for us to re-evaluate the SOPs.

"From there, we can see if the SOPs are suitable or we need to add more," he said.

Noor Azmi told reporters this after his visit to SMK Putrajaya Presint 11 (1) here yesterday.

He added that if everything went well, the ministry will then decide when the rest of the students can return to school.

"(But) for now, there is no specific date," he said.

Three months after being forced to close due to the Covid-19 pandemic, schools reopened yesterday, involving Form 5 and 6 students, who would be sitting for public examinations, namely, Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM), Sijil Vokasional Malaysia (SVM), Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM), Sijil Tinggi Agama Malaysia (STAM) and the international equivalents.

Noor Azmi said he hoped all schools will continue to adhere to the SOPs outlined by the Health Ministry and the Education Ministry.

"The SOPs were given to schools two weeks earlier. Therefore, we hope all the schools, including in rural areas, have implemented them.

"Should any school face difficulties with the SOPs, they can inform us or the Education Ministry.

"We will try our best to help them," he said.

Noor Azmi added that to ensure adherence to the SOPs, the ministry, the Education Ministry, and the police will conduct spot checks at schools from time to time.

Asked if any of the students or teachers were tested positive for Covid-19 after the reopening of schools, Noor Azmi said the school will be closed temporarily.

"Those tested positive will be isolated and treated at the hospital and contact tracing will be conducted, as per the ministry's SOPs, to prevent further spread of the coronavirus."

On his visit to the school, Noor Azmi said he was satisfied with the measures taken by the school to ensure SOPs as outlined by the ministry and the Education Ministry.

Meanwhile, Noor Azmi has called on non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and government-linked companies (GLCs) to come forward and assist schools, especially in the rural areas, with equipment such as handheld thermometers to monitor temperatures upon entering the school compound.

The reopening of schools nationwide was first announced by Senior Education Minister Dr Mohd Radzi Md Jidin on June 10. **By Nor Ain Mohamed Radhi**

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 8
RUANGAN : NEWS / NATION

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah says the ministry will keep a close watch on social gatherings and events that will resume next month.
BERNAMA PIC

UNDER CONTROL

'ZERO COVID-19 CASES BY MID-JULY POSSIBLE'

Onus is on public to achieve outcome through compliance of S.O.P, says Noor Hisham

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PUTRAJAYA
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MALAYSIA can expect to achieve zero Covid-19 cases by mid-July, said Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah.

The Health director-general, however, said, this could only happen if everyone complied to all standard operating procedures (SOP) and the ministry's advice, particularly on social distancing, frequent hand-washing, and putting on masks if necessary.

"Two weeks into the Recovery Movement Control Order (RMCO), we did not record a spike in cases and new cases are still under control. This means the level of compliance to the SOP is high.

"We continue to record single-digit cases and based on projections, we can achieve zero cases by mid-July," he said during the Covid-19 press conference.

He added that the onus would be on the public to achieve such an outcome, depending on how well they were able to adhere to the SOP.

Dr Noor Hisham also said the ministry would keep a close watch on social gatherings and events that could resume starting next month.

He said the ministry was ready to act if infections stemmed from any of such social events.

"If there is a Covid-19 outbreak at the locality where the event has taken place, we will close down the area. We will also shut down the hotel or restaurant where the outbreak had happened," he assured.

On Covid-19 clusters, Dr Noor Hisham said three new clusters had cropped up in Malaysia.

They are the Bukit Bintang cluster, the Hulu Langat condominium cluster and the Kuching construction site cluster.

He said the Bukit Bintang cluster had recorded 10 cases, involving nine Bangladeshis and one Malaysian.

From this cluster, Dr Noor Hisham said 203 foreigners and 71 Malaysians were screened.

The index case for this cluster (Case 8,498) was a male foreign worker who underwent a Covid-19 screening before entering work and was found positive on June 15, he said, adding that the source of infection was still being investigated.

"Seven out of 10 from this cluster were housemates to the index case. The Malaysian is a woman who lives in Selangor but works in Bukit Bintang. We are still investigating if she has any link to the seven housemates," he said.

On the Hulu Langat condominium cluster, Dr Noor Hisham said the first case involved a foreigner, who was a relative (Case 5,818) to the index case — a local boy studying at a tahfiz centre there, or Case 8,368.

He said the relative stayed at a different home but had visited each other.

"A colleague of the relative, Case 5,894, was also found to be Covid-19 positive. To date, 40 close contacts have been identified and screened."

The Kuching construction site cluster, he said, was detected after the third case (Case 8,519) was screened at a private clinic.

"He is a Malaysian, who is head supervisor to two Indonesian workers who tested positive on June 16.

"Currently, 426 close contacts have been traced where 62 tested negative and 364 are awaiting their test results."

On case updates, the health director-general said six new cases were reported, bringing the tally to 8,596.

Of the six, two were imported cases, involving one Malaysian who returned from Mexico and a permanent resident returning from India.

Of the four other new cases, he said, one was identified from the tahfiz centre screening, while three cases came from the three new clusters.

"The number of active cases to date is 244. They have been isolated and given treatment," he added.

With no new fatalities, the death toll remains at 121 for more than a week.

S.O.Ps FOR WEDDINGS, KORBAN AND SOCIAL EVENTS

From July 1, the government allows social events such as:

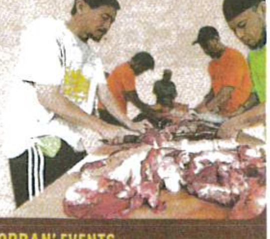
SOPs:

- Each event only allowed for 3-5 hours.
- No more than 250 guests at a time.
- Capacity of event depends on size of venue so that social distancing can be maintained.
- Food must be served to guests. If it is buffet style, host must task people to serve the food.
- Health screening at venue's entrance. Organiser must record number of guests, temperatures and identify people with Covid-19 symptoms.
- Guests with body temperature of more than 37.5°C or those with symptoms must not be allowed to enter.
- Host must register all guests using the MySejahtera app to record data in case of an infection.
- Host should refrain from holding an event if crowd control proves to be difficult.

GOVERNMENT ALLOWS 'IBADAH KORBAN' DURING AIDILADHA:

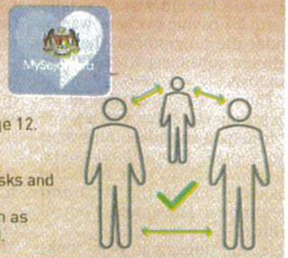
JAKIM

- Allowed at mosques, surau and areas approved by Federal Territories religious authorities.
- Malaysia Islamic Development Department will prepare S.O.Ps for 'korban'. This can be a reference for state religious authorities.
- Allowed at venues approved by local authorities, 28 Veterinary Services Department (VSD) slaughterhouses, and 31 private slaughterhouses for ruminants licensed under VSD.
- Hosts or organisers must report 'korban' activities to nearest district health office.
- 'Korban' workers limited to 30 people per cow.
- Number of 'korban' animals must be suitable with number of workers.
- Meat carving to be done in area spacious enough to avoid the '3Cs' (crowds, confined spaces and close conversations).



MUST-DO FOR 'KORBAN' EVENTS:

- Check body temperature, hand sanitation & attendance record.
- Workers must be healthy, non-symptomatic and not suffering from any chronic diseases. No children under age 12.
- Workers must be registered in MySejahtera app.
- 1m social distancing, wear masks and gloves.
- Use of modern equipment such as slaughter cages is encouraged.



INFOGRAPHIC NST 2020

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 2
RUANGAN : NATION

Covid-19: Current situation globally

(As of 7pm June 24, 2020)

Malaysia	New cases	Total cases	Total deaths	Total recovered
	6	8,596	121	8,231

Asean+	China	Indonesia	Singapore	Philippines	Japan	S. Korea	Thailand	Vietnam	Myanmar	Brunei	Cambodia	Laos
Confirmed cases	83,430	49,009	42,623	31,825	17,968	12,535	3,157	349	292	141	130	19
Deaths	4,634	2,573	26	1,186	955	281	58	0	6	3	0	0
Recovered	78,428	19,658	35,995	8,442	16,212	10,930	3,026	329	204	138	127	19

Global Top 10	US	Brazil	Russia	India	UK	Spain	Peru	Chile	Italy	Iran
Confirmed cases	2,424,493	1,151,479	606,881	457,621	306,210	293,832	260,810	250,767	238,833	209,970
Deaths	123,476	52,771	8,513	14,500	42,927	28,325	8,404	4,505	34,675	9,863
Recovered	1,020,412	613,345	368,822	259,092	N/A	N/A	148,437	210,570	184,585	169,160

Covid-19 cases remain in single digit

Ministry detects three clusters related to half of latest infections reported

By JOSEPH KAOS Jr
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PUTRAJAYA: The single-digit number of new Covid-19 infections remains for another day after the Health Ministry announced six new positive cases.

However, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah (*pic*) said the ministry has detected three new Covid-19 clusters related to three of the six new cases reported yesterday.

The Health director-general said at least 10 cases were found to be linked to the new Bukit Bintang cluster in Kuala Lumpur, involving nine Bangladesh nationals and one Malaysian.

"The index case for this cluster is a foreigner who had undergone Covid-19 screening before reporting for work and was found to be positive on June 15.

"An investigation and tests were conducted on the patient's close contacts. A total of 274 individuals – 203 non-Malaysians and 71 Malaysians – were tested.

"Based on the investigation, we found nine positive cases, while 265 tested negative. Seven of the 10 cases are housemates of the index case," said Dr Noor Hisham at the ministry's press conference here.

He added that sanitation and disinfection has been conducted at their homes and other related locations.

"We are still investigating the source of infection of this cluster," he said.

Meanwhile, another new cluster was discovered in Kuching related to a new construction site.

Dr Noor Hisham said the cluster was detected after a third case tested positive for Covid-19 at a private clinic.

"The patient is the supervisor of two Indonesian workers who were found to be Covid-19-positive on June 16, following a screening conducted at their workplace," he said, adding that 426 close contacts have been identified.

So far, 62 have tested negative while the test results for another 364 individuals were pending.

The third new cluster is related to a condominium in Hulu Langat, Selangor, where the index case is a tahfiz student who tested positive on June 8 after being screened.

"Active case detection was organised and two more positive cases were discovered from this cluster.

"One is a non-Malaysian who is also a foster uncle of the index case. They do not live together but they had visited one another.

"Another case was a work colleague of the uncle," said Dr Noor Hisham.

So far, 40 close contacts have been identified and screened, of whom three have tested positive, 30 tested negative and seven more were awaiting results.

Of the other three new cases, one was found from a screening conducted at a tahfiz in Selangor while another two were import cases of a Malaysian returning from Mexico and a permanent resident coming back from India.

Earlier, Dr Noor Hisham also announced no additional deaths and 45 more patients have been discharged, which meant there are only 244 active cases left in the country.

Cumulatively, Malaysia has had 8,596 positive cases, 8,231 recoveries and 121 deaths.

Watch the video thestartv.com

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NATION

RAN HILMI

Ministry to gauge how schools are faring over the weekend

PUTRAJAYA: Deputy Health Minister Datuk Dr Noor Azmi Ghazali says the government will assess the effectiveness of the standard operating procedure (SOP) in schools over the weekend.

"These three days (are crucial) as the ministry will evaluate whether the SOP should be changed and made stricter or if the current one is good enough.

"From there, the government will decide when other students should return to school," he said in a press conference at SMK Putrajaya Presint 11(1) after visiting the school during recess.

If Covid-19 cases are detected in schools, he said the ministry might decide to temporarily close the affected school.

Students or school personnel who test positive would be sent to the hospital for treatment, he added.

"Screenings will be done for those who came in close contact with the people affected, whether in school or at home.

"If there are (more) cases, we might even have an enhanced movement control order (MCO)," he said.

Twenty-two police officers from the Putrajaya district police headquarters, who are also school liaison officers for 11 secondary schools here, have been assigned to monitor and ensure compliance of the schools to the SOP under the recovery MCO.

Putrajaya district police chief ACP Mohd Fadzil Ali said two policemen would be at each school from 7.30am to 2pm every Monday throughout the recovery MCO period, he said after visiting SMK Putrajaya Presint 8 (1) here yesterday.

According to Bernama, ACP Mohd Fadzil said no reports were received on SOP violations at the schools so far.

In **George Town**, police chief Comm Datuk Sahabudin Abd Manan said the army and police were part of the monitoring team that accompanied Penang Education director Abdul Rashid Abdul Samad in his visit to the school.

Asked why army personnel were carrying rifles while on duty in the school compound, Comm Sahabudin said it was part of the SOP.

AKHBAR : THE SUN
MUKA SURAT : 4
RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

Zero new cases possible by July: Health DG

BY **ALISHA NUR MOHD NOOR**
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PETALING JAYA: Continued cooperation from the people and strict adherence to the standard operating procedures (SOP) can lead to zero new cases of Covid-19 by mid-July.

This is the projection by Health Ministry Director-General Datuk Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah, who said that the measures taken so far have helped lower the number of new cases significantly.

"If people continue to cooperate with the government and observe the SOP, we can look forward to no more new cases by the middle of next month."

He attributed the success so far to the implementation of the conditional movement control order and the recovery movement control order.

Noor Hisham said that even after the Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebrations, there was no sharp increase in the number of new cases.

"We have already reached single digits and we just need another month to bring it down to zero."

The last fatality was reported 10 days ago and over the past week, the number of new cases has remained in single or low double digits.

However, Noor Hisham said the government will close off an area if there are new cases or clusters that may arise from events such as weddings.

Earlier, he announced that there were six new cases as of noon yesterday, bringing the tally to 8,596.

Of the new cases, four were contracted through local transmission and the remaining two were imported.

Of the two imported cases, one had just returned from Mexico and the other is a permanent resident in India.