



**PRESS STATEMENT
MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA**

**UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)
SITUATION IN MALAYSIA
7 September 2020**

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **nine (9) cases** have fully recovered and discharged today. **Cumulatively, 9,124 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (96.5% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

7 September 2020, 12 pm – a total of **62 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **9,459 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are **currently 207 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 62 additional cases reported today, six (6) are imported cases who were **infected overseas**, involving two (2) **Malaysians** and four (4) **non-Malaysians**. They were travellers from the following countries:

- Turkey – 2 cases in Kuala Lumpur
- Bangladesh – 2 cases; 1 case in Kuala Lumpur and 1 case in Selangor
- Indonesia – 1 case in Kuala Lumpur
- Egypt – 1 case in Selangor

Of the 56 **local transmission** cases reported today, 30 cases are among **Malaysians** and 26 cases are among **non-Malaysians**. The details are as follows:

- Sabah – 51 cases:
 - 50 cases: From the Benteng LD Cluster, as detailed below.
 - 1 case: From Severe Acute Respiratory Infection (SARI) screening in Lahad Datu Hospital.
- Kedah – 4 cases:
 - 2 cases: From the Sungai Cluster, as detailed below.
 - 1 case: From the Telaga Cluster.
 - 1 case: From symptomatic screening at a dental clinic in Alor Setar.
- Pulau Pinang – 1 case: From screening of close contacts of a confirmed case (Case 9,397).

Currently, six (6) confirmed COVID-19 cases are receiving treatment in the intensive care units (ICUs), with four (4) patients on ventilation support. **No additional COVID-19 death** was reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there remains **128 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.35% of total cumulative cases).

Current Status of the Benteng LD Cluster

On 7 September 2020, **50 additional confirmed cases** are reported today for this cluster. This cluster was identified on 1 September 2020. It started from two (2) illegal migrants detained at the Lahad Datu District Police Headquarters lockup, Sabah on 24 August 2020. They were screened and found positive for COVID-19 on 31 August 2020. The cases were admitted into Lahad Datu Hospital, and active case detection and screening of close contacts were carried out. Within seven days, a total of 1,404 individuals were screened and 66 confirmed COVID-19 cases were detected with a positivity rate of 4.7%.

Of the 66 confirmed COVID-19 cases in this cluster, 64 cases involved prisoners (97.0%) while the other two (2) cases (3.0%) is a prison officer and his nephew. The individuals screened in this cluster were:

- 631 prisoners
- 98 prison staff
- 157 family members of staff and prisoners
- 78 policemen
- 440 officers from other government agencies

This cluster involves two districts in Sabah. Of the cumulative confirmed COVID-19 cases in this cluster, 30 cases (45.5%) are Malaysians and 36 cases (54.5%) are non-Malaysians. The breakdown of screening by districts involved is as follows:

- i. Lahad Datu (420 individuals screened):
 - 50 confirmed COVID-19 cases (22 Malaysians and 28 non-Malaysians)
 - 337 individuals tested negative
 - 33 individuals awaiting results
- ii. Tawau (984 individuals screened):
 - 16 confirmed COVID-19 cases (8 Malaysians and 8 non-Malaysians)
 - 230 individuals tested negative
 - 738 individuals awaiting results

Based on the risk analysis conducted, the main factor contributing to the transmission of COVID-19 infection for this cluster is a crowded and small (confined) lockup space. It was found that physical distancing is difficult to practice. This is a major contributor to the transmission of COVID-19 infection among the prisoners. Therefore, adherence to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) is important and should be practiced at all times regardless of location.

Current Status of the Sungai Cluster

MOH would like to inform that one (1) new cluster has been identified at a medical centre in Kedah. The index case (Case 9,455) of this cluster is a healthcare worker (HCW) at the medical centre. The case has been unwell since 30 August 2020 but did not seek treatment. The COVID-19 screening test was done on 5 September 2020 and found to be positive.

The second case of this cluster (Case 9,456) is also an HCW at a medical centre in Kedah. This case was a close contact to the index case. This case has been ill since 5 September 2020 and sought treatment at the same medical centre. The COVID-19 screening test was conducted on 5 September 2020 and found to be positive. Both cases have been admitted into Sultanah Bahiyah Hospital, Alor Setar for isolation and treatment.

Subsequently, active case detection and screening of close contacts were conducted. As of 7 September 2020, a total of 57 individuals have been screened. Of these:

- Two (2) confirmed COVID-19 case
- 55 individuals awaiting results

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public to continue to follow the recommendations and health advisories that are often emphasised. These advisories must be incorporated as the new normal in our daily life, including:

- Avoid the **3Cs**: Avoid **C**rowded places; **C**onfined spaces; and **C**lose conversations.
- Practice the **3Ws**: **W**ash hands frequently with water and soap; **W**earing facemasks is now mandatory in public areas (starting from 1 August 2020 as directed by the National Security Council) or highly recommended if symptomatic; **W**arn self and others for the following, in line with MOH's advisories:

- Avoid shaking hands or touching others, including bumping parts of the body in lieu of shaking hands
- 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** as the new normal:

- **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 physical 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.

Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah
Director General of Health Malaysia

7 September 2020 @ 5.00 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 7 September 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Perlis	0	32
Kedah	4	228
Pulau Pinang	1	138
Perak	0	269
Selangor	2 (2)	2,179
Negeri Sembilan	0	1,037
Melaka	0	262
Johor	0	752
Pahang	0	371
Terengganu	0	114
Kelantan	0	160
Sabah	51	486
Sarawak	0	699
WP Kuala Lumpur	4 (4)	2,610
WP Putrajaya	0	99
WP Labuan	0	23
Total	62 (6)	9,459

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 case