



PRESS STATEMENT MINISTRY OF HEALTH MALAYSIA

UPDATES ON THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) SITUATION IN MALAYSIA 6 October 2020

Current Status of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Who Have Recovered

The Ministry of Health (MOH) would like to inform that **87 cases** have fully recovered and discharged today. **Cumulatively, 10,427 confirmed COVID-19 cases have been discharged** (77.2% of total cumulative cases).

Current Situation of COVID-19 in Malaysia

6 October 2020, 12 pm, MOH would like to inform that **394 cases** were detected in the **Tembok Cluster, a prison in Kedah** (i.e. 57.0% of the total cases reported today), 294 cases from other localities and three (3) imported cases. In total, **691 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases** were reported to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC) MOH today. Cumulatively there are now **13,504 confirmed COVID-19 cases** in Malaysia. Therefore, there are currently **2,936 active and infective COVID-19 cases**. They have all been isolated and given treatment.

Of the 691 cases reported today, **three (3)** are imported cases who were **infected overseas**, involving one (1) Malaysian and two (2) non-Malaysian who were travellers from:

- **India – 1 case** reported in Kuala Lumpur, a Malaysian.
- **Egypt – 1 case** reported in Sarawak, a non-Malaysian.
- **Philippines – 1 case** reported in Selangor, a non-Malaysian.

Of the 688 **local transmission** cases, 661 cases are **Malaysians** and 27 cases **non-Malaysians**. Of the 688 cases, **394 cases** are those detected in the **Tembok Cluster, a prison in Kedah** (57.0% of total cases reported today). All the confirmed cases in the Tembok Cluster are in an isolated cluster within the administrative Enhanced Movement Control Order (EMCO) area and within the prison. Therefore, these cases are isolated from the local communities.

The details of the local transmission COVID-19 cases are as follows:

- **Sabah: 219 cases**
 - 120 cases from symptomatic screening, 117 Malaysians and 3 non-Malaysians.
 - 36 cases from community screening, all Malaysians.
 - 30 cases from the Bangau-Bangau Cluster, involving 10 Malaysians and 20 non-Malaysians.
 - 19 cases from the **Ramai-Ramai Cluster**, a new cluster, all Malaysians.
 - 5 cases from screening of close contacts to confirmed COVID-19 cases, all Malaysians.
 - 5 cases from screening of healthcare workers, all Malaysians.
 - 4 cases from screening prior to starting work, all Malaysians.

- **Kedah: 397 cases**
 - 394 cases from the Tembok Cluster, 391 Malaysians and 3 non-Malaysians.
 - 3 cases from the Bah Sintok Cluster, all Malaysians.

- **Selangor: 38 cases**
 - 17 cases from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), all Malaysians.
 - 11 cases from the Jalan Meru Cluster, all Malaysians.
 - 9 cases from screening of close contacts to confirmed COVID-19 cases, 8 Malaysians and 1 non-Malaysian.
 - 1 case from the Embun Cluster, a Malaysian.

- **Perak: 8 cases**
 - 7 cases from the **Batu Cluster**, a new cluster, all Malaysian.
 - 1 case from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), a Malaysian.

- **Negeri Sembilan: 7 cases** from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), all Malaysians.

- **Johor: 6 cases**
 - 3 cases from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), all Malaysians.
 - 3 cases from the Jalan Meru Cluster, all Malaysians.

- **Kuala Lumpur: 4 cases**
 - 1 case from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from the Jalan Meru Cluster, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from pre-surgery screening, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from screening of close contacts to a confirmed COVID-19 case, a Malaysian.

- **Sarawak: 3 cases**
 - 1 case from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from screening at the Domestic Port of Entry of travellers from Peninsular Malaysia, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from screening of close contacts to a confirmed COVID-19 case, a Malaysian.

- **Pulau Pinang: 3 cases**
 - 1 case from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) screening, a Malaysian.
 - 1 case from a post-mortem screening, a Malaysian.

- **Terengganu: 1 case** from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), a Malaysian.
- **Putrajaya: 1 case** from the Selasih Cluster, a Malaysian.
- **Labuan: 1 case** from screening of individuals returning from high-risk areas (Sabah), a Malaysian.

Currently, **31 confirmed COVID-19 cases** are receiving treatment in the intensive care units (ICUs), with **eight (8) patients on ventilation support**.

Regretfully, four (4) additional COVID-19 deaths were reported to the National CPRC MOH today. Cumulatively, there are now **141 COVID-19 deaths** in Malaysia (1.04% of total cumulative cases).

- **Death #138** (Case 11,154) is a 60-year-old Malaysian man. He was admitted into the Duchess of Kent Hospital, Sandakan on 25 September 2020. The COVID-19 screening test was found to be positive on 26 September 2020. His condition deteriorated and he was pronounced dead on 4 October 2020, 6.50 am.
- **Death #139** (Case 12,431) is a 60-year-old Malaysian man. He received treatment at the Emergency and Trauma Department of Semporna Hospital on 1 September 2020. The COVID-19 screening test was found to be positive on 30 September 2020. He was pronounced dead on 4 October 2020, 5.05 am.
- **Death #140** (Case 12,432) is a Malaysian baby girl aged 1 year. She was taken for treatment at the Emergency and Trauma Department of Semporna Hospital on 1 October 2020. Her condition deteriorated, requiring ventilation support. The COVID-19 screening test was found to be positive on 5 October 2020. She was pronounced dead on 5 October 2020, 4.25 pm.
- **Death #141** (Case 13,067) is an 85-year-old Malaysian man. He has a history of hypertension and mental illness. He was found

unconscious on 5 October 2020, at 7 am and was taken directly to Pulau Pinang Hospital. He had stopped breathing at the hospital and was pronounced dead on 5 September 2020, 7.50 am. The post-mortem COVID-19 screening test was positive.

MOH extends its condolences to all their family members.

Two New Clusters Reported Today

MOH would like to inform that **two (2) new clusters** have been identified today:

- Perak – 1 cluster
- Sabah – 1 cluster

1. The Batu Cluster, Perak

This new cluster has been identified in Taiping, Perak. The cluster was identified as a result of screening among staff and family members of a detention camp. The screening found seven (7) confirmed COVID-19 cases on 5 October 2020 and they were all admitted into the Raja Permaisuri Bainun Hospital, Perak.

As of 6 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 860 individuals have been screened. The screening results are as follows:

- Seven (7) confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 182 individuals tested negative
- 671 individuals awaiting results

The cause of the infection is still under investigation.

2. The Ramai-Ramai Cluster, Sabah

This new cluster has been identified in Sandakan, Sabah. The index case for this cluster (Case 12,161) is a bus driver and had sore throat and fever since 27 September 2020. The case tested positive for COVID-19 on 3 October 2020 and was admitted into the Duchess of Kent Hospital, Sandakan, Sabah for treatment. Subsequently, screening of close contacts was conducted, and 19 additional confirmed COVID-19 cases were identified. All these confirmed cases are Malaysians. They were also admitted into the Duchess of Kent Hospital, Sandakan, Sabah for treatment.

As of 6 October 2020, 12 pm, a total of 166 individuals have been screened. The screening results are as follows:

- 20 confirmed COVID-19 cases
- 146 individuals awaiting results

The cause of the infection is still under investigation.

The Current Status of Other Active Clusters Reporting Additional Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Today

Apart from the two clusters above, there are seven (7) other active clusters that have reported additional confirmed COVID-19 cases today:

- (1) Tembok Cluster – 394 additional cases
- (2) Bangau-Bangau Cluster – 30 additional cases
- (3) Jalan Meru Cluster – 15 additional cases
- (4) Bah Sintok Cluster – 3 additional cases
- (5) Benteng PK Cluster – 2 additional cases
- (6) Selasih Cluster – 1 additional case
- (7) Embun Cluster – 1 additional case

Further information on these clusters is shown in **Appendix 2**.

Preparedness and Strengthening Capacity of Hospitals in Malaysia

MOH would like to inform that as of 6 October 2020, the total number of beds available to treat COVID-19 patients is 6,795 beds, of which 2,820 beds are in MOH Hospitals and 3,975 beds in the Quarantine and Low Risk Centres. Bed occupancy rates for these two categories of facilities are currently at 36% and 29% respectively nationwide. As for the number of beds in the Intensive Care Units (ICUs), a total of 437 beds have been reserved for COVID-19 patients, with an occupancy rate of 6%. A total of 1,505 ventilators are available at MOH hospitals with a utilisation rate of 37% for the whole country. This includes for use in non-COVID-19 patients.

Specifically for Sabah, there are six specialist hospitals that treat COVID-19 patients:

- Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH)
- Sabah Women and Children's Hospital
- Tawau Hospital
- Lahad Datu Hospital
- Duchess of Kent Hospital (HDOK), Sandakan
- Keningau Hospital.

To accommodate the increase in COVID-19 cases, additional wards have been opened for the following hospitals:

- For QEH, Kota Kinabalu – Likas Sports Complex Building
- For Tawau Hospital – Tawau Sports Complex Building, Dewan Arena Tawau, Tawau Prison Complex and MOH Training Institute Building (ILKKM)
- For Lahad Datu Hospital – Dewan Tun Haji Mustapha
- For HDOK Sandakan – Dewan Rafflesia (ILKKM), Batu Putih PPR

The Bubul Ria PPR has also been opened to house COVID-19 cases in Semporna district and the Religious Secondary School Dormitory for cases in the Kunak district. The number of beds for the six MOH hospitals and ten COVID-19 Low Risk Quarantine and Treatment Centres (PKRC)

are 710 beds and 1,886 beds respectively. As of 6 October 2020, the bed occupancy rate is 75% in MOH hospitals and 35% in the PKRC. As for the Intensive Care Services, Sabah has 72 beds dedicated to treating critical COVID-19 patients and the occupancy rate is at 38%.

MOH has and continue to organise support teams consisting of Physicians, Medical Officers, Assistant Medical Officers and Nurses to assist the healthcare workers under the Sabah State Health Department to manage these additional wards. In addition, MOH has sent additional medical assets for the use in hospitals in Sabah.

Preparedness and Strengthening Capacity of Laboratories in Malaysia

As part of preparedness and strengthening the capacity of laboratories in Malaysia, there are currently 60 laboratories in Malaysia that can conduct real-time reverse-transcription polymerase chain reaction (rRT-PCR) tests i.e. 18 hospitals in MOH, 1 National Public Health Laboratory and 4 Public Health Laboratories, 1 Institute for Medical Research (IMR), 2 Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM) laboratories and a laboratory under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MOSTI), as well as 13 Universities and 20 private laboratories.

Overall, currently the total daily laboratory test capacity for COVID-19 samples throughout Malaysia is 41,354 tests per day. The RT-PCR test was started at the IMR with a capacity of 300 tests/day and subsequently expanded to the National Public Health Laboratory (500 tests/day) and the Johor Bahru Public Health Laboratory (200 tests/day).

Meanwhile, for Sabah, the laboratories test capacity of COVID-19 samples throughout Sabah is 2,500 tests/day.

For the short-term planning, MOH is working on a modular laboratory in Tawau while waiting for the development of a permanent molecular laboratory at Tawau Hospital. The GENEXPERT is a Point of Care Testing (POCT) to conduct COVID-19 test that has been procured by the MOH

and placed in several hospitals in Sabah. The GENEXPERT COVID-19 cassettes were obtained by the MOH from the World Health Organization (WHO) and will be distributed to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Sandakan Hospital, Tawau Hospital and Labuan Hospital in the near future.

As of 5 October 2020, MOH still has 203,704 RTK-Antigen tests, with a total current use of 3,000 tests/day. Today, a total of 15,000 RTK-Ag tests have been safely sent to Sabah to assist in increasing the capacity for case screening in the state. This effort is a collaboration between MOH and the Malaysian Armed Forces (ATM) through a Mercy Flight.

Health Advisory on COVID-19

MOH advises the public to continue to comply to 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

6 October 2020 @ 5.30 pm

Appendix 1

Number of Confirmed COVID-19 Cases in Malaysia, by States (Cumulative, as of 6 October 2020, 12 pm)

State	No. of New Cases *	Cumulative
Sabah	219	2,738
WP Kuala Lumpur	6 (2)	2,707
Selangor	39 (1)	2,451
Kedah	397	1,447
Negeri Sembilan	7	1,062
Johor	6	793
Sarawak	3	721
Pahang	0	382
Perak	8	286
Melaka	0	268
Kelantan	0	170
Pulau Pinang	3	152
Terengganu	1	140
WP Putrajaya	1	110
Perlis	0	38
WP Labuan	1	39
Total	691 (3)	13,504

*() refers to imported confirmed COVID-19 cases

Current Status of Active Clusters with Additional Confirmed COVID-19 Cases Reported Today
(6 October 2020)

	Cluster	States	Districts	Additional cases	Total cases	Total screened	Active cases (ICU)	Total recovered	Non-M'sians	Total deaths
1.	Tembok	Kedah Perak	Kota Setar Kamunting Kubang Pasu Pendang	394	1,047	4,945	1,047 (5)	0	70	1
2.	Bangau-Bangau	Sabah	Semporna Tawau	30	429	836	406 (1)	22	80	1
3.	Jalan Meru	Selangor Johor Kelantan WPKL & Putrajaya	Hulu Langat Klang Gombak Petaling Hulu Selangor Kuala Selangor Johor Bharu Kota Bharu Titiwangsa Lembah Pantai Kepong	15	63	451	63 (0)	0	0	0

	Cluster	States	Districts	Additional cases	Total cases	Total screened	Active cases (ICU)	Total recovered	Non-M'sians	Total deaths
4.	Bah Sintok	Kedah	Kubang Pasu	3	15	380	15 (0)	0	0	0
5.	Benteng PK	Selangor	Klang Kuala Langat	2	13	153	13 (0)	0	8	0
6.	Selasih	WPKL & Putrajaya Selangor	WP Putrajaya Sepang	1	10	149	10 (0)	0	0	0
7.	Embun	Selangor	Hulu Langat Gombak	1	6	154	6 (0)	0	0	0