

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 1

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

RM1.50

Wadah Pembaharuan

BH

BeritaHarian

Diterbit sejak 1957

www.bharian.com.my

Palestin
tolak pelan
damai
Trump
Muka 46



60 peratus penduduk
Melaka alami
catuan bekalan air

Muka 8

Khamis, 30 Januari 2020
5 Jamadilakhir 1441H
Tel: 1 300 22 6787
PP 414/10/2012 (030686)



Kabinet setuju
pinda undang-
undang kenakan
hukuman lebih
berat ke atas
pemandu mabuk
Muka 6

5 ditahan sebar berita palsu

Berita Palsu Berkenaan
Wabak Novel Coronavirus
(2019-nCoV)



Suspek ditahan SKMM dan PDRM kerana disyaki menyebarkan berita palsu mengenai penularan coronavirus (2019-nCoV) di Facebook dan Twitter. Dua ditahan di Melaka dan masing-masing seorang di Kedah, Pahang dan Selangor. Siasatan mengikut Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia (AKM) 1998 jika sabit kesalahan boleh didenda maksimum RM50,000 atau penjara tidak lebih setahun atau kedua-duanya.

Muka 2, 3, 4, 5

Kita akan mengambil tindakan terhadap mereka yang menakut-nakutkan rakyat dan mencetuskan perasaan benci antara kaum di negara ini. Kita percaya kepada kebebasan bersuara tetapi tidak bermakna mereka boleh berbuat sesuka hati”.

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, Perdana Menteri



78 rakyat Malaysia di Wuhan akan dibawa pulang

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Muka Dua

Tindakan tegas
penyebar berita
palsu, fitnah: PM

Putrajaya: Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad berkata, tindakan tegas akan diambil terhadap pihak yang menyebarkan berita palsu serta fitnah berhubung coronavirus 2019-nCoV.

Kerajaan, menurut Perdana Menteri tidak akan bertoleransi terhadap penyebaran berita palsu, penipuan maklumat dan fitnah yang menyebabkan kekecohan rentetan penularan virus berkenaan.

"Kita akan mengambil tindakan kepada mereka yang menakutkan rakyat Malaysia dan mencetuskan perasaan benci antara kaum di negara ini.

"Kita percaya kepada kebebasan bersuara tetapi tidak bermakna mereka boleh berbuat sesuka hati," katanya pada sidang media khas, semalam.

Terdahulu, Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) mengesahkan membuka lima kertas siasatan berhubung penyebaran maklumat palsu dan berita tidak sahih mengenai penularan coronavirus menerusi media sosial.

Pengarah Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah (JSJ) Bukit Aman, Datuk Huzir Mohamed, berkata polis dalam proses memanggil semua pemilik akaun Facebook yang terbahit untuk dirakam keterangan dan siasatan dijalankan oleh Unit

Siasatan Jenayah Terkelas (USJT) JSJ Bukit Aman.

Mengulas lanjut, Perdana Menteri turut menegaskan kebebasan media kekal di negara ini, tetapi tindakan mengganggu orang lain dengan melaga-melagakan satu kaum dengan kaum yang lain tidak boleh diterima dan wajar dikenakan tindakan.

Katanya, pada masa sama mendapati ada beberapa kenyataan yang tidak bertanggungjawab kononnya pelancong bukan Islam tidak dibenarkan melawat masjid kerana akan membawa penyakit 2019-nCoV.

"Ini bukan dasar kerajaan menyekat pelancong bukan Islam daripada melawat kawasan masjid atau muzium.

"Tiada tempat yang tidak boleh dilawati oleh pelancong kerana kononnya mereka mungkin membawa coronavirus," katanya.

Sementara itu, Dr Mahathir berkata, Malaysia akan meneruskan larangan memasukkan ke atas pesawat dari Wuhan dan Wilayah Hubei ke Malaysia, sama ada terbukti dijangkiti virus berkenaan ataupun tidak.

"Kalau mereka dari Wuhan dan Hubei, mereka tidak dibenarkan masuk Malaysia, tetapi pesawat dari tempat lain dibenarkan masuk," katanya.

Polis dalam proses memanggil semua pemilik akaun Facebook terbabit untuk dirakam keterangan dan siasatan dijalankan Unit Siasatan Jenayah Terkelas (USJT) JSJ Bukit Aman.

Huzir Mohamed,
Pengarah Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah (JSJ) Bukit Aman

Ibadat & Fadilat

Daripada Abdullah Abbas, berkata Nabi Muhammad SAW bersabda: "Saudara sekalian pakailah pakaian yang berwarna putih kerana warna putih adalah warna yang terbaik. Saudara sekalian gunakan juga pakaian warna putih untuk dipakaikan kepada orang yang sudah meninggal dunia." (HR Abu Daud & Tirmidzi)

KAWASAN	SUBUH	ZUHUR	ASAR	MAGHRIB	ISYAK
Kangar	6:17	1:34	4:55	7:28	8:41
Alor Setar	6:17	1:34	4:55	7:28	8:41
P. Pinang	6:16	1:34	4:56	7:30	8:42
Ipoh	6:21	1:32	4:54	7:29	8:41
Kuala Lumpur	6:17	1:29	4:51	7:27	8:39
Shah Alam	6:17	1:29	4:51	7:27	8:39
Johor Bahru	6:05	1:21	4:42	7:21	8:33
Kuantan	6:10	1:24	4:45	7:22	8:34
Seremban	6:14	1:28	4:49	7:27	8:39
Bandar Melaka	6:13	1:27	4:48	7:26	8:38
Kota Bharu	6:13	1:27	4:48	7:21	8:30
K. Terengganu	6:12	1:23	4:44	7:19	8:31
Kota Kinabalu	5:13	12:31	3:52	6:26	7:38
...ing	5:41	12:56	4:17	6:56	8:08

Kita juga telah diberitahu, rakyat kita di sana berdepan kekurangan makanan apabila bekalan di Wuhan semakin menyusut. Malah ada yang mempunyai stok bekalan cukup untuk empat hari sahaja.

Dr Mahathir Mohamad,
Perdana Menteri

Dr Mahathir pada sidang media mengenai coronavirus selepas mempengerusikan mesyuarat Kabinet di Putrajaya; semalam.

Penularan coronavirus

Warga Malaysia
dari Wuhan
dikuarantin 14 hari

**Malaysia mohon
bawa pulang
segera 78 rakyat**

Oleh Rohaniza Idris
dan Hazwan Faisal Mohamad
bhnews@nsp.com.my

Putrajaya: Kerajaan sedia membawa pulang 78 rakyat Malaysia yang masih berada di Wuhan, China dengan segera, kata Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad.

Perdana Menteri berkata, Kementerian Luar ditugaskan bagi memohon kebenaran China, untuk membolehkan kerajaan mengambil rakyat negara ini dari bandar raya itu yang kini ditutup susulan penularan coronavirus atau 2019-nCoV itu.

"Mereka (rakyat Malaysia) sekarang tidak boleh keluar dari Wuhan, tetapi kita ingin berhubung dengan Kerajaan China supaya rakyat kita yang tidak dijangkiti boleh pulang ke Ma-

laysia dengan pesawat.

"Sebelum ini, Kerajaan Jepun dapat membawa pulang rakyat mereka dari wilayah berkenaan selepas mendapat kebenaran dari China.

"Menteri Luar akan segera meminta kebenaran daripada Kerajaan China untuk membolehkan kita membawa masuk pesawat bagi membawa pulang rakyat kita," katanya dalam sidang media khas selepas mempengerusikan mesyuarat Kabinet, di sini, semalam.

Mengulas lanjut, Dr Mahathir berkata, semua rakyat Malaysia itu jika dibawa pulang kelak, akan diperiksa dan disaring terlebih dahulu sebelum tiba di negara ini.

Katanya, jika ada bukti yang mereka dijangkiti coronavirus atau telah duduk dalam tempoh yang lama di sana, maka mereka akan dikuarantin di hospital kerajaan.

"Mereka semua boleh dikuarantin sehingga 14 hari, bagi memastikan kesihatan masing-masing tidak bertambah lebih bu-

ruk akibat coronavirus ini.

"Kita juga telah diberitahu, rakyat kita di sana berdepan kekurangan makanan apabila bekalan di Wuhan semakin menyusut. Malah ada yang mempunyai stok bekalan cukup untuk empat hari sahaja.

"Kita turut berminat membantu Wuhan. Jadi kalau dibenarkan hantar pesawat bagi mengambil rakyat kita oleh Kerajaan China, kita akan membawa makanan, sarung tangan dan topeng muka untuk diberikan kepada penduduk di sana," katanya.

Mengulas keadaan kesihatan semua rakyat Malaysia yang berada di Wuhan ketika ini, Dr Mahathir berkata, setakat ini kesemua 78 orang disahkan tidak dijangkiti dengan coronavirus.

Amerika Syarikat (AS) dan Jepun semalam sudah membawa pulang rakyat masing-masing dari Wuhan, manakala beberapa negara Kesatuan Eropah (EU) dijangka melakukan tindakan sama dengan menggunakan dua pesawat Perancis, minggu ini.



Pelancong memakai topeng penutup mulut dan hidung sebagai langkah pencegahan penularan coronavirus di balai ketibaan Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur 2, Sepang.

(Foto Mohd Fadli Hamzah /BH)

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

BH KHAMIS, 30 JANUARI 2020

3

Nasional

Penularan coronavirus

Tempoh visa 15 hari pelawat China tidak dilanjutkan

Pelancong perlu pulang ikut tarikh ditetapkan sebagai langkah berjaga-jaga

Oleh Mohd Nasaruddin Parzi dan Noor Atiqah Sulaiman
bhnews@bh.com.my

Putrajaya: Kerajaan tidak akan melanjutkan tempoh pelepasan visa 15 hari kepada pelancong China yang kini berada di negara ini, kata Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri berkata, mereka perlu pulang mengikut tarikh ditetapkan biarpun kemungkinan ada yang mahu terus berada di sini untuk tempoh tertentu, sebagai langkah berjaga-jaga susulan penyebaran coronavirus di China.

"Tidak boleh bagi lanjutan visa," katanya pada sidang media selepas mengadakan lawatan bagi mendapatkan perincian terkini kes coronavirus di Pusat Keselamatan dan Tindak Cepat Krisis (CPRC), di Kementerian Kesihatan, di sini, semalam.

Yang turut hadir, Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad dan Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah.

Dr Wan Azizah berkata, kerajaan juga tidak bercadang memperluaskan sekatan visa yang dikenakan ke atas pelawat dari Wuhan dan Hubei kepada pelancong China dari wilayah lain.

"Kita sedar 2020 adalah Tahun Melawat Malaysia (TMM), namun soal keselamatan rakyat menjadi keutamaan," katanya.

Dalam pada itu, Dr Wan Azizah berkata, buat masa ini tiada halangan mengadakan perhimpunan dan persidangan berskala besar dan membabitkan peserta antarabangsa, memandangkan pi-



Dr Wan Azizah menyerahkan sekotak topeng muka kepada pegawai imigresen ketika melawat Pusat Pemantauan Saringan Suhu Badan bagi mengesan 2019-nCoV yang berfungsi 24 jam di Terminal Ketibaan klia2, semalam.

hak Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) tidak mengeluarkan sebarang sekatan perjalanan.

Bagaimanapun, katanya, kerajaan akan memantau situasi terkini penyebaran dan mendapatkan maklum balas daripada WHO apabila sambutan Tahun Samsat diadakan minggu depan, yang menyaksikan ribuan masyarakat akan berhimpun.

Malaysia juga katanya akan bekerjasama dengan negara ASEAN bagi mendapatkan bekalan ubatan, selain perkongsian data mengenai penularan virus berkenaan di rantau ini.

Sementara itu, Kementerian Kesihatan merekodkan 85 kes Pengesanan Kes Yang Disyaki (PUT) jangkitan 2019-nCoV setakat petang semalam.

Dr Wan Azizah berkata, daripada jumlah itu, 74 negatif kepada coronavirus sementara lapang lagi masih menunggu keputusan ujian makmal.

Sehingga jam 2 petang semalam, tujuh kes positif 2019-nCoV dengan semuanya membabitkan warga China.

sebagai persediaan menghadapi potensi penularan coronavirus melalui pengguna jeti dan pelabuhan negara.

JLM juga akan memaklumkan kepada pejabat kesihatan daerah atau negeri dan pihak berkuasa kesihatan pelabuhan selidarnya menerima kemasukan bot layar dari China serta pelayar dari China bagi tujuan saringan kesihatan.



ATM sedia guna aset bawa pulang rakyat terkandas di Wuhan

Kuala Lumpur: Angkatan Tentera Malaysia (ATM) meletakkan asetnya dalam keadaan bersiap sedia dikerah membawa pulang rakyat Malaysia yang terkandas sekitar Wilayah Hubei, China, terutama bandar raya Wuhan yang dikenali perintah berkurung kerana coronavirus 2019-nCoV.

Panglima ATM, Jeneral Tan Sri Affendi Buang, berkata Tentera Udara Diraja Malaysia (TUDM) kini hanya menunggu arahan sekiranya diminta berbuat demikian.

"Ketika ini, kami (ATM) belum menerima sebarang arahan kerana mereka (kerajaan) mempunyai pilihan, sama ada untuk membawa balik rakyat Malaysia menggunakan pesawat komersial atau menggunakan khidmat TUDM."

"Sekiranya menerima arahan, kami berkemungkinan menerangkan sama ada pesawat pengangkut C130 atau A400 untuk membawa mereka kembali ke tanah air," katanya ketika dihubungi BH, semalam.

Affendi berkata, sebarang tindakan hanya bakal diputuskan apabila kerajaan mendapat kebenaran untuk terbang ke Wilayah Hubei dan Wuhan, sekali gus membawa pulang rakyat Malaysia.

Katanya, antara faktor utama penggunaan pesawat TUDM adalah berdasarkan jumlah rakyat Malaysia yang masih terkandas di Wuhan serta lokasi mereka akan mendarat untuk mengisih bahan api.

Setakat semalam, seramai 78 rakyat Malaysia termasuk golongan profesional, penuntut universiti dan kru penerbangan Malindo Air dilaporkan terkandas di sekitar Wilayah Hubei dan Wuhan.

Dalam perkembangan lain, Menteri Pengangkutan, Anthony Loke, berkata hanya penerbangan pergi dan balik Malaysia-Wuhan digantung susulan terdeteksi jangkitan coronavirus di China sehingga kini.

Setakat ini, katanya, tidak ada keperluan untuk mengangut penerbangan ke lain tempat di negara Tembok Besar itu.

"Tidak, saya rasa kita belum sampai peringkat itu, setakat ini kita gantung penerbangan ke Wuhan sahaja, bandar lain masih ada penerbangan, tidak digantung lagi."

"Kita akan pantau keadaan dari semasa ke semasa," katanya pada sidang media selepas pengumuman mesyuarat pasca Kabinet di kementerannya, di sini semalam.

JLM pantau kemasukan pelancong asing

Kuala Lumpur: Jabatan Laut Malaysia (JLM) dengan kerjasama pejabat kesihatan daerah atau negeri serta pihak berkuasa kesihatan pelabuhan sentiasa memantau kemasukan pelancong asing ke negara ini melalui laluan terminal penumpang antarabangsa dan terminal kapal pesiar.

JLM dalam satu kenyataan semalam menjelaskan, langkah itu

sebagai persediaan menghadapi potensi penularan coronavirus melalui pengguna jeti dan pelabuhan negara.

JLM juga akan memaklumkan kepada pejabat kesihatan daerah atau negeri dan pihak berkuasa kesihatan pelabuhan selidarnya menerima kemasukan bot layar dari China serta pelayar dari China bagi tujuan saringan kesihatan.

"Bagi kapal yang memasuki pelabuhan, JLM akan membantu dari segi pemberitahuan kepada pihak berkuasa kesihatan pelabuhan sekiranya pelabuhan terakhir kapal adalah dari China."

"Seterusnya Pihak Berkuasa Kesihatan Pelabuhan akan naik ke kapal di kawasan berlabuh. Sekiranya ada kes, kapal akan dikuarantin di kawasan kuaran-

tin yang ditetapkan, sebagai contoh Perairan Pintu Gedong untuk negeri Selangor," menurut kenyataan itu.

Kenyataan itu turut memaklumkan JLM akan terus memantau perkembangan kejadian jangkitan secara berterusan melalui maklumat yang diperoleh daripada Kementerian Kesihatan.

BERNAMA

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Nasional

KHAMIS, 30 JANUARI 2020

Kes sebar berita palsu penularan coronavirus

Lima ditahan dalam operasi 24 jam

Suspek berdepan denda RM50,000, penjara sehingga setahun jika sabit kesalahan

Oleh Safeek Affendy Razali,
Nor Azizah Mokhtar
dan Fazrik Kamarudin
bhnews@bh.com.my



Huzir Mohamed

Kuala Lumpur: Lima individu disyaki penyebar berita palsu mengenai penularan coronavirus 2019-nCoV di negara ini, ditahan Suruhanjaya Komunikasi Multimedia Malaysia (SKMM) dengan kerjasama Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) dalam operasi membanteras perbuatan itu dalam tempoh 24 jam, sejak petang kelmarin hingga semalam.

Suspek dengan pelbagai latar belakang dan kerjaya seperti tutor sambilan, pembantu farmasi dan pelajar institusi pengajian tinggi awam (IPTA) itu, masing-masing ditahan secara berasingan di Melaka, Kedah, Pahang dan Selangor, mulai jam 5 petang kelmarin hingga 4 petang semalam.

Lima suspek ditahan dalam operasi itu, kini berdepan siasatan SKMM kerana menyebarkan berita palsu mengikut Seksyen 233, Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia (AKM) 1998, yang sabit kesalahan boleh didenda sehingga RM50,000 atau penjara sehingga setahun atau kedua-duanya sekali.

Selain tangkapan untuk siasatan yang dijalankan SKMM itu, Unit Siasatan Jenayah Terkelas (USJT) Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah (JSJ) PDRM Bukit Aman pula membuka kertas siasatan terhadap lima pemilik akaun media sosial sejak Sabtu lalu kerana penyebaran kha-

bar angin dan berita palsu menerusi Facebook dan WhatsApp.

SKMM dalam kenyataannya petang semalam, berkata dalam tangkapan di Alor Setar, Kedah semalam, seorang tutor sambilan berusia 49 tahun ditahan kerana memuat naik kandungan palsu 2019-nCoV menerusi laman sosial Facebook miliknya pada Sabtu lalu.

"Dua tangkapan di Melaka, membabitkan pembantu farmasi berusia 25 tahun dan 30 tahun, masing-masing ditahan di Peringat dan Merlimau, sekitar jam 4 petang kerana disyaki memuat naik berita palsu menerusi Facebook masing-masing pada Ahad lalu.

"Seorang lagi adalah pelajar IPTA berusia 24 tahun, ditahan pada jam 4.15 petang di Kuantan, Pahang, selepas didapati berkongsi kandungan palsu wabak 2019-nCoV menerusi laman Twitter, kelmarin," katanya.

Susulan operasi semalam, empat telefon bimbit; lima kad sim dan dua kad memori yang dipercayai digunakan untuk memuat naik kandungan palsu berkaitan 2019-nCoV dirampas daripada kesemua suspek yang ditahan.

Jam 4 petang kelmarin, seorang lelaki berusia 34 tahun ditahan di kediamannya di Bangi, selepas disyaki menyebarkan berita palsu mengenai coronavirus dalam la-

man sosial Facebook miliknya pada Ahad lalu. Telefon bimbit dan kad sim yang digunakan suspek untuk memuat naik kandungan terbahit turut dirampas.

Pengarah JSJ Bukit Aman, Datuk Huzir Mohamed, berkata selain mengikut Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998, siasatan terhadap mereka yang terbahit dalam penyebaran khabar angin dan berita palsu yang dijalankan PDRM, turut dibuat mengikut Kanun Keseksan.

Bellau berkata, kertas siasatan pertama dibuka Sabtu lalu berhubung kenyataan berkaitan 2019-nCoV dimuat naik menerusi akaun Facebook yang dijalankan Seksyen 203(A) Kanun Keseksan (pendedahan maklumat) yang memperuntukkan denda sehingga RM1 juta atau penjara sehingga satu tahun, selain Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998 (penggunaan tidak wajar kemudahan rangkaian) dengan denda maksimum RM100,000 atau penjara satu tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Katanya, kertas siasatan kedua dibuka pada Ahad lalu membabitkan beberapa kenyataan dimuat naik menerusi akaun Facebook yang dibuat mengikut Seksyen 505(b) Kanun Keseksan (menyebarkan ketakutan atau kegugutan awam) yang boleh dipenjarakan sehingga dua tahun atau denda atau kedua-duanya sekali, selain Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998.

"Tiga lagi kertas siasatan dibuka kelmarin, membabitkan dakwaan kematian seorang pelancong China di dalam bas, penyebaran berita palsu mendakwa beberapa individu disyaki pesakit 2019-nCoV dalam rawatan di Hospital Sultanah Nur Zahirah (HSNZ) Terengganu yang dipercayai boleh menimbulkan kegusaran dalam kalangan masyarakat," katanya.

Senarai berita palsu berkenaan penularan Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV)

BERITA PALSU	MEDIUM SEBARAN	TINDAKAN
Seorang budak 7 tahun dikatakan positif virus Wuhan di Hospital Likas, Sabah	WhatsApp	Penafian di Facebook
Menyebarkan kawasan penularan coronavirus di Selangor dan mengatakan kerajaan menompah wabak free	WhatsApp	Penafian di Facebook
Dikatakan terdapat 1 pelancong China positif Wuhan virus yang bebas di Tropicana 218 Macalister, Pulau Pinang	WhatsApp	Penafian di Facebook
Kes pertama Coronavirus di hospital swasta, Kuantan, Pahang	Twitter	Penafian oleh Pengarah Kesihatan Pahang
Beberapa gambar mendakwa ratusan warga China tiba di Langkawi untuk lari daripada penularan Coronavirus	Facebook	Penafian oleh Kerajaan Negeri Kedah
Seorang meninggal selepas kejang dan pengsan dikatakan virus Wuhan di Shah Alam	WhatsApp	Penafian di Facebook
Kes pertama 2019-nCoV dikatakan ditemui di Hospital Seberang Jaya melibatkan 2 pelancong China	WhatsApp	Penafian di Facebook
Bapa kepada murid SK PAKA sakit terat selepas 3 hari pulang dari umrah kerana virus Wuhan	WhatsApp	Penafian di Facebook
Dikatakan Mahkota Medical Centre di Melaka ditutup kerana berlaku kematian akibat virus Wuhan	Twitter	Aduan ke SKMM
Dikatakan terdapat 1 kes jangkitan Wuhan virus di Hospital UTA Kuantan	Facebook	Aduan ke SKMM

Selidik maklumat sebelum sebar: Mufti

Kuala Lumpur: Rakyat perlu memberi sokongan penuh terhadap langkah yang sedang diambil Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia bagi mengawal penularan coronavirus 2019-nCoV di negara ini.

Mufti Wilayah Persekutuan, Datuk Seri Dr Zulkifli Mohamed Al-Bakri, juga meminta masyarakat mematuhi nasihat kesihatan yang dikeluarkan oleh pihak berkuasa.

Pada masa sama, katanya, masyarakat perlu bersama-sama menjadi ejen membanteras berita palsu yang kebelakangan ini banyak di-

sebar menerusi media sosial dan aplikasi pesanan ringkas.

"Tanamkan disiplin dalam diri untuk menyelidik terlebih dahulu setiap berita yang diperoleh di media sosial.

"Lazimilah solat hajat dan doa munajat kepada Allah SWT dengan doa yang ma'thur sebagai mana yang dibacakan oleh Rasulullah SAW," katanya dalam penulisan Bayan Linnas yang dimuat naik di laman web rasminya, semalam.

Menerusi artikel itu juga, Zulkifli turut menyenaraikan laman

nasihat yang diharap menjadi panduan kepada masyarakat dalam berdepan ancaman penularan 2019-nCoV.

Antara nasihatnya, masyarakat perlu bersikap 'tabayyun', iaitu menyelidik kesahihan setiap maklumat yang diperoleh dan mengambil langkah pencegahan seperti menjaga kebersihan diri dan tidak berada di tempat yang berisiko tinggi serta mengucapkan Istirajak.

Orang ramai juga diminta menjaga kesihatan dan kebersihan yang juga satu perkara yang diperintah syarak.

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Penularan coronavirus



Hospital Sungai Buloh antara 26 hospital rujukan bagi mengendalikan kes disyaki (PUI) dan sahah bagi coronavirus 2019-nCoV.

Prosedur teliti urus pesakit

Pasukan
terlatih
kendali kes
berjangkit
pantau secara
berpasangan



Dr Yasmin Muhamed Gani

Kuala Lumpur: Pengendalian pesakit yang dikaitkan dengan jangkitan coronavirus 2019-nCoV di negara ini dibuat penuh cermat dengan rawatan terhadap mereka bermula sebaik sahaja disyaki dijangkiti virus berkenaan.

Pakar Perubatan Penyakit Berjangkit Hospital Sungai Buloh (HSB), Dr Yasmin Muhamed Gani, berkata proses isolasi pesakit disyaki dimulakan awal dan mereka tidak ditempatkan di wad awam.

"Apabila (pengamal perubatan) ada pesakit dengan simptom (coronavirus), kami kuarantin dan asingkan mereka."

"Kami henti isolasi jika keputusan ujian terhadap pesakit disahkan negatif dan mereka sudah pulih sepenuhnya."

"Lazimnya, keputusan ujian pengesanan dihantar ke Institut Penyelidikan Perubatan (IMR) dapat diketahui dalam tempoh 24 jam dan sekiranya ujian mengesahkan positif, kami teruskan dengan isolasi pesakit dan dipantau rapi," katanya, semalam.

Dikenali sebagai

2019-nCoV, coronavirus yang menyebabkan keadaan seperti radang paru-paru, mula dikesan pada Disember lalu di Wuhan, China dan gejala jangkitan termasuk demam, batuk serta sukar bernafas.

Dr Yasmin berkata, staf yang menjaga pesakit coronavirus juga amat berpengalaman dalam mengendalikan penyakit berjangkit.

"Kami mempunyai pasukan berdedikasi yang terlatih jaga pesakit. Mereka (dokter/jururawat) akan bertugas secara berpasangan (untuk pemantauan) minimum dua kali sehari."

"Kenapa berdua? Supaya mereka boleh pantau sesama mereka untuk mengelakkan sebarang kesilapan rawatan dan sebagainya."

"Di luar (bilik) juga ada seorang yang menjaga untuk memastikan dua orang berkenaan tidak menghadapi sebarang masalah," jelasnya.

Mengulas lanjut, katanya cara pemakanan pesakit adalah mengikut diet hospital, manakala utensil makanan mereka terdiri daripada jenis pakai buang

bagi mengelakkan penyebaran virus.

Mengenai cara pengesanan coronavirus pula, katanya ia akan dilakukan menerusi pemeriksaan kaedah, manakala bagi pesakit yang tiada kahak, doktor menggunakan kaedah *Oropharyngeal swab*, iaitu pemeriksaan menerusi bahagian dalam hidung.

"Pengendalian spesimen dilakukan dengan penuh bertanggungjawab dan ia dimasukkan dalam bungkusan tiga lapis bagi mengelak penyebaran virus," katanya.

Setakat ini, tujuh individu disahkan positif coronavirus di negara ini, dengan semua kes itu membabitkan warga China.

Dr Yasmin berkata, tiga individu terbaharu yang dilaporkan positif awal pagi semalam pula berada dalam keadaan stabil dan pemantauan sedang dilakukan dengan rapi.

Sementara itu mengenai langkah pencegahannya pula, Dr Yasmin menyarankan supaya kebersihan diri sentiasa dijaga setiap masa.

"Sentiasa cuci tangan, elak menggosok muka dan mata tanpa membasuh tangan."

"Juga elak kontak dengan haiwan liar dan adalah selamat untuk memakai topeng muka."

"Mereka yang rasa sakit tekak, batuk atau simptom lain dinasihatkan berjumpa doktor segera untuk dimulakan rawatan awal," katanya. BERNAMA

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 1

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

OPERASI BAWA PULANG RAKYAT MALAYSIA DARI WUHAN

Perdana Menteri, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad berkata, kerajaan sedia membawa pulang 78 rakyat Malaysia yang masih berada di Wuhan, China dengan segera.

Beliau berkata, Kementerian Luar diarahkan memohon kebenaran China untuk membolehkan kerajaan mengambil rakyat negara ini dari bandar raya itu yang kini ditutup susulan penularan wabak koronavirus.

Difahamkan, rakyat Malaysia yang balik nanti akan ditempatkan di wad isolasi di hospital rujukan yang mengendalikan kes disyaki (PUI) dan sahah bagi koronavirus sekiranya mempunyai simptom penyakit itu.

Sekiranya tidak mempunyai sebarang simptom dan didapati sihat, mereka akan diletakkan di bawah pemantauan di rumah selama 14 hari.

“ Mereka (rakyat Malaysia) sekarang tidak boleh keluar dari Wuhan tetapi kita ingin runding dengan kerajaan China supaya rakyat Malaysia yang tidak sakit boleh balik ke Malaysia.”
- Kata Dr Mahathir pada sidang media selepas mesyuarat Kabinet di Putrajaya semalam.

MUKA 2, 3, 4, 6 & 7

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

Bawa pulang 78 rakyat di Wuhan

Kerajaan cadang bawa pulang 78 rakyat Malaysia yang terkandas di Wuhan, China

PUTRAJAYA

Kerajaan bercadang untuk membawa pulang 78 rakyat Malaysia yang terkandas di Wuhan, China berikutan wabak koronavirus.

Perdana Menteri, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad berkata, kerajaan akan mengadakan perbincangan dengan China bagi membolehkan pesawat Malaysia memasuki kawasan berkenaan.

"Kita baru buat keputusan dan akan berbincang



Dr Mahathir bercakap kepada pemberita pada sidang media di Putrajaya semalam.

dengan China.

"Jika didapati positif koronavirus atau berada lebih lama di wilayah itu, kita akan kuarantinkan mereka di hospital sebelum dibenarkan pulang ke rumah," katanya pada sidang media selepas mempengerusikan Mesyuarat Kabinet di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, rakyat Malaysia di wilayah Hubei

didapati kekurangan makanan dan keperluan.

"Setakat ini, bekalan yang ada pada mereka dapat menampung sehingga empat hari sahaja," katanya.

Selain membawa pulang rakyat yang berada di sana, Dr Mahathir berkata, kerajaan bersedia menyumbang bekalan makanan dan keperluan ke-

Kerajaan akan ambil tindakan terhadap penyebar berita palsu

PUTRAJAYA - Perdana Menteri, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad menegaskan kerajaan akan mengambil tindakan terhadap mana-mana pihak yang menyebarkan berita palsu mengenai koronavirus.

"Kerajaan akan ambil tindakan terhadap pihak yang cuba mereka-reka berita palsu untuk menakutkan dan timbulkan perasaan benci," katanya di sini semalam.

Beliau berkata, kebebasan bersuara yang diamalkan di negara ini tidak bermakna boleh melakukannya sesuka hati.

"Kita tidak akan bertoleransi ter-

hadap perbuatan yang cuba menipu dengan memberi maklumat salah terhadap perkara ini," katanya.

Sementara itu, Dr Mahathir berkata, bukan dasar kerajaan menghalang pelancong bukan Islam daripada mengunjungi lokasi tumpuan pelancong termasuk masjid.

"Tiada tempat yang tidak boleh dilawati pelancong," katanya.

Ahad lalu, Masjid Putra di sini mengambil langkah menutup lawatan bagi pengunjung bukan Islam susulan kebangkitan penyebaran koronavirus.

Masjid itu hanya dibuka kepada Muslim untuk menunaikan solat.

pada China untuk disalurkan ke wilayah yang terjejas koronavirus.

"Kalau mereka benarkan pesawat kita masuk, kita akan bawa masuk bekalan makanan dan topeng muka serta sarung

tangan," katanya.

Difahamkan, rakyat Malaysia yang didapati mempunyai simptom akan ditempatkan di wad isolasi di hospital rujukan yang mengendalikan kes disyaki (PUI) dan sahih

bagi novel koronavirus 2019 (2019-nCoV).

Bagi mereka yang tidak mempunyai sebarang simptom dan disahkan sihat pula akan diletakkan di bawah pemantauan di rumah selama 14 hari.

Pelajar universiti antara empat yang ditahan

CYBERJAYA - Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia (SKMM) dengan kerjasama Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) telah menahan empat lagi individu yang disyaki menyebarkan kandungan berita palsu mengenai penularan wabak koronavirus.

Menurut satu kenyataan, keempat-empat operasi serbuan itu telah dijalankan secara berasingan oleh PDRM dan SKMM iaitu dua di Melaka dan satu di Kedah dan Pahang.

"Dalam operasi yang dijalankan antara jam 11 pagi hingga 5 petang hari

ini (semalam), PDRM dan SKMM telah menahan suspek-suspek terlibat untuk merakam keterangan mereka.

"Di Alor Setar, seorang tutor sambilan berumur 49 tahun telah ditahan pada jam 12 tengah hari kerana disyaki telah memuat naik

kandungan palsu di laman Facebook pada 25 Januari," katanya di sini semalam.

Dalam pada itu, dua pembantu farmasi yang berumur 25 dan 30 tahun, masing-masing ditahan di Peringgit dan Merlimau, Melaka sekitar jam 4 petang bagi membantu siasatan berhubung kandungan palsu yang dimuat naik di Facebook pada 26 Januari.

"Seorang pelajar di sebuah institusi pengajian tinggi awam berumur 24 tahun pula ditahan jam 4.15 petang bertempat di Kuantan, Pahang kerana disyaki berkongsi kandungan palsu di laman Twitter pada 27 Januari," ujarnya.

Terdahulu, seorang lelaki berusia 34 tahun ditahan polis di Bangi, Selangor pada jam 4 petang kelmarin kerana disyaki menyebarkan kandungan berita palsu mengenai wabak koronavirus.

Tiga lagi disahkan positif koronavirus

PUTRAJAYA - Tiga warga China yang disyaki dijangkiti koronavirus sebelum ini disahkan positif.

Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah dalam kenyataannya semalam mengesahkan maklumat itu sekali gus menjadikan jumlah mereka yang positif wabak berkenaan sebanyak tujuh orang.

"Kes terbaru itu melibatkan seorang kanak-kanak berumur empat tahun yang dirawat di Hospital Sultanah Maliha, Langkawi dan lelaki berusia 52 tahun yang diisolasi di Hospital Sultanah Aminah Johor Bahru," katanya di sini semalam.

Menurutnya, menantu kepada pesakit koronavirus pertama di Singapura turut disahkan positif selepas menjaga anaknya yang dikuarantin di Hospital Sungai Buloh.

"Dia yang terdahulunya berstatus negatif telah mengambil keputusan untuk tinggal di Malaysia bagi menjaga kedua-dua anaknya yang positif koronavirus dan sedang menerima rawatan di wad isolasi hospital berkenaan," katanya.



DR NOOR HISHAM

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

ANCAMAN KORONAVIRUS DI CHINA

Tempoh perjalanan warga China tidak dilanjutkan



FOTO: SHARIFUDDIN ABUL RAHIM

Dr Wan Azizah menyerahkan kotak topeng muka kepada seorang petugas KLIA2 ketika melawat KLIA2 semalam.

Selaras dengan arahan yang dikeluarkan oleh Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia

PUTRAJAYA

Kerajaan tidak berhasrat untuk melanjutkan tempoh perjalanan warga China yang berada di Malaysia.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri, Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail berkata, hanya pelancong yang mempunyai simptom dan disahkan positif coronavirus dibenar berada di negara ini untuk mendapatkan rawatan. "Tak ada lanjutan lawatan," katanya pada sidang media selepas melawat Pusat Kesiapsiagaan dan Respon Krisis (CPRC) Kementerian

Kesihatan (KKM) bagi meninjau pengurusan dan penyelarasan maklumat serta respon bagi coronavirus di sini semalam.

Turut hadir, Menteri Kesihatan Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad dan Timbalannya, Lee Boon Chye serta Ketua Pengarah Kesihatan, Datuk Noor Hisham Abdullah.

Beliau berkata, perkara itu selaras dengan arahan yang dikeluarkan oleh Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO).

"Bukan sahaja coronavirus tetapi sesiapa yang sakit kita perlu merawatnya sebelum dihantar pulang," katanya.

Bermula 1 Januari lalu, kerajaan mewartakan pengecualian visa kepada rakyat China dan India mengikut Subseksyen 2(1) Akta pasport 1966.

Pelancong dari negara

terbabit perlu membuat pendaftaran terlebih dahulu dan melakukan perjalanan dalam tempoh tiga bulan selepas mendaftar.

Tempoh masa lawatan yang dibenarkan terhad kepada 15 hari sahaja dan tidak boleh dilanjutkan.

Sementara itu, Dr Wan Azizah berkata, tiada halangan bagi mana-mana pihak untuk berhimpun terutamanya menjelang Thaipusam minggu hadapan.

"Setakat ini, tiada apa-apa masalah malah WHO belum mengeluarkan arahan halangan perjalanan.

"Bagaimanapun kerajaan akan maklumkan situasi semasa dan perkembangan kepada rakyat," katanya.

Setakat jam 6 petang semalam, individu yang positif coronavirus kekal tujuh orang.

Kesemua mereka ialah warganegara China.

Status coronavirus
Setakat jam 6 petang
29 Januari 2020

Jumlah positif wabak
6,061 orang

Jumlah kematian
132 orang

Negara terlibat

• **Malaysia (7 kes)**

- China
- Jepun
- Korea Selatan
- Taiwan
- Thailand
- Amerika Syarikat
- Hong Kong
- Singapura
- Macau
- Vietnam
- Nepal
- Perancis
- Australia
- Kanada
- Jerman
- Kemboja
- Sri Lanka
- Emiriah Arab Bersatu (UAE)

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

ANCAMAN KORONAVIRUS DI CHINA

Laluan khas pelancong China

KKM akan sediakan laluan khas itu sebagai langkah pengukuhan saringan

SHAH ALAM

Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) akan menyediakan laluan khas kepada pelancong dari China di pintu masuk negara sebagai langkah pengukuhan saringan bagi pencegahan jangkitan koronavirus.

Ketua Pengarahnya, Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah berkata, laluan khas itu disediakan agar saringan lebih rapi dapat dilakukan semasa kemasukan pelancong berkenaan.

Menurutnya, perkara itu merupakan antara cadangan yang



Ujian Imbasan haba dilakukan di KLIA2 semalam.

diperseetujui dalam mesyuarat khas antara agensi kerajaan sebagai kawalan dan pencegahan wabak koronavirus.

"Pelancong sama ada warganegara atau bukan warganegara juga akan dirujuk kepada KKM sekiranya didapati mempunyai gejala (jangkitan).

"Buat masa ini tiada halangan bagi mengadakan sebarang

perhimpunan atau persidangan yang berskala besar dan melibatkan peserta antarabangsa memandangkan pihak Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) tidak mengeluarkan sebarang sekatan perjalanan," katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini semalam.

Noor Hisham berkata, semua agensi kerajaan juga dise-

ru untuk menghebahkan semua aktiviti pencegahan dan kawalan yang dijalankan.

"Ia bagi meredakan keresahan dalam kalangan masyarakat serta membuktikan bahawa semua tindakan yang sewajarnya telah diambil," katanya.

Menurutnya, mesyuarat yang dihadiri pengurusan tertinggi kementerian dan jabatan yang terlibat secara langsung dan tidak langsung dalam aktiviti kawalan dan pencegahan jangkitan koronavirus itu telah diadakan di KKM pagi semalam.

Kementerian dan jabatan yang terlibat antaranya Agensi Pengurusan Bencana Negara, Kementerian Pertahanan, Kementerian Dalam Negeri, Kementerian Luar Negeri, Jabatan Imigresen, Jabatan Keselamatan dan Kesihatan Pekerjaan, Jabatan Laut Malaysia, Angkatan Pertahanan Awam Malaysia dan Malaysia Airport Berhad.

Masjid Putra dibuka semula kepada pelawat

PUTRAJAYA - Masjid Putra di sini yang ditutup kepada lawatan pelancong asing sejak Ahad lepas berikutan kebimbangan terhadap jangkitan 2019 novel koronavirus, dibuka semula pada jam 2 petang semalam.

Jurucakap pengurusan masjid itu berkata, para petugas masjid akan mengamalkan garis panduan yang telah dikeluarkan Kementerian Kesihatan sebagai langkah keselamatan terhadap jangkitan koronavirus.

"Bermula hari ini (semalam), petugas akan ikut nasehat Kementerian Kesihatan seperti memakai penutup hidung dan mulut serta menggunakan pembersih tangan (hand sanitizer)," katanya ketika dihubungi semalam. - *Bernama*

KORONAVIRUS: SARINGAN KESIHATAN PENGEMBARA DIPERKUKUH

Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia meningkatkan saringan kesihatan ke atas semua pengembara dari China di semua 64 Pintu Masuk Antarabangsa (PMA) negara

MELIBATKAN:

Lapangan terbang antarabangsa

Pelabuhan-pelabuhan

Pintu masuk darat

PENDEKATAN:

1 Saringan demam menggunakan pengimbas haba

2 Kerjasama dengan Jabatan Imigresen Malaysia untuk merujuk mana-mana pengembara bagi pemeriksaan lanjut oleh anggota kesihatan di PMA

3 Memasang bunting & melakukan pengumuman berkala bagi menasihati pengembara untuk tampil ke pusat pemeriksaan kesihatan PMA

4 Pemeriksaan rawak terhadap warganegara Malaysia yang menggunakan pintu automatik

LAPANGAN TERBANG

- Kerjasama dengan Malaysia Airports Holdings Berhad & Pihak Berkuasa Penerbangan Malaysia untuk mengalihkan semua kapal terbang dari China ke pintu yang dikenal pasti bagi mengelakkan percampuran penumpang
- Syarikat penerbangan diminta mengenal pasti penumpang yang mempunyai gejala semasa dalam penerbangan

PELABUHAN

- Semua kapal dari China akan diberi status kuarantin sehingga anggota Kementerian Kesihatan memeriksa kapal

Sumber: Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia

Infografik: Bernama

Pengendalian pesakit koronavirus dilakukan dengan cermat

KUALA LUMPUR - Pengendalian pesakit yang dikaitkan dengan wabak koronavirus dalam negara dilakukan penuh cermat dengan rawatan mereka bermula sebaik sahaja pesakit itu disyaki dijangkiti virus berkenaan.

Pakar Perubatan Penyakit Berjangkit Hospital Sungai Buloh, Dr Yasmin Muhamed Gani berkata, proses isolasi terhadap pesakit yang disyaki akan dimulakan awal dan mereka tidak akan ditempatkan di wad awam.

"Apabila kami (pengamal kesihatan) ada pesakit dengan simptom (koronavirus), kami memang akan kuarantin danasingkan mereka. Kami akan henti isolasi sekiranya keputusan ujian terhadap pesakit disahkan negatif dan mereka telah pulih sepenuhnya.

"Lazimnya, keputusan ujian pengesanan yang dihantar ke Institut Penyelidikan Perubatan (IMR) dapat diketahui dalam tempoh 24 jam, dan sekiranya ujian mengesahkan positif, kami akan teruskan dengan isolasi pesakit dan dipantau rapi," katanya ketika dihubungi semalam.

Dr Yasmin berkata, staf yang menjaga pesakit koronavirus juga amat

berpengalaman dalam mengendalikan pesakit berjangkit.

"Kami mempunyai pasukan berdedikasi yang terlatih akan jaga pesakit. Mereka (dokter/jururawat) akan bertugas secara berpasangan (untuk pemantauan) minimum dua kali sehari.

"Kenapa berdua? Supaya mereka boleh pantau sesama mereka untuk mengelakkan sebarang kesilapan rawatan dan sebagainya," jelasnya.

Mengulas lanjut katanya, cara pemakanan pesakit adalah mengikut diet hospital manakala utensil makanan mereka terdiri daripada jenis pakai buang bagi mengelakkan penyebaran virus.

Mengenai cara pengesanan koronavirus pula, katanya, ia akan dilakukan menerusi pemeriksaan kakah manakala bagi pesakit yang tiada kahak, doktor akan menggunakan kaedah pemeriksaan menerusi bahagian dalam hidung.

"Setiap pengendalian spesimen turut dilakukan dengan penuh bertanggungjawab dan ia akan dimasukkan di dalam bungkusan tiga lapis bagi mengelak penyebaran virus," katanya. - *Bernama*

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 31

RUANGAN : NEGERI KEDAH

Tiada kes baharu koronavirus

Hospital di Kedah pasang khemah khas saring pesakit

Oleh ROSLINDA HASHIM

ALOR SETAR

Hanya seorang pesakit disahkan positif koronavirus di Kedah dan kini sedang dirawat di wad pengasingan Hospital Sultanah Maliha, Langkawi.

Exco Kesihatan, Datuk Dr Ismail Salleh berkata, tiada penambahan kes di Alor Setar yang didakwa sedang dirawat di Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah (HSB).

Menurutnya, maklumat yang tular sejak kelmarin itu palsu dan orang ramai diminta merujuk ke laman web Kementerian Kesihatan atau sumber berita sahih sebagai rujukan.

"Tiada tambahan kes di Kedah, HSB setakat ini belum menerima pesakit yang dikaitkan dengan koronavirus," katanya kepada *Sinar Harian* semalam.

Kelmarin, tular di laman sosial mendakwa terdapat dua lelaki Cina dirawat di HSB selain kehadiran khemah pemeriksaan kesihatan yang didirikan di hadapan wad kecemasan susulan kes terbabit.

Dr Ismail berkata, pesakit yang dikuarantin di Hospital Sultanah Maliha, Langkawi merupakan seorang kanak-



Dr Ismail (kiri) meninjau proses saringan dan pemantauan kesihatan terhadap semua individu yang memasuki sempadan negara melalui ICQS Bukit Kayu Hitam Isnin lalu.

kanak berusia empat tahun manakala adiknya berusia dua tahun bebas daripada virus itu.

"Dua kanak-kanak perempuan itu dari Guang Dong, China datang bersama ibu bapa mereka dan berada di Langkawi sejak Jumaat lalu untuk bercuti.

"Apabila seorang dijangkiti, pihak hospital dan Jabatan Kesihatan akan memanggil semua ahli keluarga termasuk penumpang dalam penerbangan yang sama untuk disaring di hospital berdekatan," katanya.

Menurutnya, semua hospital di Kedah sudah siap siaga berdepan ancaman koronavirus dengan mendirikan khemah pemeriksaan kesihatan berasingan.

Dr Ismail berkata, terdapat empat buah hospital di Kedah yang melakukan saringan kesihatan koronavirus, iaitu Hospi-

tal Sultanah Maliha di Langkawi; Hospital Sultanah Bahiyah di Alor Setar; Hospital Sultan Abdul Halim di Sungai Petani serta Hospital Kulim.

Menurutnya, Pejabat Kesihatan Daerah tertentu turut mendirikan khemah pemeriksaan berasingan dan orang ramai tidak perlu panik kerana ia prosedur biasa.

Dr Ismail berkata, dalam pemeriksaan dilakukan di laluan masuk Kompleks Kastam, Imigresen, Kuarantin dan Keselamatan (ICQS) Bukit Kayu Hitam bermula 1 hingga 27 Januari, seramai 16,000 orang memasuki negara ini.

"Daripada jumlah itu, hanya 14 pelancong China atau berisiko, dan mereka telah menjalani saringan kesihatan namun negatif dan tidak menunjukkan simptom," ujarnya.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 36

RUANGAN : NEGERI TERENGGANU

Terengganu tidak sekat pelancong

Yakin langkah
keselamatan di
KLIA, sempadan
negara ketat

Oleh RAHAYU MUSTAFA

KUALA TERENGGANU

Kerajaan Terengganu tidak akan menyekat kedatangan pelancong asing khususnya dari negara China ke negeri ini susulan penularan wabak koronavirus di negara itu.

Menteri Besar Terengganu, Datuk Seri



DR AHMAD SAMSURU

Dr Ahmad Samsuri Mokhtar berkata, tiada keperluan sekatan itu dilakukan kerana kedudukan Terengganu tidak berada di sempadan antarabangsa seperti sesetengah negeri lain.

Menurut beliau,

pihaknya juga yakin langkah keselamatan di pintu masuk negara

melalui Lapangan Terbang Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur (KLIA) dan sempadan negara jiran telah dibuat dengan ketat.

"Terengganu tidak ada pintu masuk utama seperti KLIA, lapangan terbang besar lain dan kerajaan melalui KKM (Kementerian Kesihatan) sudah buat saringan kesihatan di pintu utama itu," katanya selepas hadir ke Mesyuarat Exco di Wisma Darul Iman di sini semalam.

**ANCAMAN
KORONAVIRUS
DI CHINA**

Beliau turut mengesahkan tiada kes koronavirus di

Terengganu setakat ini dan meminta rakyat tidak mudah percaya dengan berita palsu di media sosial sebaliknya mendapatkan maklumat sahih daripada pihak berkuasa.

Bagaimanapun kata Dr Ahmad Samsuri, kerajaan negeri tetap meningkatkan langkah keselamatan dengan bekerjasama dengan Jabatan Kesihatan Negeri Terengganu (JKNT) melakukan langkah pencegahan wabak berkenaan.

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 1

RUANGAN : NATION

For more info, please visit: www.myboost.com.my/taunarakyat | [f](#) [i](#) [t](#) [s](#) myboostapp | Terms & conditions apply.

Akhbar Digital Bouda Sdn Bhd (1249701)

THURSDAY 30 JANUARY 2020

PP1641/03/2013 (031549) (No. 22055) RM1.60

1300-88-7827 (Customer Service)

Getting them back home

Putrajaya will work with the Chinese government to evacuate Malaysians caught in the Wuhan lockdown. Meanwhile, Malaysians in the city tell us what life has been like since the outbreak.

> See reports on pages 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 20, 22 and 23



PERHATIAN JANGKATAN PARU PARU dari WUHAN, CHINA

Jika anda baru pulang dari China dalam jangka masa 14 hari

DAN
Mengalami gejala-gejala berikut

- Demam
- Batuk
- Salivama
- Sakit tekak
- Sesak nafas

Sila laporkan dengan **SEGERA** kepada Kaunter Triage & muktamarkan perjalanan anda kepada staf bertugas.

Langkah-langkah untuk mengelakkan penyebaran jangkitan:

Elakkan hubungan rapat dengan orang lain jika anda sakit

Tutup mulut & hidung dengan tisu / lengan baju bila batuk / bersin

Basuh tangan dengan kerap & amalkan kebersihan diri

UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA ALERT Pneumonia in patients from WUHAN, CHINA

If you have travelled to Wuhan, China in the last 14 days

AND

Have the following signs and symptoms

- Fever
- Cough
- Runny nose
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath

Please report to the triage counter **IMMEDIATELY** & inform the staff regarding your travel

Please take the following steps to prevent the spread of infection

Cover your mouth & nose with tissue paper / elbow when coughing / sneezing

Wash hands regularly with soap & water, infection good personal hygiene

Avoid close contact with people if you are sick

Infection Control Department

Measure: University Malaya Medical Centre has set up a special screening counter for patients seeking treatment at its Emergency department. — AZHAR MAHFOF/The Star

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 2
RUANGAN : NATION

2 Nation

THE STAR, THURSDAY 30 JANUARY 2020

Reports by MAZWIN NIK ANIS, JOSEPH KAOS Jr, HEMANANTHANI SIVANANDAM, FATIMAH ZAINAL, FARIK ZOLKEPLI, RAHIMY RAHIM, MOHD FARHAAN SHAH, SHARON LING, IMRAN HILMY, SHALINI RAVINDRAN, REMAR NORDIN and JOHN BARRY

Evacuation plan in the works

Embassy has identified 82 Malaysians in the whole of Hubei province

BEIJING: An evacuation plan is underway to bring home Malaysians stranded in Wuhan and its surrounding areas affected by the coronavirus.

Malaysian Ambassador to China Raja Datuk Nushirwan Zainal Abidin said he contacted the Chinese Foreign Affairs Ministry on this matter.

"We will meet for a discussion and hopefully the evacuation can be carried out as soon as possible," he added.

Since the lockdown of Wuhan on Jan 23, the embassy and Consulate-General personnel have swung into

action, reaching out to Malaysians stranded there, registering their details and identifying their whereabouts.

After that, Huanggang city and Ezhou city, about 110km and 90km from Wuhan respectively, were also put under lockdown.

All three cities are in central China's Hubei province.

Nushirwan said so far, they have identified 82 Malaysians in the whole of Hubei province.

Among them, 40 Malaysians, including 11 students and their family members, are in Wuhan.

"They have been very coopera-

“

We have two officers manning the hotlines and three officers monitoring the emails round the clock.

Raja Datuk Nushirwan

”

tive and have been helping us pass the information around,"

he added.

On the Chinese government's efforts in dealing with the situation, he said, the authorities were transparent and had been doing their best to contain the situation.

A briefing was held for the diplomats here on Monday, with the presence of health experts to answer their questions, and Nushirwan said the session was very informative.

Nushirwan added that more embassy personnel have been deployed to man the coronavirus hotlines to ensure that they attended to calls and emails from Malaysians.

"We have two officers manning the hotlines and three officers monitoring the emails round the clock," he said.

He also said they received about 10 enquiries daily and most were asking for details on the lockdown and visa-related issues.

Apart from the embassy, Nushirwan said that all Consulate-General offices in Shanghai, Guangzhou, Kunming, Nanning, Xian and Hong Kong have their own 24-hour hotline centres.

"Stay calm, we are here with the Malaysians in need," added Nushirwan.

'Returning Malaysians will be quarantined for 14 days'

PUTRAJAYA: Malaysians who will be brought back home from the coronavirus epicentre of Wuhan in China will be quarantined for 14 days upon their return, said the Prime Minister.

Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the government, which is working with its Chinese counterpart to secure the return of 78 Malaysians, will not allow them to go home until they show signs that they are not infected by the virus.

He said the decision to evacuate them was made by the Cabinet, which saw the issue of the spreading coronavirus at the top of the meeting's agenda.

"Malaysians who return to the country will be quarantined for 14 days first before they are allowed to go home to ensure they are not affected by the novel coronavirus," he told reporters yesterday.

The Japanese government recently evacuated its citizens out of the virus-hit Wuhan city by plane.

About 206 Japanese nationals were on board the flight out.

Dr Mahathir said that there are



26 Health Ministry facilities that provide quarantine care for the returning Malaysians.

"No, we don't have to quarantine them in Pulau Jerejak. They will be quarantined at hospitals," he said in response to a question if the government wants to quarantine Malaysians returning from Wuhan on the island.

Pulau Jerejak was once a leprosy colony and had served as a maximum security prison before it was closed in 1993.

Dr Mahathir said the Foreign Ministry will be in touch with the Chinese government to facilitate the return of the Malaysians.

Wuhan has been under lockdown since Jan 23 where the



Seeking joint cooperation: Dr Mahathir says that Malaysia is keen to provide assistance to the people of Wuhan, at the press conference in Putrajaya. — Bernama

Chinese government had banned movement in and out of the city in an effort to quarantine the epicentre of the novel coronavirus.

The Malaysian government had imposed a temporary ban on Chinese citizens from Wuhan city and the surrounding Hubei province.

The Prime Minister also said Malaysia wants to provide assistance to the people of Wuhan by sending food and other essentials such as gloves and face masks, which are getting depleted.

"We are told that food supply in Wuhan is diminishing and can only last for a few days. We are interested to help the people of Wuhan."

"If we are allowed to send a flight to pick up Malaysians in Wuhan, then we can send the supplies to the people there," he said.

On seven positive cases of coronavirus in Malaysia, Dr Mahathir said they are in stable condition and there is no worsening of the symptoms.

Watch the video
thetartv.com



On prevention measures, Dr Yasmin recommended that personal hygiene be maintained at all times. — Bernama

AKHBAR : THE STAR
MUKA SURAT : 5
RUANGAN : NATION

Ministry confirms three more cases bringing total to seven

PUTRAJAYA: Three more cases of the novel coronavirus have been confirmed, bringing the total number of such cases so far to seven, says the Health Ministry.

Health director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said two of the three new cases were from among the Patient-Under-Investigation (PUI) group.

One case was from close contact with infected patients.

All the seven cases tested posi-

tive for the virus are Chinese nationals.

Meanwhile, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail said major events involving tourists can proceed as usual for now as there are no directives from the World Health Organization (WHO) on the need to ban public events so far.

"We will see how the situation goes. If WHO says we are not allowed to have big gatherings,

then we will issue a directive to this effect," she told a press conference after visiting the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre here yesterday.

She was responding to a question on whether the government intends to restrict Taipingam celebrations next weekend in Batu Caves. The major event has become a huge attraction for local and international visitors.

She added that the novel corona-

virus outbreak here is under control and reminded people not to spread false or fake news that can cause uneasiness among the people.

She also said 57 hospitals are available for screenings, out of which 26 have been identified to handle suspected cases that need further examination and treatment.

Earlier, Dr Wan Azizah held a meeting with several ministers

and agencies to discuss the novel coronavirus situation in the country.

She said the meeting agreed that special lanes be created for travellers from China to help improve the health screening process of visitors to Malaysia.

Those with symptoms of the novel coronavirus are advised to get themselves checked, especially if they had just returned from China, she added.

AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 8

RUANGAN : NATION

Over 5,000 children in Kunak targeted for polio vaccine

KUNAK: The Kunak Health Office is targeting 5,736 children aged below five years, both citizens and non-citizens, for free polio immunisation between January and March. Communicable Disease Control medical officer here, Dr Izaidi Salman Yazid, said the big-scale immunisation campaign was aimed at protecting children against polio

in Sabah and Malaysia in general.

"Up to yesterday, 25% of the targeted figure had been given the vaccine since the first phase of the immunisation campaign started on Jan 22 and it will end on Feb 21.

"This will be followed by the second phase from Feb 22 until March 21 involving the same children who will receive another dose of the vac-

cine," he said at a ceremony marking the Sabah polio immunisation campaign here yesterday.

Dr Izaidi said parents who missed taking their children for polio immunisation yesterday could take them to Kunak Hospital, Women and Children Health Clinic 1 and 2, Madai Rural Health Clinic and Lormalong Rural Health Clinic.

"Children usually do not exhibit symptoms for polio but it starts with fever, coughing and in more serious cases, could cause paralysis preceded by numbness of the legs and arms," he said.

Meanwhile, state Assistant Minister of Health and People's Wellbeing Norazlinah Arif said the people should observe basic hygiene

such as washing their hands.

"This is because polio could spread through food and drinks touched by dirty hands or through soiled toys," she added.

She also reminded the residents of Kunak to keep their surroundings clean by not disposing of garbage indiscriminately. — Bernama

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : LOKAL

2A

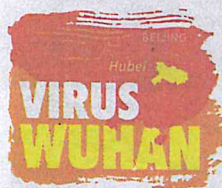
www.hmetro.com.my @hmetromy f HarianMetro @hmetromy

Khamis 30.01.2020 | Harian Metro

lokal

Terkandas di Wuhan

Malaysia berunding dengan China bawa pulang 78 rakyat putus bekalan makanan



Oleh Sri Ayu Kartika Amri
kartika@hmetro.com.my

Putrajaya

Seramai 78 rakyat Malaysia dikenal pasti terkandas di Wuhan, Hubei, China dan hampir terputus bekalan makanan susulan wabak coronavirus baharu yang melanda. Susulan itu kerajaan Malaysia akan berunding dengan China bagi membawa pulang semua rakyat Malaysia itu secepat mungkin.

Perdana Menteri, Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad berkata, keputusan berkenaan baru dibuat semalam dan Menteri Luar, Saifuddin Abdullah akan berunding dengan kerajaan China bagi tujuan itu.

Katanya, didapati seramai 78 rakyat Malaysia yang berada di Wuhan ketika ini dan ada antara mereka yang kekurangan makanan yang hanya mampu bertahan untuk empat hari.

"Kalau kita terpaksa

hantar kapal terbang untuk bawa balik rakyat kita, kita akan buat sedemikian jika kerajaan China memberi kebenaran.

"Kita juga akan hantar bekalan makanan, penutup mulut dan sarung tangan kerana di sana kekurangan bekalan," katanya pada sidang media khas mengenai perkembangan terkini wabak coronavirus baharu di Pejabat Perdana Menteri di sini, semalam.

Dr Mahathir berkata, rakyat Malaysia yang akan dibawa pulang itu nanti akan menjalani pemeriksaan kesihatan dan akan dikeluarkan sebelum mereka dibenarkan pulang ke Malaysia.

Sementara itu, beliau berkata jumlah pesakit positif coronavirus di Malaysia pada masa ini seramai tujuh orang.

"Kita sudah mengumumkan Malaysia tidak akan membenarkan pelawat dari Wuhan, Hubei masuk ke negara ini sama ada mereka sakit ataupun tidak.

"Namun, pelawat lain di China dibenarkan," katanya.

Ditanya sama ada perlu dipasang mesin pengimbas suhu di pintu pelepasan, Dr Mahathir berkata kerajaan hanya bimbang terhadap orang yang memasuki Malaysia.

"Kita hendak mencegah orang yang sakit daripada masuk, jika mereka hendak

keluar kita tidak periksa mereka," katanya.

Ditanya mengenai keadaan tujuh warga China yang didapati positif dengan coronavirus, Dr Mahathir berkata, setakat ini gejala penyakit itu tidak memburuk.

"Keadaan mereka tidak memburuk, mereka masih berada di hospital dan akan tinggal beberapa hari lagi. Setakat ini gejala itu tidak semakin buruk," katanya.

Dalam masa sama, Dr Mahathir kesal dengan larangan yang dikenakan ke atas pelawat asing bukan Islam untuk memasuki masjid di negara ini susulan kebimbangan terhadap jangkitan coronavirus.

"Ini bukan dasar kerajaan melarang pelancong bukan Islam melawat masjid. Kerajaan tidak isytihar muzium, masjid tidak boleh dilawati kerana kononnya pelancong dari China mungkin bawa penyakit ke sini," katanya.

Perdana Menteri turut menyelar tindakan sesetengah pihak menyebarkan berita palsu mengenai jangkitan coronavirus.

"Kerajaan akan mengambil tindakan terhadap pihak tidak bertanggungjawab yang cuba menakut-nakutkan rakyat dan mencetuskan perasaan benci antara kaum di negara ini," katanya.



PEKERJA mengenakan suit perlindungan melepaskan kit untuk mengesan coronavirus baharu di Taizhou, wilayah Jiangsu, China.



Kita juga akan hantar bekalan makanan, penutup mulut dan sarung tangan kerana di sana kekurangan bekalan"

Dr Mahathir

Budak warga China dibenar pulang

Kuala Terengganu: Kanak-kanak perempuan warga China yang dimasukkan ke Hospital Sultanah Nur Zahirah (HSNZ) di sini, Isnin lalu selepas mempunyai simptom coronavirus baharu dibenarkan pulang apabila pulih daripada demam dan sakit tekak, semalam.

Pengarah Kesihatan Negeri Terengganu, Dr Nor Azimi Yunus berkata, kanak-kanak berusia lima tahun itu yang hanya mengalami demam biasa dan sakit tekak sudah sihat sepenuhnya setelah menerima rawatan di HSNZ.

"Keadaannya stabil dan kita jangka kanak-kanak itu boleh discaj hari ini,"

katanya menerusi melalui aplikasi WhatsApp, semalam.

Isnin lalu, tular di media sosial mengenai seorang kanak-kanak perempuan warga China yang didakwa dilarikan ibu bapanya dari Hospital Kemaman selepas disyaki dijangkiti coronavirus baharu.

Susulan itu, satu laporan polis dibuat seorang doktor Hospital Kemaman untuk mengesan kanak-kanak itu dan tidak lama selepas itu, kanak-kanak itu berjaya ditemui di lokasi projek Laluan Rel Pantai Timur (ECRL) di Kemaman.



SEORANG wanita menerima sebakul bunga selepas pulih daripada jangkitan coronavirus baharu di Hospital Bozhou, China.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : LOKAL

Harian Metro | Khamis 30.01.2020

@hmetromy | HarianMetro | @hmetromy | www.hmetro.com.my A3

lokal



PENUMPANG dari China diperiksa suhu badan ketika tiba di Lapangan Terbang Incheon, Korea Selatan.

BERITA PALSU KORONAVIRUS

Polis buka lima kertas siasatan

Nurul Hidayah Bahaudin
am@hmetro.com.my

Kuala Lumpur

Polis Diraja Malaysia (PDRM) membuka lima kertas siasatan berhubung kes penyebaran berita tidak sahih berhubung penularan koronavirus baharu di media sosial.

Pengarah Jabatan Siasatan Jenayah (JSJ) Datuk Huzir Mohamed berkata, kes pertama membabitkan satu laporan polis yang ditularkan di Facebook Mr Kong Tuck Wah mengenai koronavirus baharu yang diasiat mengikut Seksyen 203 (A) Kanun Keseksan kerana pendedahan maklumat serta Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998.

"Kes kedua pula membabitkan beberapa kenyataan berkaitan virus itu dimuat naik dalam Facebook Ibu Yati yang boleh menggugat ketenteraman

awam pada 26 Januari lalu. Kes itu diasiat mengikut Seksyen 505 (b) Kanun Keseksan kerana menyebabkan ketakutan awam dan Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998.

"Bagi kes ketiga pula, ia berkaitan penularan kes kematian warga China akibat virus terbit pada 27 Januari lalu melalui Facebook Roto Sardeen yang didapati boleh menggugat ketenteraman awam dengan kes diasiat mengikut Seksyen 505 (b) Kanun Keseksan dan Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998," katanya.

Huzir berkata, kes keempat membabitkan penyebaran berita palsu berkaitan rawatan pesakit koronavirus baharu di Hospital Sultanah Nur Zahirah (HSNZ), Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu pada 27 Januari lalu di Facebook Gabungan Anak Terengganu (Original) yang

menyatakan bahawa beberapa individu disyaki pesakit virus itu sedang dirawat di hospital itu.

"Kes itu turut diasiat mengikut Seksyen 505 (b) Kanun Keseksan dan Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998.

"Kes kelima pula membabitkan penularan berita palsu berkaitan banduan di Penjara Sandakan, Sabah yang dikatakan mati disebabkan virus itu disebabkan dalam kumpulan sembang WhatsApp dengan 505 (b) Kanun Keseksan dan Seksyen 233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia 1998," katanya.

Beliau berkata, pihaknya mengambil serius berhubung penyebaran khabar angin dan berita tidak sahih mengenai penularan koronavirus baharu oleh pihak tidak bertanggungjawab di laman sosial.

5 ditahan sebar maklumat palsu

Kuala Lumpur: Lima individu sudah ditahan kerana disyaki menyebarkan kandungan berita palsu mengenai penularan wabak koronavirus baharu.

Penahanan hasil operasi dijalankan Suruhanjaya Komunikasi Multimedia Malaysia (SKMM) dengan kerjasama Polis Diraja

Malaysia (PDRM).

SKMM berkata, tangkapan pertama dilakukan jam 4 petang kelmarin, membabitkan seorang individu berusia 34 tahun di kediamannya di Bangi, Selangor bagi membantu siasatan terhadap satu muat naik di laman Facebook pada 26 Januari lalu.

"Kandungan yang dimuat naik mengenai virus itu didapati palsu.

"Kami turut merampas telefon bimbit milik suspek dan kad SIM yang digunakan," katanya.

Katanya, empat lagi ditahan dalam operasi sekitar Melaka, Kedah dan Pahang bermula jam 11 pagi hingga 5 petang semalam.



PELANCONG memakai topeng muka ketika bersiar-siar di Grand Palace, Bangkok.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : LOKAL

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

Khamis 30.01.2020 | Harian Metro

lokal



IBU NEGERI	SUBUH	SYURUK	ZUHUR	ASAR	HAGHRIB	ISYAK
KL/PUTRAJAYA	6:17	7:26	1:29	4:51	7:27	8:39
SHAH ALAM	6:17	7:25	1:29	4:51	7:27	8:39
SEREMBAN	6:14	7:25	1:28	4:49	7:27	8:39
MELAKA	6:13	7:24	1:27	4:48	7:26	8:38
JOHOR BAHRU	6:06	7:17	1:21	4:42	7:21	8:33
IPOH	6:13	7:29	1:32	4:54	7:29	8:41

IBU NEGERI	SUBUH	SYURUK	ZUHUR	ASAR	HAGHRIB	ISYAK
PULAU PINANG	6:16	7:34	1:34	4:56	7:30	8:42
ALOR SETAR	6:17	7:34	1:34	4:55	7:28	8:41
KUALA TERENGGANU	6:04	7:24	1:23	4:44	7:19	8:31
KOTA BHARU	6:13	7:29	1:27	4:48	7:21	8:30
KUANTAN	6:10	7:22	1:24	4:45	7:22	8:34
KANGAR	6:17	7:37	1:34	4:55	7:28	8:41



PEKERJA farmasi, Tengku Maisarah Tengku Ibrahim menyusun topeng muka di sebuah kedai di Sentul, semalam.



Hospital buat laporan polis

Oleh Mohd Roji Kawi
am@hmetro.com.my

Petra Jaya

Pengurusan Hospital Timberland Kuching membuat laporan polis berhubung tular dakwaan ada pesakit dijangkiti koronavirus baharu menerima rawatan di hospital itu.

Maklumat palsu yang tersebar menerusi aplikasi WhatsApp kelmarin itu antara lain mendakwa kononnya seorang yang dijangkiti koronavirus menerima rawatan di situ.

Timbalan Pesuruhjaya Polis Sarawak, Datuk Dev Kumar berkata, laporan polis dibuat oleh pengurusan hospital semalam selepas menyedari maklumat itu boleh mencetuskan kegusaran orang ramai.

Katanya, polis kini

Polis kesan individu dakwa ada pesakit dijangkiti koronavirus baharu di sebuah pusat perubatan

Enam disahkan negatif

Petra Jaya: Ujian makmal ke atas enam daripada lapan individu yang disyaki dijangkiti wabak koronavirus baharu di Sarawak disahkan negatif.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri, Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas berkata, lima daripada suspek itu dilaporkan di Kuching manakala masing-masing seorang di Sibul, Bintulu dan Miri.

Beliau yang juga Pengerusi Jawatankuasa Bencana Negeri (JPBN) Sarawak berkata, keputusan ujian makmal sampel yang diambil daripada dua lagi individu dari Kuching dan Miri belum diperoleh.

"Keputusan ujian yang kami peroleh daripada Institut Penyelidikan Perubatan (IMR) di Kuala Lumpur mendapati enam negatif iaitu empat sampel dari Kuching dan masing-masing satu dari Sibul dan Bintulu," katanya.

mengesan individu yang menyebarkan maklumat palsu itu.

"Siasatan dijalankan mengikut Seksyen 505 (b) Kanun Keseksan dan Seksyen

233 Akta Komunikasi dan Multimedia.

"Polis tidak teragak-agak mengambil tindakan terhadap mereka yang menyebarkan maklumat yang boleh menimbulkan kegusaran seperti itu," katanya.

Beliau berkata demikian selepas menghadiri mesyuarat Jawatankuasa Pengurusan Bencana Negeri (JPBN) Sarawak di Wisma Bapa Malaysia di sini, semalam.

Selain itu, Dev berkata, polis Sarawak juga sedia membantu pihak hospital untuk menahan individu disyaki mempunyai simptom wabak berkenaan yang enggan menerima rawatan atau dikuarantin.

Tiada halangan lawat masjid, muzium

Putrajaya: "Ini bukan dasar kerajaan melarang pelancong bukan Islam melawat masjid," kata Perdana Menteri, Tun Mahathir Mohamad.

Beliau berkata demikian berikutan terdapat pihak tidak bertanggungjawab mendakwa kononnya pelawat ke Malaysia memabatkan individu bukan Islam tidak dibenarkan ke masjid kerana membawa wabak koronavirus baharu.

Katanya, kerajaan tidak pernah mengisytiharkan

masjid atau muzium tidak boleh dilawati oleh pelancong terutama bukan beragama Islam.

"Jadi ini sama sekali bukan dasar kerajaan dan kerajaan akan mengambil tindakan terhadap pihak yang tidak bertanggungjawab menyebarkan berita palsu.

"Terutama mereka yang cuba menakutkan rakyat serta mengancam perpaduan kaum," katanya pada sidang media di sini, semalam.

Tiada larangan himpun skala besar

Putrajaya: Walaupun wabak koronavirus baharu melanda negara namun tiada halangan untuk perhimpunan atau persidangan berskala besar dan memabatkan peserta antarabangsa diadakan di negara ini.

Timbalan Perdana Menteri Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail berkata, ini memandangkan Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) tidak mengeluarkan sekatan perjalanan.

Beliau berkata, kerajaan juga tidak menghalang

perhimpunan sempena Thaipusam minggu depan.

Sementara itu, katanya, kerajaan tidak akan melanjutkan tempoh pelepasan visa 15 hari kepada pelancong China yang berada di negara ini.

"Mereka perlu pulang mengikut tarikh ditetapkan, biarpun kemungkinan ada yang mahu terus berada di sini untuk tempoh tertentu sebagai langkah berjaga-jaga susulan penyebaran Coronavirus di China," katanya.

Isi borang kesihatan

Kuching: Berkkuat kuasa semalam, semua pelawat yang memasuki Sarawak dikehendaki mengisi borang pengisytiharan kesihatan sebagai langkah membendung jangkitan koronavirus baharu di negeri ini.

Timbalan Ketua Menteri, Datuk Amar Douglas Uggah Embas berkata, borang pengisytiharan disediakan di semua laluan masuk pemeriksaan sempadan selain diedar kepada penumpang pesawat.

"Borang (yang sudah diisi) perlu diserahkan ke-

pada imigresen dan ia diteliti pegawai perubatan di kaunter masuk," katanya pada sidang media selepas mempengerusikan mesyuarat mengenai usaha membendung jangkitan koronavirus, di sini.

Beliau berkata, pengisytiharan itu turut memabatkan pelawat yang membawa kenderaan menggunakan feri dari Wilayah Persekutuan Labuan dan penumpang penerbangan dari Taman Negara Mulu memandangkan ada penerbangan terus dari Kota Kinabalu ke lokasi itu.

AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

'Spreading false news dangerous for nation'

False narratives have an adverse effect on economy, says criminologist

BY KEVIN DAVASAGAYAM
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PETALING JAYA: The dissemination of fake news can have a dangerous impact on the country, according to a criminologist.

For a start, Shahul Hamid Abdul Rahim said, it could have a negative impact on the economy and political situation.

As such it is essential that every individual verifies a piece of news with the relevant authorities before forwarding it to another

person, he added.

He was commenting on reports of a police crackdown on the spread of fake news on the novel coronavirus outbreak on social media.

He lauded the police for their effort, and reiterated that more arrests and prosecution should be made to deter people from indulging in such a "dangerous" habit.

Shahul said the Health Ministry has been efficiently releasing statements from time to time on the spread of the disease through its WhatsApp groups and helplines.

"There is no reason for social media users not to verify news or information that they have received before passing it on."

He attributed the practice to an assumption some people have that they have received these messages exclusively and therefore they are obliged to pass it on to their friends and families.

"That is the problem. Every piece of news should be verified, no matter how real it seems," he said, adding this could be easily done by monitoring official websites and news channels.

Shahul stressed that only by enforcing the law can this habit be eradicated.

"The police need to crack down hard on this."

Former Transparency International-Malaysia president and criminologist Datuk Seri Akhbar Satar echoed Shahul's sentiment, commending all efforts by relevant authorities in curbing the habit of spreading fake or unverified news.

"Fake news causes unrest."

Akhbar added this could be the time for a more sensible anti-fake news law.

"It's high time it comes into place with more sensible terms and conditions."



PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES ... Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail and Deputy Minister of Tourism Muhammad Bakhtiar Wan Chik (third from right) during a visit to klia2 in Sepang yesterday to monitor screenings of passengers for the coronavirus. — AMIRUL SYAFIQ / THE SUN

AKHBAR : THE SUN

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NEWS WITHOUT BORDERS

'Mass gatherings can go on'

► DPM: Situation in country does not necessitate prohibition yet

BY AMAR SHAH MOHSEN
newsdesk@thesundaily.com

PUTRAJAYA: Mass gatherings or conventions involving international participants will not be stopped as the World Health Organisation (WHO) has yet to issue any restrictions pertaining to international travel and congregations.

The novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) situation in the country does not necessitate such a prohibition yet, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail.

"We will monitor the situation. If WHO releases a restriction notice not to allow mass gatherings, then we (government) will issue a statement and directive," she said at a press conference after visiting the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre here yesterday.

Also present were Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad, Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye and Health Director-General Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah.

Wan Azizah was responding to a question on whether the government would issue a directive ahead of the Thaipusam celebration on Feb 8, which is expected to attract hundreds of thousands to Batu Caves.

Malaysia will also be host to the First Apec senior officials' meeting, and related meetings that will take place from Feb 3 to 22.



A staff from the Batu Maung constituency service centre in Bayan Lepas, Nor Atikah Azimi demonstrates how to use an instant hygiene sanitiser to prevent the spread of the coronavirus yesterday. – MASRY CHE ANI/THESUN

Wan Azizah added that school activities would also be allowed to continue, noting that the seven individuals tested positive for the virus, who are Chinese nationals, have been isolated and quarantined.

She said as of 2pm yesterday, apart from the seven confirmed cases, 74 have tested negative for the virus, while eight tests are pending.

It is unnecessary to temporarily suspend all flights between Malaysia and China at the moment, she added.

The government has yet to extend a temporary travel ban on Wuhan citizens to all Chinese nationals, as this might cause panic.

"Visit Malaysia 2020 campaign is going on. We have decided that we will deal with the situation by

screening and isolating those showing symptoms. WHO also has procedures that we have to abide by."

Wan Azizah urged Malaysians to stop spreading fake and unverified reports pertaining to the coronavirus to avoid panic among the public.

AKHBAR : NEWS STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 2

RUANGAN : NEWS

NST LEADER

Wuhan virus is real

Stop the spread of fake news

THE new coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak in central China is a grave matter. Up to yesterday, close to 6,000 confirmed cases in mainland China and 132 deaths have been reported since it was first identified in Wuhan City in mid-December.

Despite China's intense efforts to contain the virus, including enforcing a lockdown in several cities in Hubei province, it has spread to other countries. Suspected and confirmed cases worldwide exceed 6,000, CNN reported. The reach of the 2019-nCoV is far and wide; it has overtaken other headlines such as the United States-China trade war, Brexit, Trump's peace plan for the Palestinians, and even the Australia bushfires. Amidst concerns of a potential global epidemic, another epidemic appears to be brewing. With the world being so interconnected as it is now, fake news about "the origins" of 2019-nCoV is fast spreading. The story says the Chinese government "engineered" the 2019-nCoV as a biological weapon to "kill off" the Uighurs, but the virus was accidentally released in Wuhan City. Preposterous it is, but it raised hackles. Another even more ludicrous claim — an Instagram post that said the virus was "God's revenge for China's persecution of the Uighurs". On Facebook, postings of "confirmed cases" in Melaka, Negri Sembilan, Pahang, Terengganu and Penang are being viralled.

One cannot help but think that such postings should not see the light of day. But they have, and there are people who believe them without question. Is it human nature to believe the worst? If so, it certainly lends credence to what some cynics are saying about humans — "they're not always the kind, sensible, good-natured creatures they have fashioned themselves to be".

Surely by now we are able to discern between the fake and genuine? What we consume voraciously from questionable sites should not be taken as gospel truth. There's no disputing the Internet is a reservoir of genuine information, but it can also be used as a tool to spread rumours that cause unnecessary panic...

spread rumours that cause unnecessary panic and derision. The 2019-nCoV outbreak is real. Human lives are at stake. The World Health Organisation has stopped short of calling it a global health emergency. Spare a thought for those infected with the virus, or the families who have lost their loved ones. Or offer a prayer to those who died, not indulge in some conspiracy theory. We should be thinking of ways to prevent the virus from spreading or helping to find a cure for it. As a responsible newspaper, we laud police efforts to clamp down on the purveyors of fake news. We have laws, they should be made to face the music. This Leader has been consistent in the paper's principled stand to communicate only the truth so that the public is made aware of the facts — which can be ugly or beautiful. Negative narratives we entertain not, nor gossip.

Today's Internet-driven age has made it possible for information to be available at our fingertips. Understandably, the influence of social media can be persuasive and believable, but as thinking and intelligent beings, we should not be so gullible.

NEW
STRAITS TIMES

Published by: The New Straits Times Press (M) Bhd,
31, Jalan Riong, 59100 Kuala Lumpur
LOKMAN MANSOR Group Editor
Tel: 1-300-22-6787 • Fax: 03-2056 7148
• Email: news@nst.com.my • Online: www.nst.com.my

NEWS / Story of the day

Chinese Traveller Helpdesk



Helpdesk personnel attending to a passenger at klia2 in Sepang yesterday. PIC BY MOHD FADLI HAMZAH

NOVEL CORONAVIRUS OUTBREAK

FAKE NEWS WARNING

Stern action will be taken against those involved, says PM

VEENA BABULAL
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

STRICT action awaits those who spread fake news on the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak, warned Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad following a deluge of fake news on social media related to the virus.

He said one such viral posting had stated that non-Muslim visitors to Malaysia, in particular those from China, could not enter mosques as they were supposedly carriers or had spread the virus to the facilities.

"The government has issued no such rule for mosques and museums. This is not a government policy. This is an irresponsible act and the government will take action against those who purposely disseminate fake news to scare Malaysians and cause hatred among the races," Dr Mahathir said after a cabinet meeting in Putrajaya yesterday.

Police have opened five investigation papers on fake news involving the coronavirus.

Dr Mahathir said the government upheld media freedom, but would not tolerate misinformation.

"Although we believe in the freedom of the press, the press can't agitate people and cause them to be antagonistic towards each other. We will take action

against those people.

"Spreading fake news and telling lies to cause problems in Malaysia will not be tolerated."

At the same time, Dr Mahathir said, it was decided during the cabinet meeting that Malaysia would engage with China to evacuate Malaysians from Wuhan.

There are 78 Malaysians in the Chinese city, which is under lockdown following the outbreak.

Dr Mahathir said Foreign Minister Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah was expected to communicate with China to get its go-ahead for the release of the Malaysians in Wuhan, following Japan's efforts to evacuate its citizens.

"Malaysia has a problem in terms of Malaysians in Wuhan who can't leave the city. We want to talk and negotiate with China so that Malaysians who are not sick can come home. They will be examined when they arrive in Malaysia."

"If there is evidence that they are sick due to the virus, we will put them in quarantine before they can go home (released). They will be subjected to 14 days of quarantine to make sure that they are not suffering from the infection."

He also said food supply for the Malaysians in Wuhan was running low and should the Chinese government permit it, an aircraft would fly in sending aid, including food items, rubber gloves and face masks.

"On the other hand, we are told that apparently the food supply in Wuhan is much diminished and there are those who have food for only four days."

"We are keen to help Wuhan. So if we are forced to send a flight to take back our citizens, if we are

allowed by the Chinese, we will (also) send food, gloves and face masks because there is a shortage of supplies there."

Dr Mahathir said the 26 hospitals designated by the Health Ministry were sufficient to quarantine patients.

On the restrictions imposed on travellers from Wuhan and Hubei, Dr Mahathir said the authorities could easily detect them through their passports.

To a question on travellers transiting from Wuhan, he said: "If they are from Wuhan, then we will stop them depending on where they are from and how long they have been abroad."

"Those who came from Wuhan before the epidemic, we don't consider them a threat."

On the seven people infected with the virus here, Dr Mahathir said: "They have not gotten worse. They are still here, but they have to stay in the hospital for a certain number of days. So far, (there is) no worsening of the symptoms."

On a separate matter, Dr Mahathir said corruption was no longer a major issue as evidenced by the nation's improved ranking in Transparency International's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI).

"The fact is, corruption is not a very major issue any more. Previously, of course, people talked about corruption but now there is less and this has been noted by those people."

"But there is still some corruption and we are working on eradicating it," Dr Mahathir said when asked to comment on Malaysia's improved CPI last year when it rose 10 places to 51 compared with the previous year.

AKHBAR : NEWS STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 3

RUANGAN : NEWS

Man held in Bangi for fake FB post about virus

PUTRAJAYA: The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and police detained a man on Tuesday for allegedly spreading fake news on the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak.

MCMC, in a statement yesterday, said the 34-year-old was detained at his home in Bangi at 4pm to assist in the probe into content that was uploaded on Facebook on Jan 26.

"The content on the 2019-nCoV was found to be fake. The authorities seized the man's hand-phone and SIM card believed to have been used to upload the content on Facebook."

The man, it added, was being investigated under Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 and was liable to a fine of not more than RM50,000 or imprisonment not exceeding one year or both, and a fine of RM1,000 for every day during which the offence was continued after conviction.

The firm action was part of MCMC and the police's efforts to curb the spread of fake news on the 2019-nCoV outbreak by irresponsible people that could threaten stability and public order.

On Jan 27, MCMC and the police had cautioned the public that strict action would be taken against those who spread fake news and information regarding the outbreak.

Anyone who disseminates hearsay or news with an intention to cause fear or public unrest is liable to be charged under Section 505 of the Penal Code, which carries a two-year jail-term or a fine or both upon conviction.

The commission and the police were looking for three other suspects to assist in their investigation.

"This clearly shows the seriousness of MCMC and the police to ensure action is taken against those who started, shared and spread fake news via social media platforms," MCMC said.

In Kuala Lumpur, police opened five investigation papers on fake news involving the coronavirus on social media platforms.

Criminal Investigation Department director Datuk Huzir Mohamed, in a statement yesterday, said the first case involved a police report transmitted through a Facebook account about a new coronavirus.

This is being investigated under Section 203 (A) of the Penal Code for disclosure of information and Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998.

"The second case involved several statements regarding the virus that were posted on a Facebook account on Jan 26 that could lead to disruption of public order. The case is being investigated under Section 505 (b) of the Penal Code for causing public fear and Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998.

"The third case was related to the spread of fake news on the Chinese death toll, which was posted on Jan 27 in a Facebook account. It was found to have threatened public order. The case is being investigated under Section 505 (b) of the Penal Code and Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998."

Huzir said the fourth case involved the spread of fake news on the treatment of new coronavirus patients at Sultanah Nur Zahirah Hospital in Kuala Terengganu, Terengganu.

The posting was made on Jan 27 in a Facebook account, in which it was claimed that several individuals suspected of being infected by the virus had been hospitalised.

"The case is being investigated under Section 505 (b) of the Penal Code and Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998.

"The fifth case involved the spreading of fake news, through WhatsApp chat groups, on the inmates of Sandakan Prison, Sabah. They were claimed to have pronounced dead as a result of being infected by the virus.

"It is also being investigated under Section 505 (b) of the Penal Code and Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998."

Huzir said police viewed the rumours and fake news seriously.

"It is undeniable that the virus is causing concern among the public. The government is taking measures to address the issue.

"As such, the police urge the public to stop disseminating news, articles and statements that are untrue or inaccurate."

He said the actions of those who wanted to be "champion" on social media platforms with regard to the dissemination of invalid statements on the coronavirus would be investigated under Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998.

"The police will take action against any individual who sensationalise issues related to the virus.

"The public is advised to refer to the Health Ministry's website and statements for accurate information."

CORONAVIRUS FAKE NEWS

SOURCED FROM THE HEALTH MINISTRY'S WEBSITE

FAKE NEWS	MEDIUM/CHANNEL	ACTION TAKEN
A 7-year-old was reported to have tested positive for 2019-nCoV at Hospital Likas in Sabah	WhatsApp	The Health Ministry denied the viral message on Facebook
A list of areas in Selangor affected by 2019-nCoV	WhatsApp	The ministry denied the viral message on Facebook
It was reported that a tourist from China who tested positive for 2019-nCoV was seen in Tropicana 218 Macalister, Penang	WhatsApp	The ministry denied the viral message on Facebook
The first case of 2019-nCoV was reported at a private hospital in Kuantan, Pahang	Twitter	The Pahang health director denied the news
Pictures were circulated claiming hundreds of Chinese nationals had arrived in Langkawi to seek refuge from 2019-nCoV	Facebook	The Kedah government dismissed the validity of the pictures
A person died during a seizure due to the virus in Shah Alam	WhatsApp	The ministry denied the viral message on Facebook
The first case of 2019-nCoV said to be detected at Hospital Seberang Jaya involving two Chinese tourists	WhatsApp	The ministry denied the viral message on Facebook
A man, who is allegedly the father of a student of SK Paika, fell sick after his umrah trip due to the virus	WhatsApp	The ministry denied the viral message on Facebook
The Mahkota Medical Centre in Melaka was reportedly closed due to a death related to the Wuhan virus	Twitter	A complaint was made to the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission
It was circulated that one case of Wuhan virus was reported at Hospital UJA in Kuantan	Kuantan Facebook and WhatsApp	A complaint was made to the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission

INFOGRAPHIC NSI

Twitter directs users to credible sources

KUALA LUMPUR: The spate of fake news related to the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) outbreak has prompted Twitter to urge local users to seek credible information from the Health Ministry.

The social media platform displays a message prompting users to visit the ministry's official account when they key in search words for the coronavirus.

Users who key in search words such as coronavirus, nCoV, Wuhan or 2019nCoV will receive a message in Bahasa Malaysia informing them that they can get valid information on the virus from the ministry and its MyHEALTH portal.

Twitter's message includes links to the ministry's Twitter handles @KKMPutrajaya and MyHEALTH's at @MyHEALTHKKM.

Social media users lauded the move as they believe fake news could confuse the people.

Khairunnisa Ismail, 25, who goes by the Twitter handle @khxrnnisa, hoped Malaysian

Twitter users would heed the advice.

"The situation is getting out of control. Twitter had to step in to ensure Malaysians get legitimate information on the virus.

"So much fake news has been circulating through retweets and it confuses the people.

"Some people even edit pictures for jokes but, of course, not everybody gets it. Some end up believing it and this causes panic."

Khairunnisa said the local media was doing a good job in keeping the public updated on the virus.

"Seeing how Twitter has millions of Malaysian users, I hope that Twitter's efforts in reminding users to seek credible information from the Health Ministry will bear fruit."

Another Twitter user, Dzul Rahim, expressed doubts over

the effectiveness of the move.

"The way Malaysians have been reacting to the coronavirus outbreak on Twitter is alarming. Everybody wants to be the first to spread information on the virus, whether it is true or not. Probably, it is their way to gain followers or to remain relevant.

"However, I believe Twitter is a powerful tool. It is the quickest way for us to get updates and we should trust only verified sources such as the Health Ministry."

Avid Twitter user Shafareena Bibi Shah Gzali Khan, 25, who goes by the handle @Bibisback, believed that only some users would take the cue from Twitter and seek verified information from the ministry.

She hoped the authorities would take stern action against those who spread fake news.

So much fake news has been circulating through retweets...

KHAIRUNNISA ISMAIL
Twitter user

AKHBAR : NEWS STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 4

RUANGAN : NEWS

4

NEWS / Nation

WUHAN VIRUS

'NO PLAN TO BAR THEM FROM CLASS'

Teachers, students who travelled to China can attend classes, says deputy minister

THARANYA ARUMUGAM
AND TEH ATHIRA YUSOF
KUALA LUMPUR
news@nst.com.my

THE government has no plans to temporarily bar teachers and students who have travelled to China from returning to classes.

Deputy Health Minister Dr Lee Boon Chye said novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) infections in Malaysia were isolated cases and there was no evidence it was in the community.

"We have seven coronavirus cases in Malaysia to date, which are all isolated cases.

"If there is evidence of novel coronavirus incidents in the community, then we have to take more stringent measures (such as restricting students and teachers returning from China from attending classes).

"There is no need for schools to restrict assemblies, outdoor or extracurricular activities. We will make an announcement if there is a need," he told the *New Straits Times* yesterday.

He advised schools to ensure there were hand washing facilities and provide hand sanitisers to students and teachers.

"It is encouraged. It is a good practice for students to wash their hands frequently and maintain good hygiene, especially since we have the influenza virus in the community.

"This will be a good preventive measure. It does not have to be hand sanitisers. Providing running water and soap will suffice."

It is learnt that most schools in the Klang Valley had not been provided with face masks or hand sanitisers after schools reopened after the Lunar New Year holiday. Schools were provided with face masks during the influenza outbreak last month.

Parents with children attending national schools said they did not receive any circular on the coronavirus outbreak or on precautionary measures to take.

Australia has reported a fifth case of the disease. The government advised parents with children who recently returned from China to refrain from returning to school for two weeks as a precautionary measure.

Several private and boarding schools in Australia isolated students who visited China and placed them in separate living quarters.

In Singapore, students and workers in some sectors were told to abide by a compulsory 14-day leave of absence if they returned from mainland China within the last 14 days.

Dr Lee said the Malaysian government did not impose such measures, but was looking into precautionary measures taken by other countries.

"The ministry's disease control division is reviewing actions taken by these countries. It will decide what is best and what is necessary (to be implemented based on the situation in Malaysia).

"Hopefully, we can contain it (the disease). That's the objective. But we must also bear in mind that sometimes containment may fail. So it is crucial for everyone to have good hygiene.

"We are aware of measures taken by Singapore (and Australia). We've got to look at the merits of (those steps) before making a decision.

"Of course, when they do it, they probably have their reasons. It certainly needs consideration, but we do not necessarily have to agree with what they are doing and follow them."

Dr Lee said students and staff of the Education Ministry should seek immediate treatment if they experienced symptoms of the disease within two weeks after returning from China.

He said while this was a fast-spreading disease, coronavirus patients could recover even without treatment, similar to influenza patients.

"Only a certain percentage of those tested positive for this virus develop severe pneumonia. It is, however, premature to state the mortality rate as this can only be confirmed after this episode. But I think it could be between five and 15 per cent.

"China has a larger experience with regard to this coronavirus and they are experimenting with different drugs. But there is no



Some tourists from China were seen wearing face masks while touring the Dataran Merdeka area in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday. PIC BY NIK HARIFF HASSAN

conclusive evidence on which drug will be useful.

"So what will be done is if patients have symptoms of the virus, they will be treated according to the symptoms. We normally keep them under observation until they are well.

"Samples will be taken to ensure they no longer have the virus before we discharge them."

Dr Lee said it was too early to say if these patients would develop an immunity to the virus as more evidence was required.

"Since this is a new virus, we still do not know how our body will respond to the virus."

Parent Action Group for Education chairman Datin Noor Azimah Abdul Rahim said international schools asked students and teachers who visited China recently to self-impose a 14-day leave.

Students and teachers in national and vernacular schools, she said, should get permission to do so even if there was no such directive.

"Parents should take the initiative for their children's well-being and not wait for schools to react.

"Practising good hygiene should be a daily routine and not during a crisis only. Wear surgical face masks and use sanitisers with high alcohol content.

"Parents of children who recently returned from China should self-impose leave. We have had SOP (standard operating procedures) from our experience with H1N1, SARS (severe acute respiratory syndrome) and HFM (hand, foot and mouth disease). Follow them, and the contamination will be curbed."

DPM: No extension of visa on arrival for Chinese nationals

PUTRAJAYA: The government has no plans to extend the 15-day visa on arrival (VoA) issued to Chinese nationals who are in Malaysia, said Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail yesterday.

However, she said, Chinese nationals who were under medical observation and treatment after being tested positive for the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) could leave Malaysia once they regained their health.

"There is no move to extend it (VoA of those who are healthy).

"Also, the World Health Organ-

isation has not imposed any travel ban," said Dr Wan Azizah during a visit to the National Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre yesterday.

Present was Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Dzulkefly Ahmad.

Dr Wan Azizah said despite the coronavirus cases, there was no issue with holding conferences and gatherings, including for Thai Pusam.

"We have to look at the development. If there is a need for it (banning gatherings), we will issue a directive. We are monitoring."

On whether the government

would limit school activities and distribute face masks to students, she replied in the negative.

She said the matter had not been raised and there was no such plan.

She said the seven patients who tested positive for the virus were all imported cases involving Chinese nationals.

She said the Health Ministry tested more than 80 Patient Under Investigation cases, with 74 testing negative for the virus and eight were pending results.

On the 78 Malaysians expected to be evacuated from Wuhan city, China, Dr Wan Azizah said the

returnees would be placed under observation upon arrival, according to Health Ministry standard operating procedures.

Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad reportedly said Malaysia would work with China to evacuate citizens in Wuhan.

He said Foreign Minister Datuk Saifuddin Abdullah would talk to China to get its green light for the release of Malaysians in Wuhan.

Japan, France and the United States were among countries evacuating citizens from Wuhan.

Dr Wan Azizah cautioned the public against spreading fake and

unverified news or information on the 2019-nCoV.

"We do not want to create panic. The Health Ministry is working round the clock to contain the virus."

AFP reported that the number of confirmed 2019-nCoV cases in China had reached 5,974, overtaking the number of people infected in the country during the severe acute respiratory syndrome outbreak from 2002 to 2003.

China's national health commission confirmed more than 1,400 new cases yesterday, as the death toll rose to 132.

AKHBAR : NEWS STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 5

RUANGAN : NEWS



Nation / NEWS

5

Make sure immune system is strong and fit to fight, say doctors

KUALA LUMPUR: As international scientists and medical experts strive to find a cure and vaccine for the 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), there is also a need for Malaysians to play their part by strengthening their immune system.

Boosting the immune system would help the body fight viruses and bacterial attacks, said Malaysian Medical Association president Dr N. Ganabaskaran.

He said Malaysians should practise good eating habits and choose food that strengthened the immune system.

He said a strong immune system could reduce the risks of viral and bacterial infections.

"The immune system can help the body fight infections caused by viruses and speed up the recovery process after an infection."

"The immune system is the body's defence against infectious organisms and other invaders."

"The immune system is made up of a network of cells, tissues and organs that work together to protect the body."

However, Dr Ganabaskaran, said everyone's immune system was different due to factors such as age, eating habits and lifestyle.

"Thus, it is important to make sure that our immune system is strong and fit to fight."

"One of the most important vitamins that boosts the immune system is Vitamin C."

"A lack of Vitamin C can make you more prone to getting sick."

"Then we have Vitamin B6, which is vital in supporting biochemical reactions in the immune system, and thirdly, Vitamin E, a powerful antioxidant that aids the body to fight off infections."

He stressed the importance of getting enough vitamins for a stronger immune system.

He said a healthy diet and adequate consumption of vitamins were essential for a strong immune system.

Consuming food that boost the immune system was encouraged in light of the influenza and 2019 n-CoV outbreak, he said.

He said food that boost the immune system included green vegetables, dairy products, kiwi fruit, lemons and oranges, as well as nuts like almonds and cashew, which were high in vitamins and antioxidants.

"Even cooked poultry and shellfish are important immune boosters due to the protein and zinc they provide. It is also advisable to avoid consuming half-cooked or raw food for a while."

"Shellfish that are high in zinc include crab, clams, lobster and mussels. However, observe the daily recommended amount (11mg for men and 8mg for wom-

en). Too much zinc can inhibit the immune system. Deficiencies in Vitamin D may lead to poor bone growth, cardiovascular problems and a weak immune system."

"Choose supplements that contain D3 (cholecalciferol), since it's good for raising your blood levels of Vitamin D."

Nutritionist Dr Sareena Hanim Hamzah said a balanced diet comprising carbohydrates, protein, fat, vitamins and minerals, as well drinking enough water, were essential to boosting the immune system.

"Fruits and vegetables of various colours are important for the body to replenish and strengthen one's immunity. Fruits and vegetables contain Vitamin C, E and antioxidants that can enhance the immune system to fight against infections and pathogens."

She said citrus fruits and berries were among the best for strengthening the immune system. For vegetables, she recommended bell peppers, broccoli and spinach.

"However, consumption must be in moderation."

"Generally, people without any underlying health issues will not be affected by slightly higher intake, but for people who may have pre-existing health conditions or have had medical procedures done, for example to the heart, it's best to consult a nutritionist for a customised regime."

Sareena said besides fruits and vegetables with high Vitamin E, a powerful antioxidant, seeds were also essential for boosting the immune system.

For instance, she said, sunflower seeds had phosphorous, magnesium and Vitamin B6.

"Vitamin E is important for regulating and maintaining immune system function. Other foods with high Vitamin E include avocados, dark leafy greens and nuts."

"Based on scientific research from around the world, garlic, ginger, dark chocolate and green tea are also good for the body," she said, adding that Vitamin D and probiotics from yogurt improved the immune system.

Vitamins B6 from poultry and foods with Vitamin D were recommended, she said.

Sareena urged people to practise good eating habits and stay away from processed food.

"Same thing applies to high-sugar food and drinks as they may act just the opposite and accumulate unnecessary fats or lead to other medical problems."

"To stay fit and have a strong immune system, people should complement a good diet with frequent or regular exercise for the best results."

Expert: Epidemic may worsen before improving

KUALA LUMPUR: The 2019 novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV) epidemic will likely worsen before it gets better.

Universiti Selangor Visiting Professor of Environmental Health Professor Dr Jamal Hisham Hashim said there would probably be more international cases of the disease in the near future.

The cold weather in Wuhan and north China, he said, was likely fuelling the spread of the virus.

"We should follow this development closely and update our risk assessment and minimisation strategy as the epidemic unfolds."

"If you are travelling on long-haul flights, do not shut down the plane's ventilation vents completely as this would impede air circulation around you."

"If a passenger within several rows from you seems to have a respiratory infection, it would be helpful to put on a mask. Drink adequately and bring a light jacket with you because it can get cold on planes and in airports."

He reminded travellers to buy travel insurance to cover medical expenses overseas if they need it.

The environmental health scientist urged Malaysians returning from Wuhan city, Hubei province and other areas on lockdown to stay away from school and work.

"However, I feel that it may be unnecessary to request this from Malaysians returning from other areas in China."

"For the time being, I think we are doing the right thing by temporarily stopping the visa facility of Chinese nationals from Wuhan and Hubei province, the most affected areas in China."

"China has banned overseas

group tours for their nationals. Therefore, we should also deny entry of group tours from China. They may still come on individual or family tours."

He said he had concerns about Malaysians' hygiene in the wake of this fast-spreading disease.

He said Malaysians were less sensitive about transmitting infections to others if they were sick with cold, flu or diarrhoea.

"Unlike the Japanese or South Koreans, for example, we go to work and school when we are sick and we do not put on face masks when we are in public."

"Parents, too, keep sending their children to kindergarten even when they are not well. When we use tissues to wipe our noses and hands, we leave them on tables and do not dispose of them."

"The practice of hand washing and using of soaps and sanitisers among Malaysians is wanting. Many restaurants and public toilets do not provide soap for hand washing. Even if they do, many do not use them."

"Toilet hygiene of our food handlers is also poor."

Jamal said most deaths from the coronavirus in China involved elderly men with co-morbidity or existing chronic diseases.

He said people with these conditions should take extra precautions and avoid going to crowded places and events unnecessarily.

Professor Datuk Dr Lokman Hakim Sulaiman, a public health expert from International Medical University, said an advisory should perhaps be issued to schools advising students to not go to schools if they were sick.

He said this was important if

they had been to China or were exposed to sick Chinese visitors.

"The Health Ministry has vast experience in managing outbreaks. We managed the Nipah outbreak, did well to prevent SARS, MERS-CoV and were commended by the WHO D-G (World Health Organisation director-general) (for our handling of the) H1N1 outbreak. I was there before and I still trust the ministry's staff to do well."

"We have even sent our experts to help countries affected by Ebola before, so why question our capabilities? Let the experts do their job. They know best."

"Do not confuse or scare the public. You are only diverting attention and draining resources on countering unfounded claims and reports. This is not the time for political mileage."

"The public need to be assured that Malaysia has the public health capacity to manage this outbreak," said Lokman, a former Health Ministry deputy director-general of public health.

He said though Malaysians lacked good hygiene, they improved during the SARS outbreak when many people carried hand sanitisers with them.

"We should continue with that. If we go by the public toilet standard in this country, care for cleanliness is to be desired."

"Practise good hygiene to stay away from infectious diseases. Wash hands with soap after using the toilet."

"Wash your hands after an outing. Look into cough and sneeze etiquette. If you are sick, seek treatment early and stay at home until you recover."

AKHBAR : NEWS STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 13
RUANGAN : LETTERS

UNWARRANTED REACTIONS

Distasteful stereotyping of a health concern

THE Wuhan (novel coronavirus) virus has made global headlines. We have come to understand that it is not dissimilar to the SARS virus (also a coronavirus — less easily passed but more lethal). I am primarily taking issue with the mass hysteria and proliferation of racially-tinged reactions to the news.

Since the news caught fire, memes are being shared online; it's human nature to turn to humour in times of trouble. It is entirely normal to voice out an opinion that no one asked for. We all want to be heard and feel important.

However, what I find to be distasteful or rather quite disgusting is the way in which this news is being taken in Malaysia. There have been needless attacks on Chinese culture, on food traditions, a call for an overall travel ban from China (Malaysia has already imposed a ban on travellers from affected areas).



Many people seem to become "experts". FILE PIC

Is this really the manner in which something serious is handled? By "channelling" inane biases and stereotyping a culture? In the face of a growing pandemic, how is it that racial stereotypes are suddenly acceptable? Seeing as Malaysia is a multicult-

tural nation, I would think we would have more sensitivity, and be more rational in analysing the consequences of sharing so-called jokes, which are really attacks.

What we have is a country-wide trivialisation of a health concern,

without a thought for the effects, proper regard for the source, and, of course, as has become natural in these times, the sharing of fake news. It is important to reiterate here that all these reactive clicks of the keyboard seem racially charged.

It is funny to notice how many people become "experts" when there is a pandemic. "Don't eat food from China", "Stop buying animal products", "Time to go vegan now" — all words I have come across these past few days.

The bigger problem I think is the hysteria over the virus and not the virus itself. There is an undeniable sense of déjà vu in our reaction to the Wuhan coronavirus. There was the AIDS pandemic in the 1980s, when homosexuals were targeted (a byproduct of homophobia). Then there was the SARS pandemic, a cousin of the Wuhan coronavirus. Recently, there was the H1N1 pandemic as well as the Ebola virus

(where the country of origin was also attacked and stereotyped).

See what I mean about how the reactions are always somewhat driven by ignorance that then manifest into fear? But back then, the likelihood of one fake news item being traversed across the world was less likely. With the advent of social media, rumours become the truth, ignorance becomes the fashion, and full-blown discrimination replaces subtle racism, although both have equally devastating effects.

It is not difficult to fact-check what we're sharing. We should be referring to credible sources, like the Ministry of Health and statements from relevant government officials and stop being a part of the problem.

So, before you share that news and meme, remember the consequences.

PARVEEN KAUR HARNAM
Kuala Lumpur

PUBLIC HEALTH

All stakeholders must come together to tackle coronavirus

WE know how other nations are reacting in banning travellers from China. I see this matter as geopolitical in nature.

The way the government is handling it is very much influenced by domestic politics and the relationship between the two nations, especially after what happened with India, and then with the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) regarding the KL Summit 2019.

At all levels, be it government-to-government (G2G), business-to-business (B2B) or community-to-community (C2C), representatives from both sides must quickly find a way to fix the problem.

Above all, the relevant authorities, including the Home Ministry, Immigration Department, National Registration Department and Tourism Malaysia, should address the issues of the current situation with their counterparts in China.

Concurrently, I will invite my associates — especially Alan Hoo, president of the One Belt One Road Southeast Asia NGO Alliance and Professor Datuk Dr Awang Sariyan, who was once the Holder of the

Chair of the Malay Studies at the Beijing University — to initiate B2B and C2C discussions respectively, between representatives from the two nations.

For now, all three groups of stakeholders shall focus on missing tourists, illegal issuance of Malaysian MyKad, illegal business activities in Malaysia, re-emergence of CPM ideology, outbreak of coronavirus, and other relevant issues.

For B2B and C2C stakeholder discussions, Majlis Perundingan Melayu shall initiate them as soon as possible.

As for G2G, we shall leave it to the government to get the ball rolling. But nevertheless, if the respective agencies were to ignore it or are slow in taking action, we shall follow up with them. If need be, it may even lead us to take necessary action against them. But, for now, I sincerely request those who are keen to be part of this initiative to come forward and join us.

DATUK DR HASAN MAD
Secretary-general, Majlis Perundingan Melayu

KEEPING CALM

Trust the experts on handling the pandemic

THE outbreak of the Wuhan coronavirus sparked fear worldwide with cases identified in 15 places outside mainland China as of Jan 27.

I have confidence that our leaders know exactly what to do. Certain countries only send back visitors from Wuhan, China. The Philippines sent back 500 tourists from the province but did not ban all Chinese tourists while coordinating with the World Health Organisation (WHO).

WHO still hasn't declared the outbreak as a global emergency with Singapore, United States, Japan, South Korea, France, Taiwan and Canada still keeping their doors open. In other words, they may ban travellers from Wuhan and Hubei provinces but they still accept tourists from other areas of China.

While medical experts around the world, including Malaysia, are analysing and researching the developments, people are doing the same in their own way at the same time. Some jump to the conclusion that prevention is better than cure while others, unfortunately, tend to believe fake news about the issue.

Many of the frustrated Netizens voice their dissatisfaction



Medical staff attending to a patient with pneumonia caused by the coronavirus at the Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University, in Wuhan, Hubei province, China, on Tuesday. REUTERS PIC

online on how the government is handling the situation but despite the criticism, Deputy Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wan Azizah Wan Ismail has urged us to stay calm. This is because, according to her, the situation in Malaysia is under control and the government has had the experience in combating Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS).

Because of fear, we lose faith in the relevant people's profession-

alism and capability. What is the point for experts to spend many years studying medicine if we do not trust them and judge the situation on our own?

The situation is evolving and if it worsens to the extent that it requires a travel ban, I will definitely support that. For now, not banning Chinese tourists from all parts of China is the right thing to do.

ONG ZEN YE
Pontian, Johor