AKHBAR : THE SUN
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 3
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

Hospital fire under probe

> While Radicare addresses services issue

BY *KAREN ARUKESAMY*

PETALING JAYA: As the Health Ministry investigates the Jan 4 fire at Sungai Buloh Hospital, Radicare (M) Sdn Bhd, an integrated facilities management company providing non-clinical hospital support services, has taken measures to address issues related to services.

"The ministry is only probing the fire incident at the hospital and not that related to services," said Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam who visited the hospital yesterday to get updates on the fire and allegations of unsatisfactory services.

He said all hospitals had a "monitoring and supervision" system in relation to services and that the problem has been resolved.

"Our main concern now is to investigate the fire," he said.

The fire broke out at the hospital on Jan 4, damaging its Uninterrupted Power Supply unit and causing 12 out of 22 operating theatres to be temporarily shut down as a precaution, although only five operating theatres were affected.

It was also reported that the hospital toilets were allegedly not cleaned and that rubbish had not been collected for three days earlier this month.

On the issue of services, Dr Subramaniam said the ministry had signed a contract with the service provider allowing for compensation to be paid.

"There was a mistake by the service provider to hire the subcontractor who could not supply workers to carry out the job entrusted. However, there are clauses for compensation," he said without elaborating.

Dr Subramaniam, when questioned again as to what was the latest stand on the subcontractor issue, said that the sub-contractor had been changed with immediate effect.

Radicare chief operating officer Halwa Abdul Manaf, who was also at the press conference, said that all complaints in relation to their services at hospitals were being looked into and would be resolved in stages.

She said the maintenance company received complaints regularly and some were resolved immediately while others took a slightly longer time to rectify.

When asked to elaborate, Halwa said that complaints of rubbish collection can be resolved immediately while a tiling or leakage problem may take a little longer to be rectified.

AKHBAR : THE SUN **MUKA SURAT : 3**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS**

Subramaniam with Health Ministry director-general Datuk Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah inspecting the area damaged by the fire at Sungai Buloh Hospital yesterday.

AKHBAR : THE NEW STRAITS TIMES **MUKA SURAT : 4**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : LIFE & STYLE**

SJK (C) LENDU WINS **LITTLE DOCTOR** PROGRAMME

SINGING about the importance of washing hands with soap while dancing to the tune of Yankee Doodle has won SJK (C) Lendu in Malacca the first prize in Lifebuoy Little Doctor's Programme 2013 inter-school competition.

Of a total of 25 primary schools from Negri Sembilan, Malacca, Perlis, Pahang and Kelantan (five from each State) which took part in this year's competition, SJK (C) Lendu came out tops in terms of points collected for the three key activities. SK Permatang Badak, Pahang, bagged the second place and SK Stella Maris (M), Perlis, walked away with the third prize.

This is the second edition of the annual competition organised by Lifebuoy under the auspices of the Health Ministry, supported by the Education Ministry. The initiative is aimed at getting school children to adopt good hygiene habits, in particular, washing their hands with soap.

AKHBAR : THE NEW STRAITS TIMES
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 20
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam *(centre) doing an inspection at one of the burnt areas at Sungai Buloh Hospital. Accompanying him is* ***hospital director Dr Khalid Ibrahim*** *(right).* Bernama pic

Hospital running as usual

PETALING JAYA: The temporary shut down of 12 operating theatres (OT) in Sungai Buloh Hospital following a fire which broke out in the main control room on Jan 4 has not affected the surgical schedules of the hospital.

Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam said despite the fire incident all operations in the hospital were proceeding as usual as six day-care OTs are available.

"A total of 127 emergency cases and 93 elective and semi-elective operations had been conducted since the fire which is not very different to the normal days before the fire," he told.

The fire which damaged the hospital's Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) unit, affected only two OTs initially but due to safety precaution, 12 general OTs had been temporarily closed.

Although the cause of fire was still unknown, Subramaniam said the ministry was working together with the Fire and Rescue Department to determine the cause and other problems facing the hospital.

"Repairs had started and we are rewiring the entire room to install 128 new batteries in order to ensure greater efficiency.

"The entire general OTs were expected to be up and running as normal in about 10 days."

On the issue of the hospital's dirty toilets and uncollected rubbish that were under the supervision of Radicare, he said the situation would be rectified and added the ministry was doing a monthly audit of Radicare as well as assigning teams to monitor their services daily to keep them up to mark.

AKHBAR : KOSMO **MUKA SURAT : 4**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS**

LAWAT. Menteri Kesihatan, Datuk Seri Dr. S. Subramaniam (tengah) bertanyakan sesuatu kepada pasangan warga emas, Dolly Maria Roy (kiri) dan Benjamin Joseph (dua dari kiri) semasa melakukan lawatan ke Hospital Sungai Buloh semalam.

AKHBAR : SIN CHEW JIT POH **MUKA SURAT : 8**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS**

HEALTH DEPT PROBE OVER HOSTEL OF FOREIGN WORKER

外勞陸續猝死入院

衛生局檢查板廠宿舍

帶回物品和樣本化驗

（亚罗士打13日讯）随着吉北波各先那爪美某板厂近月内连续有4名外劳去世、3人呼吸困难入院，警方和卫生局今日到该厂和外劳宿舍突击检查，并带回一些物品和样本化验，以期查出一再有外劳出事的肇因。

取走廉价烈酒空瓶

这项行动由哥打士打警区公共秩序与交通组主任玛亚希尔和吉打卫生局副主任哈雅蒂带领，他们也到日前刚过世的39岁外劳生前住的宿舍检查。

卫生局官员在行动中将外劳喝的廉价烈酒空瓶取走检验。此举让外劳误以为当局要取缔他们喝酒，而聚在一起纷纷议论，其中一人更激动向玛亚希尔发表不满。

玛亚希尔、哈雅蒂和该板厂一名管理层作出解释，哈雅蒂让该外劳了解当局并没展开逮捕行动，突击主要是查出去世外劳的真正死因和了解当地卫生情况。

哈雅蒂说，该板厂从去年12月至本月11日凌晨，共有4名尼泊尔籍男外劳离世，除了有1人是车祸过世，另3人都是猝死，死因有待调查和等待化验详细报告。

卫生局官员将外劳所喝的烈酒空瓶带返卫生局进行化验检查。

哈雅蒂（右）出示尼泊尔外劳们从泰国入口的烈酒，左是玛亚希尔。

警方開檔查外勞猝死

玛亚希尔指说，警方已开档和援引猝死角度，针对3名尼泊尔籍外劳猝死的案件展开调查。

他说，该板厂聘请了约1千名外劳，其中尼泊尔籍外劳约500人。他指出，据了解，该厂外劳平均每人月薪逾1千令吉。

死者死前呼吸困難抽搐

一名与39岁死者同宿舍的外劳讲述，死者生前健康良好，没听过他申诉身体不适，事发前还与室友们共进晚餐。

他向玛亚基尔和哈雅蒂说，死者凌晨病发时与之前过世的2名同乡出现同样症状，即呼吸困难和抽搐，犹如被人勒颈，这让他们害怕是否有出现诡异事件。

AKHBAR : THE STAR
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 9
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

Radicare: We'll act on complaints

Medical staff can call 1800 number any time

By TASHNY SUKUMARAN
tashny@thestar.com.my

PETALING JAYA: Medical support services firm Radicare, who came under the spotlight over the rubbish fiasco in several hospitals in Selangor as well as the closure of 12 operation theatres in Hospital Sungai Buloh, assured customers of action.

"If there's a problem, let us know and we'll take action. If need be, we'll change subcontractors," said Radicare chief operating officer Halwah Abdul Manaf.

She added that doctors and medical staff were welcome to approach Radicare if problems cropped up at their hospitals.

"The hospital staff have a 1800 number they can call at any time," she said at a press conference at Sungai Buloh Hospital yesterday.

When informed of the complaints *The Star* had received from doctors in several government hospitals across Selangor, Halwah said: "We tackle the day to day problems and sometimes that takes time.

"Sometimes Radicare staff are already handling a problem at the source but because doctors don't see them doing it, they assume nothing is being done."

Separately, Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr S Subramaniam clarified that the probe announced earlier this week was not just about Radicare, but the operating theatre incident at Hospital Sungai Buloh.

He told reporters during a press conference at Sungai Buloh Hospital yesterday that the 12 OTs that had been shut down would be up and running in about ten days' time.

During the downtime, 127 emergency surgeries and 93 elective and semi-elective surgeries were carried out.

"That is similar to when everything is functioning as normal," he said, thanking the hospital staff for their dedication and hard work during the period.

"The whole incident will be probed. We have a monthly audit of Radicare," he said.

The Segamat MP also said that while the rubbish incident last week "might be Radicare's mistake" for not checking the background of the new subcontractor who had left rubbish strewn about hospitals, the Health Ministry would still check the damage caused to see if any action had to be taken.

"There is a monetary deduction clause in Radicare's contract," he said.

AKHBAR : CHINA PRESS
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 17
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

SURGERY REMAIN UNAFFECTED

·雙溪毛糯醫院火患·

衛長：遷移其他室内進行

手術不受影響

（双溪毛糯13日讯）卫生部长拿督斯里苏巴马念说，尽管双溪毛糯医院发生火患导致12间手术室关闭，但不影响该医院的手术工作。

他说，为了应付各种手术，院方已把手术室迁移到其他室内进行，即6间属每日手术室、3间24小时操作手术室及3间12小时操作手术室。

他指出，根据资料库显示，从本月6日至12日，医院共进行了127宗紧急手术及93宗涉及电源的手术，这与平时的手术案数据没有差别。

苏巴马念今日是巡视双溪毛糯医院后，向记者这样指出。随行者有卫生总监拿督诺希山。

部长也促请媒体勿报导令人民感到恐慌的报导，尤其是病患。

AKHBAR : CHINA PRESS **MUKA SURAT : 1**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : CENTRAL 2.0**

BE PUNCTUAL WHEN GOING FOR MEDICAL

AKHBAR : CHINA PRESS **MUKA SURAT : 1**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : CENTRAL 2.0**

BE PUNCTUAL WHEN GOING FOR MEDICAL

（蒲种13日讯）蒲种14哩政府诊疗所几乎“天天爆满”！

由于病人没遵守看诊预约时间及插队等人为因素造成，加上诊疗所每天得需应付600至700名病人，几乎“天天爆满”，设备也有待提升。

据了解，诊疗所启用有十多年，未曾提升过，直至去年雪州卫生局拟计划提升该诊所，增建一栋两层医疗所，以应付蒲种人口激增的医药需求。

雪州卫生局诊疗所巡察员委员会主席甘南说，相信此提升计划很快展开，届时诊所目前用以停车的部分空地将被收回进行发展。

不守時不受理

他说，虽然诊疗所每天有逾700名病人看诊，但诊所拥有约7名医生和近100名医护人员，仍有能力应付。

他说，造成诊疗所每天早上出现病人满患和拥挤情况，主要是很多病人没遵守看诊预约时间，在同一时间内一窝蜂涌来，也有者原本应是上午看诊，却在没通知下，于下午时段才来。

他向《中国报》解释说，据了解有不少老年病人因为孩子要上班，提早几个小时把父母载至诊疗所，有者甚至在早上6天还未亮已前来排队，他们的预约时间原本是10时。

“院方很多时候基于对方是老年者，唯有让他们优先看诊，以便可早些回家。”

为解决诊疗所病人满患问题，他说，卫生部从今年开始将规定每个病人必须严厉遵守看诊预约时间，否则一概不受理。

■甘南告知民众，蒲种14哩政府诊疗所如今可以通过短讯服务通知病人取药，右为刘有福。

設短訊通知取藥服務

甘南说，诊疗所是继莎阿南政府诊疗所后，在八打灵再也卫生局下，病人最多的诊疗所，除了迫切需要提升医疗服务外，设备也有待提升。

他说，诊疗所平均每天每名医生必须看至少50至60个病人，这里每天有100多个高血压和糖尿病患前来看诊。

“为缩短病人等候和拿药时间，院方自去年开始推出取药短讯通知服务，让病人在等候拿药时可留下联络电话号码，暂时离开如去用早餐等，待药配好后，通过短讯通知病人前来取药。”

他说，仍是有很多病人不知有这项贴心的服务，有需要通过媒体大力推广。

AKHBAR : CHINA PRESS **MUKA SURAT : 1**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : CENTRAL 2.0**

BE PUNCTUAL WHEN GOING FOR MEDICAL

黄毅賢：建新診所無下文

蒲种14哩政府诊疗所巡察员黄毅贤指出，除了诊疗所外，最靠近蒲种一带只有两间诊疗所，即在蒲种5哩和格拉那再也。

他说，早期原本卫生部计划在蒲种金銮镇第5区建新诊所，有关地点即是沙登警区毗邻的保留地，占地6亩，可是计划迄今无下文。

“希望政府除了提升蒲种14哩政府诊疗所外，增建多一间诊疗所，让蒲种人民享有更好的医疗福利。”

■蒲种14哩政府诊疗所夜间有开放，许多民众不知。

■病人赞扬前往诊疗所取药，无需等待太久。

AKHBAR : CHINA PRESS **MUKA SURAT : 1**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : CENTRAL 2.0**

BE PUNCTUAL WHEN GOING FOR MEDICAL

1. 护士们为看诊病人进行仔细测量，确保每一个病人都获得良好医疗素质。
2. 甘南（右起）、刘有福和黄毅贤，向医护人员了解病人看诊情况。
3. 甘南（左）指蒲种14哩政府诊疗所一旦提升，将为蒲种人民提供更快捷及更好的医疗服务。

AKHBAR : CHINA PRESS **MUKA SURAT : 1**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : CENTRAL 2.0**

BE PUNCTUAL WHEN GOING FOR MEDICAL

夜間也開放看診

主要是一般病症

巡察员委员会主席甘南指出，蒲种14哩政府诊疗所自去年开始，已有提供夜间看诊服务，可是仍有很多民众不知情，在白天涌来看病。

他说，夜间看诊主要是看一般病症，如发烧、伤风和感冒等，有执勤医生和医药助理驻诊。

他指出，夜间看诊时间逢周一至五，从下午5时至晚上9时半，也即是诊疗所逢一至五是从上午8时开放至晚上9时半；周六也有开放至中午12时，让病人可在休息或下班时前来看病。

他说，诊疗所为让病人晚上也可前来看诊，医护人员得超时加班。

他希望病人也要体谅医护人员辛劳，给予配合，根据预约时间前来看诊。

他说，其实看诊时间不会花太长，除非是血压或糖尿病患，可能需花较长一些时间检验，如果每个病人皆配合，诊疗所就不会出现人潮拥挤情况。

甘南是巡视蒲种14哩政府诊疗所病人看诊情况时，这么指出。

陪同巡视者包括马青蒲种区团团长兼蒲种14哩政府诊疗所巡察员黄毅贤，及马华蒲种区会秘书刘有福。

AKHBAR : THE STAR
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 2
RUANGAN : STAR SPECIAL

Detox to a healthier you

OVERINDULGING over the festive season can burden the digestive system and the intestinal tract. Drinking too much carbonated and alcoholic drinks can cause bloated tummy, gastric acid reflux and stomach discomfort.

According to health experts, people who keep an eye on diet and nutrition during the festive season will be able to limit the harmful effects to their bodies.

One of the best ways is to "spring clean" your body before and after the festive season.

Most people do not realise that the complete length of their colon is wedged with old, hardened faecal matter.

Not cleansing your colon leads to the accumulation of toxins as the year passes. If the waste is allowed to build up, it will be absorbed into your bloodstream, eventually making you depressed, irritable, fatigued and lethargic.

If you continue to let the toxins ferment, before long, you end up looking and feeling older. The condition of the colon has a significant effect on our organs and our sense of well-being in general.

For *Akademi Fantasia 5* winner Mila, the detox tea from NH Detoxlim has proven to be a favourite.

She said, "Before I started taking this detox tea, I always suffer from constipation and digestion problems. Plus, I had zits and a bloated stomach. After taking NH Detoxlim, I find it easy to maintain a slender body and flatten tummy.

"My constipation has gone away and even my breakouts and zits have reduced tremendously. I feel energetic with toxins being flushed out through bowel movements daily.

"I'm particular in choosing a safe and effective detox product. NH Detoxlim is of high-quality and most importantly, it carries a Product Liability Insurance on the market and does not cause any bowel dependency," said Mila enthusiastically.

Akademi Fantasia 5 contestant Dafi began taking the NH Detoxlim detox tea regularly when it solved his problems on digestion. "With my busy lifestyle, I used to have irregular meals and an imbalanced diet.

Over time, I suffered from constipation and a bloated stomach. Thanks to Mila's recommendation of this detox tea, I no longer suffer from bloated stomach and indigestion now," says Dafi who won third place in the *Crystal Stars Music Fest* at Romania in November, last year.

"This detox tea also complements my diet plan and I find it easier to maintain my ideal body weight now. I definitely will not miss taking a cup of this detox tea after dinner every day," adds Dafi.

Enjoying a cup of detox tea from NH Detoxlim is one of the best ways to help keep you healthy over the festive season.

Made from 100% organic green tea and natural herbs, it works naturally and gently in the bowels cleansing and eliminating all toxins and excess fat stored in that area.

It also helps improve your overall well-being, enhance your digestive system, increase metabolism and stimulate bowel movements.

This detox tea does not overstimulate the gastrointestinal tract nor does cause water loss or bowel dependency problems.

The ingredients of the tea have been approved by the Ministry of Health Malaysia, certified *halal* by Jakim and its manufacturing processes comply with the International GMP (Good Manufacturing Practice) Standard.

NH Detoxlim detox tea is sold at all leading pharmacies, hypermarkets and selected traditional medical halls nationwide. It is also available in Singapore and Brunei and sold at leading pharmacies.

This product now carries a product liability insurance valued up to US$1 mil (RM3.2mil), an assurance of the potency and safety of its all-natural ingredients with no side effects.

This product also won the Guardian Customers Choice Award from 2008 till 2013.

■ For details, call NH Careline 1300 882 993 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 6pm), visit *www.nhdetoxlim.com* or join them at Facebook.

AKHBAR : THE STAR **MUKA SURAT : 2**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : STAR SPECIAL**

Detoxifying can be done easily by sipping a cup of detox tea after a meal.

AKHBAR : DAILY EXPRESS
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 7
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

Tawau Customs admits smuggled items rampant

Lagatah Toyos

TAWAU: District Customs' head, Yunus Tahir admits that a lot of unpaid duty foreign goods (from neighbouring countries) are rampantly being sold in local markets .

Although the matter is not critical, the agency has implemented a number of preventive measures, particularly the tightening of controls at the entry checkpoint at Customs, Immigration and Quarantine (CIQ).

" For 2014, we will be more stringent so that the dumping of foreign goods is not out of control. We are aware that too much of this stuff is in the domestic market," he said.

He said for 2014, the Ministry plans to conduct raids and checks at premises that have been identified at hoarding such items.

He said the operation will also incorporate other agencies such as the Ministry of Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism and the Department of Health.

Regarding allegations of foreign unpaid duty foreign goods also being used in hotels, restaurants or stalls in Tawau, Yunus said the matter was still under investigation.

He said most of the items, such as medicines without the approval of the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) and food products from abroad are brought into the country without going through the CIQ.

Yunus also said that, although food is not harmful it requires approval from the Ministry of Health and should be controlled because the end user is the consumer

"In terms of tax losses, we (Customs) did not lose out because these items do not involve taxes, but we need to control it, " he said when met at the 2013 Appreciation Dinner at Dataran Sukan Kastam here, Saturday.

Some 300 guests including senior Customs staff and families were present, which also saw the launch of "Qaseh Fund" to finance the activities of the department such as recreation, sports and family day.

AKHBAR : DAILY EXPRESS **MUKA SURAT : 7**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS**

Yunus(centre) launching the 'Qaseh Fund'.

AKHBAR : DAILY EXPRESS
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 10
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

Sabah fast food outlets say ample local staff

Neil Chan

PENAMPANG: Fast food eateries in the State are not affected by the Government's decision to ban foreign workers from being employed there.

A survey at three such fast food eateries in Penampang have found that only locals were being hired to work as fast food workers.

"Our staff are all locals. We don't have any foreigners working here," said KFC Donggongon branch representative, Slyvester.

Pizza Hut Megalong branch representative Rosni also confirmed that the outlet did not hire any foreigners in their restaurant crew.

Megalong Merrybrown fastfood outlet Restaurant Manager Merlena said all their staff are comprised of locals from the surrounding villages in Penampang.

"All our staff are locals. We don't have any foreigners working here in the restaurant. This is also partly because of hygiene and health reasons.

"Its impossible to keep track of their health history including if they may have been afflicted by infectious dangerous diseases such as Tuberculosis (TB). Because we are in the food industry we have a responsibility to ensure the health of out customers are protected therefore it is better to avoid hiring such foreign workers," she said.

Most fast food-outlets pay RM5-6 per hour and staff put in a minimum of eight hours daily. Overtime is an estra RM1.50 per hour with EPF contributions and RM100 bonus per month based on attendance.

The package works out to about RM1,100 for a six-day work. Meals are provided buy RM30-RM60 are deducted from the first salary for uniforms.

On Dec 29, last year Deputy Health Minister Datuk Dr Hilmi Yahaya said the influx of foreign workers was among the main reasons for the spread of tuberculosis into the country and that efforts to monitor the spread of the disease had been enhanced with foreign workers wishing to work in the country beign required to undergo health screening.

On Jan 7, the Special Cabinet Committee on Foreign Workers and Illegal Immigrants (PATI) chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin has decided that fast food restaurant operators in the country are no longer allowed to hire foreign workers.

Instead restaurant operators are urged to give preference to locals to fill in vacancies in their premises.

The committee secretariat in a statement said, the government viewed the issue seriously as there are many locals who are interested to work in such fast-food restaurants.

AKHBAR : DAILY EXPRESS
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 10
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

Customers at one of the fast food outlets in KK town.

AKHBAR : BORNEO POST SARAWAK **MUKA SURAT : 10**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS**

New KK1M vision for cataract patients in S'wak

BAU: Sixty-five-year-old Jonin Nohe had cataract in his right eye, but almost gave up on getting treatment.

The senior citizen from Kampung Grogo in Bau went to see two eye specialists in Kuching, and both had estimated his treatment cost around RM2,000.

The surgery was prohibitively expensive for an old man like him without regular income.

For now, the father of seven could still perform his daily activities despite the clouded vision in his right eye.

However, he is still holding out hope in getting his eye treated, as the vision started deteriorating nearly a year ago.

New hope from KK1M

The launching of the 1 Malaysia Cataract Clinic (KK1M) in Sarawak on Sept 1 last year was like a beacon of hope for Jonin.

When the KK1M mobile clinic reached the Bau Hospital on Nov 11, the Bidayuh man made sure he was there by 7am to benefit from the free health screening.

While waiting in the screening room, Jonin noted that the medical staff were well-trained and the clinic well-equipped.

It had a cheratometer to measure the corneal refractional power, a digital retinal camera to photograph the back of the eye, an auto lensmeter to measure the length of the eyeball, and phacoemulsification tools and machinery to remove the cataract by emulsifying the lens ultrasonically.

Jonin was among the 441 patients who were served under the KK1M scheme at the Bau Hospital.

Fortunately for him, he was also among those who qualified for a cataract surgery at a cost of only RM540.

Good news for cataract patients

"I'm really happy today. I would have had to pay a high cost of surgery if I had sought treatment at a private clinic. KK1M only charged me RM540 (cost of lens), so I'm truly grateful to the government," Jonin said to Bernama.

Another senior citizen who benefited from the treatment was 74-year-old pensioner Limber Nyuai, from Kampung Sibuluh, who had cataract in both his eyes.

In addition to that, in 2001, the former Road Works Department worker's left eye was injured when a splinter flew into the eye while he was trying to remove a wasp's hive from a tree.

A year later, he injured his right eye when a freshwater carp he caught jumped and hit the eye.

"If KK1M charged as much as private doctors, I would not have gone in for the treatment.

"But the cost of this government service is so low that I would be a fool not to take advantage of it," he said.

The septuagenarian hoped that his vision would be restored through the treatment.

Recurring cataract

Another senior citizen from Bau, Ijon Kedia, had cataract problems since 1985 and had undergone surgery twice in 1986 at the Kuala Lumpur Hospital.

However, a year later, his vision became clouded again.

The 71-year-old is hoping that KK1M could treat the problem he has been suffering for nearly three decades now.

He said he felt positive about the efficacy of the treatment he was about to receive just by looking at the latest equipments used by KK1M.

"The equipments today are sophisticated but we are not charged a lot for it.

"This has really lifted my spirits and hope in regaining full vision after the treatment," he said.

Jonin, Limber, and Ijon were three out of the thousands of cataract patients who sought treatment at the KK1M in Sarawak.

A nominal fee for treatment

The KK1M programme coordinator for Sarawak, Dr Mohamad Aziz Salowi said the mobile clinic offered eye screening services and a full cataract surgery for the residents of the state.

"The patients are being treated by committed and experienced eye specialists. We charge a nominal fee for the best available treatment, so the clinic is helping reduce the burden of many patients," he said.

He said a social medical officer would screen the cataract surgery patients' list to see if they qualified for free lenses and surgery.

"If they don't qualify, they will be charged a minimal cost of between RM500 and RM800 for suitable lenses in addition to a minimal surgery charge of RM103," he said.

Affordable

The cost was much cheaper compared with what was being charged by private hospitals, he said.

An optometrist at the Sarawak General Hospital, Ku Hazemie Ku Ismail, who was involved in the eye health screening process for KK1M, said the response for the treatment was overwhelming.

He said many of the patients receiving treatment were over 50 years old and had high hopes of seeing their sight restored after the treatment.

Ku Hazemie believed that the mobile clinic had achieved its purpose, based on the great response.

More being treated

The Deputy Health Minister Datuk Seri Dr Hilmi Yahaya said the number of cataract surgeries performed nationwide in 2011 was 31,658, a three-fold increase from 2002, when only 12,798 surgeries were performed.

In Sarawak alone, 3,664 cataract surgeries were carried out last year, compared with 2,082 in 2008.

The government spent RM1.1

AKHBAR : BORNEO POST SARAWAK **MUKA SURAT : 10**
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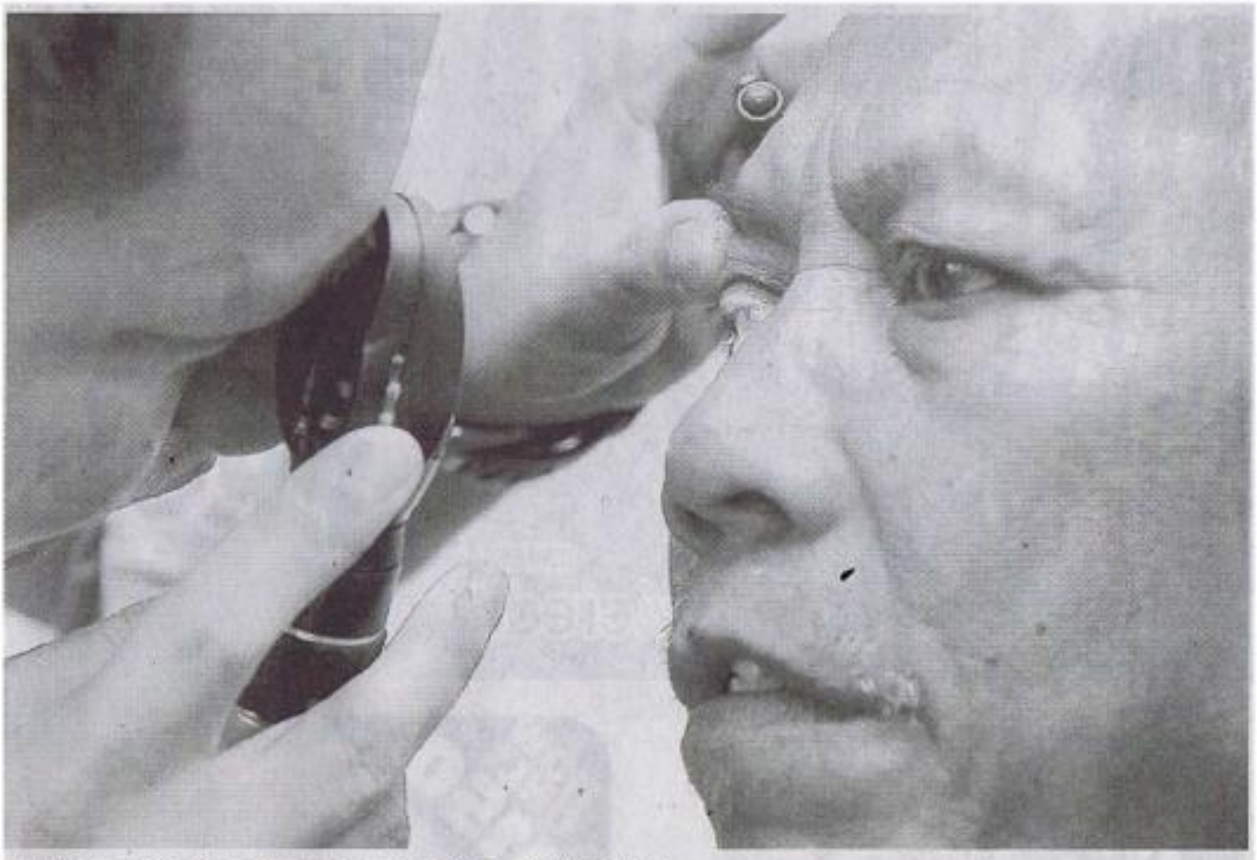
million on the KK1M project in Sarawak.

The clinic was a commendable effort by the government as it benefited not only the cataract patients in Sarawak, but the rest of the country as well. — Bernama

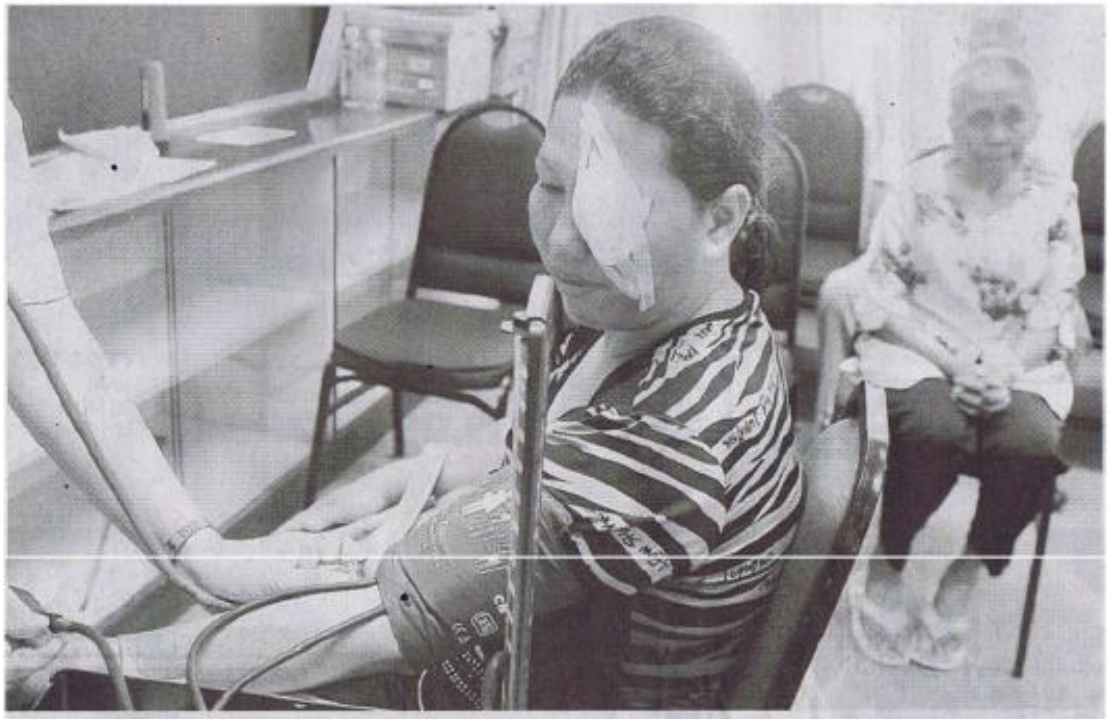
I'm really happy today. I would have had to pay a high cost of surgery if I had sought treatment at a private clinic. KK1M only charged me RM540 (cost of lens), so I'm truly grateful to the government.

Jonin Noh, cataract patient



Jonin Nohe getting his free check-up at Hospital Bau. — Bernama photo

AKHBAR : BORNEO POST SARAWAK **MUKA SURAT : 10**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS**



A doctor busy checking condition of a patient before she can undergo the eye operation. — Bernama photo

AKHBAR : BORNEO POST SARAWAK
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA
MUKA SURAT : 11
RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS

Ignore rumour of contaminated canned food — Dr Zulkifli

KUCHING: The state Health Department has advised consumers not to panic over the rumour spreading around that canned food manufactured in Thailand were contaminated.

Its director Datu Dr Zulkifli Jantan confirmed that so far his office had not received any information or alert from the Ministry of Health over the matter.

"Therefore, consumers should not panic over the rumour. If there is anything, we will inform the public immediately," he said when contacted yesterday.

Dr Zulkifli was asked whether there was any instruction from the Ministry of Health to ban canned food from Thailand, following a so-called 'emergency notification' spreading around through the short-messaging-service (SMS) reminding the public not to consume canned food, especially canned fruits manufactured in that country.

The message claimed that over 200 Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) carriers in Thailand were instructed by their leader to contaminate the products with their blood.

It further claimed that the information was confirmed by the Thailand government.

The message stated that to prevent people from getting infected, many types of canned food such as longan, lychee, rambutan and mango pudding had been removed from the shelves of supermarkets.

Dr Zulkifli said the standard practice by the state Health Department was to take suspected products off the shelves of supermarkets and other outlets while waiting for instruction from the Ministry of Health on further action.

Datu Dr Zulkipli Jantan

AKHBAR : TAMIL NESAN **MUKA SURAT : 12**
HARI/TARIKH : 14.1.2014/SELASA **RUANGAN : GENERAL NEWS**

SURGICAL OPERATIONS IN SUNGAI BULOH HOSPITAL NOT AFFECTED

சுங்கை பூலோ மருத்துவமனையில் அறுவை சிகிச்சை செயல்பாட்டில் பாதிப்பு இல்லை

சுகாதாரத்துறை அமைச்சர் டத்தோஸ்ரீ டாக்டர் சுப்ரமணியம் திட்டவட்டம்

சுங்கை பூலோ மருத்துவமனையை பார்வையிட்ட பின்னர் செய்தியாளர்களிடம் பேசுகிறார் சுகாதாரத்துறை அமைச்சர் டத்தோஸ்ரீ டாக்டர் எஸ். சுப்ரமணியம். அருகில் சுகாதார அமைச்சின் தலைமை இயக்குநர் டத்தோ டாக்டர் நூர் ஹிஷாம் அப்துல்லா (வலம்), சுகாதாரத்துறையின் சிலாங்கூர் மாநில இயக்குநர் டத்தோ டாக்டர் அம்மான் அபு பாக்கார் மற்றும் சுங்கை பூலோ மருத்துவமனையின் சுகாதார இயக்குநர் டாக்டர் காலிட் இப்ராஹிம்

சங்கைபூலோ, ஜன. 14-

கடந்த மாதம் நிகழ்ந்த தீ விபத்தில் சுங்கை பூலோ மருத்துவமனையின் பிரதான 12 அறுவை சிகிச்சை மையங்கள் பாதிக்கப்பட்டு, அவற்றை மூட வேண்டிய நிர்ப்பந்தம் ஏற்பட்ட போதிலும் அந்த மருத்துவமனையின் அறுவை சிகிச்சை செயல்பாட்டில் எந்தவொரு பாதிப்பும் இல்லை என்று சுகாதாரத்துறை அமைச்சர் டத்தோஸ்ரீ டாக்டர் எஸ். சுப்ரமணியம் தெரிவித்தார்.

அறுவை சிகிச்சை செயல்பாட்டில் தேவைகளைப் பூர்த்தி செய்யும் வண்ணம் சம்பந்தப்பட்ட மருத்துவமனை தரப்பினர், ஆறு அறுவை சிகிக்சை மையங்களுக்கு அவற்றின் தினசரி செயல்பாடுகளை மாற்றியிருக்கின்றது. அதாவது இவற்றில் மூன்று மையங்கள் 24 மணி நேர செயல்பாட்டை கொண்டு இருக்கும் வேளையில் இதர மூன்று மையங்கள் 12 மணி நேர செயல்பாட்டை கொண்டுள்ளதாக அவர் சொன்னார்.

கடந்த ஜனவரி 6 ஆம் தேதி முதல் 12 ஆம் தேதி வரையில் அந்த மருத்துவமனையில் குறிப்பேட்டு புள்ளி விவர பதிவை பார்க்கும் போது, 127 அறுவை சிகிச்சைகளும், 93 அவசர அறுவை சிகிச்சைகளும் நடைபெற்றுள்ளன. முன்பு வழக்கமாக மேற்கொள்ளப்படும் அறுவை சிகிச்சை எண்ணிக்கையில் இது கிட்டத்தட்ட ஒரே மாதிரியான எண்ணிக்கையைதான் கொண்டுள்ளதாக அவர் சொன்னார்.

நேற்று சுங்கை பூலோ மருத்துவமனைக்கு திடீர் வருகை புரிந்த பின்னர் செய்தியாளர்கள் கூட்டத்தில் பேசுகையில் அவர் இதனைத் தெரிவித்தார். மேலும் மக்களுக்கு பீதியை ஏற்படுத்தும் வகையிலான செய்திகளை வெளியிட வேண்டாம் என்று பத்திரிகைகளை அவர் கேட்டுக்கொண்டார்.

நாள் தகவல் சாதனங்களை கேட்டுக்கொள்வது என்னவென்றால் இந்த மாதிரியான குழ்நிலையில் பொறுப்புடன் செய்திகளை வெளியிடுங்கள். மக்களுக்கு பீதியை ஏற்படுத்தும் தன்மையில் செய்திகளை வெளியிட வேண்டாம் என்று அமைச்சர் கேட்டுக்கொண்டார்.

நாட்டில் சுகாதார சேவையின் தரத்தில் மக்கள் அவ நம்பிக்கை கொள்ளும் வகையிலான சூழ்நிலையை ஒருபோதும் ஏற்படுத்தாதீர்கள் என்று அவர் தகவல் சாதனங்களை வலியுறுத்தினார். சுங்கை பூலோ மருத்துவமனையில் தீச் சம்பவம் ஏற்பட்டதைத் தொடர்ந்து பாதிக்கப்பட்ட பகுதிகளை சீர்படுத்துவதில் காலதாமதம் ஏற்பட்டுள்ளது என்றும் இதனால் அசௌகரியமான குழ்நிலையில் மருத்துவர்கள் அந்த மருத்துவமனையில் பணியாற்றி வருகின்றனர் என்றும் உள்ளூர் ஆங்கில நாளிதழ் ஒன்று செய்தி வெளியிட்டு இருந்தது.

தீச் சம்பவம் நிகழ்ந்தது முதல் தொடக்கத்தில் இரண்டு பிரதான அறுவை சிகிச்சை மையங்கள் மட்டுமே பாதிக்கப்பட்டு இருந்தன. எனினும் பாதுகாப்புக்காக இதர பத்து அறுவை சிகிச்சை மையங்களையும் மூடும்படி மருத்துவமனை முடிவு செய்ததாக அவர் சொன்னார்.

தற்போது பாதிக்கப்பட்ட அறுவை சிகிச்சை மையங்களில் ஒயரிங்கை சீர்படுத்துதல், பாதிக்கப்பட்ட பேட்டரிகளை மாற்றுதல் உள்ளிட்டு பல்வேறு சீரமைப்புப் பணிகள் மாற்றப்பட்டு வருவதாக அவர் சொன்னார். இந்த சீரமைப்புப் பணிகள் இன்னும் பத்து நாள்களில் பூர்த்தியாகும் என்று எதிர்பார்க்கப்படுவதாக அவர் சொன்னார்.