

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 7

RUANGAN : NATION/NEWS

## COVID-19 UPDATES

# 1,745 NEW CASES, 7 DEATHS

Of the 11 new clusters detected, nine originated from workplaces, says Dr Noor Hisham

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**A** TOTAL of 1,745 new Covid-19 cases and seven new fatalities were recorded yesterday, bringing the total number of cases in Malaysia to 305,880.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said of the new cases, two were imported involving non-citizens, while 1,743 were local transmissions involving 1,037 Malaysians (59.5 per cent) and 706 non-Malaysians (40.5 per cent).

He said Selangor recorded the highest number of cases at 640, 503 of which were from clusters and close-contact screening.

Johor ranked second with 376 cases, followed by Sarawak (139), Perak (136), Sabah (95), Kuala Lumpur (92), Penang (90), Kedah (40), Melaka (36), Pahang (36), Kelantan (33), Negri Sembilan (24), Terengganu (five) and Putrajaya (three).

No new Covid-19 cases were reported in Labuan and Perlis in the past 24 hours.

Dr Noor Hisham said 47 new cases were linked to prison clusters, namely the Telok Mas cluster (20 cases), Tembok Pengkalan Chepa cluster (13), Damai Pelangi cluster (13) and Jalan Sungai Jelok prison cluster (one).

Malaysia now has 24,025 active cases, with 195 patients in Intensive Care Units and 95 of them requiring ventilator aid.

A total of 2,276 more patients



People wearing face masks amid the hot weather in Kuala Lumpur yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

were discharged yesterday, bringing total recoveries to 280,707.

Seven new fatalities were reported — two in Kuala Lumpur and one each in Selangor, Sarawak, Sabah, Johor and Kelantan. The victims, aged 50 to 86, were six Malaysians and one foreigner.

Dr Noor Hisham said 11 new clusters were identified in seven states yesterday, with nine originating from workplaces, with the remaining comprising a community and a high-risk group.

Of the nine workplace-related clusters, four were in Selangor — Jalan Perubatan, Jalan MP construction site, Balakong Satu and Jalan Utarid.

The other clusters are Jalan DPB Lima (Johor), Jalan Bachok (Kelantan), Jalan PKNK 1/6 (Kedah), Sri Jelutung (Pahang) and Jalan Sikamat Lama (Negri Sembilan).

The Kampung Gedang community cluster was detected in Melaka. The high-risk group cluster detected in Selangor is dubbed Jalan Anak Gasing.

Dr Noor Hisham said the country now had 487 active clusters after 13 more ended yesterday.

Seventy-four active clusters reported new cases yesterday, including Batu Empat (198), Jalan

Pelabuhan (128) and Jalan DPB Lima (32).

The Jalan Perubatan cluster, with 13 cases so far, started after targeted screenings were conducted at a restaurant in Jalan Perubatan 2, Pandan Indah, Hulu Langat, yesterday. Twenty people have been screened.

The Jalan Utarid cluster, involving the Kuala Langat and Petaling districts, recorded 16 cases after 50 people were screened. The cases were detected after targeted screenings were conducted in Jalan Utarid U5/15, Shah Alam.

The Jalan MP construction site cluster in Petaling district started on Monday after targeted screenings at a construction site in Jalan MP, Subang Jaya. Up to yesterday, 163 people have been screened, with 12 testing positive.

The Balakong Satu cluster involves a factory in Jalan KB 1/9, Kampung Baru Balakong. The cluster began on Feb 1. Of 60 people screened, 10 were positive.

Dr Noor Hisham said the Jalan Anak Gasing cluster involved an old folks home in Jalan Anak Gasing 6/5, Petaling Jaya. Its index case was confirmed positive on Feb 27 after undergoing symptomatic individual screening.

Thirty-two people linked to the cluster have been screened and 20 tested positive.

The Jalan DPB Lima cluster involves 196 individuals, with 32 testing positive following targeted screenings at a factory in Jalan DPB/5, Tanjung Pelepas Port, Gelang Patah.

The Jalan Sikamat Lama cluster involves an education institute in Seremban. Its index case tested positive during a pre-surgery screening on Feb 26. Thirty-one people linked to the cluster have been screened, with 12 turning up positive.

The Jalan PKNK 1/6 cluster, another workplace cluster, in Kuala Muda, began on Feb 22 after targeted screenings at a factory in the Sungai Petani industrial area. Of the 547 people tested, 29 were found positive.

The index case of the Kampung Gedang cluster in Alor Gajah in Melaka, Petaling in Selangor and Johor Baru in Johor tested positive after undergoing symptomatic individual screening.

The cluster is linked to a funeral on Feb 14. The cluster's name refers to the location where virus transmissions took place, which is a village in Alor Gajah, Melaka. Of the 86 people screened, 35 were found positive.

The index case for the Sri Jelutung cluster in Pekan, Pahang, was detected during symptomatic individual screening on Feb 26. This cluster involves workers from a factory in Ladang Sri Jelutung, Pekan. To date, 30 out of 213 individuals screened were positive.

The index case for the Jalan Bachok cluster in Bachok and Pasir Puteh, Kelantan, tested positive on Feb 25 following symptomatic individual screening. The cluster involves a public administration centre in Jalan Bachok. A total of 105 people have been screened, with 14 testing positive.