



**MEDIA STATEMENT OF THE
CURRENT SITUATION OF THE COVID-19 INFECTION
IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

29 March 2020

1. As of today, 04 Sya'ban 1441 / 29 March 2020, the Ministry of Health would like to inform the public of **6 new cases** of COVID-19 infection in the country, bringing the **total number of cases in Brunei Darussalam to 126 people.**

- Case 121, a local man aged 21 years old submitted himself for a laboratory test for COVID-19 at the Sports Complex, Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Hospital on 27 March 2020. This case is currently being investigated.
- Case 122, aged 67 years old is the husband of Case 116. He does not have any travel history and started developing symptoms (cough) on 23 March 2020.

- Case 123, aged 19 years old returned from Melbourne, Australia on 19 March 2020 on-board Royal Brunei BI006 (seated at 30A). She started developing sore throat on 19 March 2020.
- Case 124, aged 30 years old is the wife of Case 120. She does not have travel history and does not have any signs of infection.
- Case 125, aged 51 years old returned to Brunei Darussalam after going on vacation with her family to Thailand on-board Royal Brunei BI514 (seated at 34A) on 21 March 2020. She started developing symptoms (headache, cough, body aches and flu) on 23 March 2020.
- Case 126, aged 31 years old went on a vacation to Australia on 7 March 2020 and returned via London on-board Royal Brunei BI004 (seated at 40D) on 15 March 2020. He underwent self-isolation from the day of his arrival to Brunei Darussalam and started developing symptoms (headache and sore throat) on 17 March 2020.

2. The Ministry of Health would like to inform the public that *Alhamdulillah*, by the grace of *Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala*, today, **nine (9) more cases** treated at the National Isolation Center have recovered

and are allowed to return home, bringing the **total number of recoveries to 34 people**. This means that there are 91 cases are still being treated at the National Isolation Center. Of these, two are still in critical condition and needing respiratory assistance, the other three are under close monitoring and the rest are in a stable condition.

3. At this time, currently a total of 917 individuals are undergoing quarantine in accordance to the Infectious Disease Act (Chapter 204). Meanwhile, 1,298 individuals have completed their quarantine and are in stable condition. Since early January 2020, a total of 5,656 laboratory tests for COVID-19 have been conducted.
4. For the public's information, statistics show that in the majority of cases that have tested positive for COVID-19 in the country, the individuals concerned were asymptomatic or did not exhibit any symptoms (46%). In the cases where symptoms were apparent, the majority of individuals experienced coughs, fever, flu, headaches, chills, weakness and body aches. Whereas, most of the COVID-19 infection methodologies detected in this country are through imported cases and through local close contact cases. Meanwhile, out of the total number of COVID-19 cases, the number of COVID-19 cases is made up of 77 men and 49 women.

5. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health would like to re-emphasise the importance of all parties, including the public, to continue to take precautionary measures, including taking care of personal hygiene, and continuing to practice social or physical distancing as per previous advice. At the same time, the Ministry of Health would also like to remind individuals who have been permitted to self-isolate at home, to comply with the guidelines governing self-isolation, including staying in their room and not to interact with family members, as well as not to leave their home. This is to avoid the risk of infection to family members in the case that the individual under self-isolation tests positive for COVID-19.

6. *Alhamdulillah*, one case which tested positive was identified using the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool via the **healthinfo.gov.bn**. The application was recently announced by the Honourable Minister at the Prime Minister's Office and Minister of Finance and Economy II. The Ministry of Health would also like to encourage the general public to use the COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool, to aid the Ministry in monitoring and evaluating the COVID-19 situation in the country, as well as to plan ahead to address the COVID-19 situation.

7. For further information and latest updates, members of the public can visit the official website of the Ministry of Health at **www.moh.gov.bn**

or by contacting **the Health Advice Line 148 (operating 24-hours)** or through the web application **healthinfo.gov.bn**.

8. On this occasion, the Ministry of Health would like to take this opportunity to express its appreciation for all the efforts made by all parties in complying with the recommendations and advice given. This has helped in the Government's efforts to control the spread of COVID-19 infection. The Ministry of Health would also like to re-express our appreciation and thank all the agencies and volunteers involved in the efforts to contain the COVID-19 infection, including other front liners such as the National Disaster Management Centre; Royal Brunei Armed Forces; Royal Brunei Police Force; Royal Brunei Airlines air crew; Brunei Darussalam Red Crescent Society; Health Advice Line 148 operators; and volunteers from various agencies including the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports; the Ministry of Education; the Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism; and the non-government organizations; who have all been working together as part of a national effort to control the outbreak of COVID-19 in the country.

- **END** -

Reference : KK/PR/2

Date : 04 Sya'ban 1441H / 29 March 2020