



MEDIA STATEMENT

ON THE CURRENT SITUATION OF COVID-19

IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

26 Safar 1442 / 14 October 2020

1. The Ministry of Health would like to announce that today, Wednesday, 26 Safar 1442 / 14 October 2020, **there is 1 new case** of COVID-19 infection in the country. Therefore, as of now the total number of COVID-19 cases in Brunei Darussalam is **147 cases**.
 - Case 147 is a woman aged 25 years old who arrived in Brunei Darussalam on Royal Brunei BI874 flight (seated at 42C) on 7 October 2020 from Nepal. She reportedly had coughs since 11 October 2020 and is currently being treated and monitored at the National Isolation Centre. The Ministry of Health has identified a total of three (3) contacts of which all three (3) contacts have undergone the COVID-19 swab test and were confirmed negative.

2. With the detection of this latest case, a total of 6 import cases have been confirmed since the last local infection case was reported on 06 May 2020. At present, Brunei Darussalam has recorded 161 days without COVID-19 local infection case.
3. Meanwhile, of the total COVID-19 cases in Brunei Darussalam, **a total of 143 cases have been confirmed recovered.**
4. Furthermore, a total of **337 individuals** are undergoing mandatory self-isolation at the monitoring centers provided by the Government, which are individuals that have just arrived in this country after traveling from abroad. At present, a total of **6,888 individuals** have completed their mandatory self-isolation at the monitoring centers.
5. In the past 24 hours, a total of **435 samples** have been tested for the SARS-CoV-2 virus that brings the total number of laboratory tests conducted since January 2020 to **63,246 tests.**

6. The Ministry of Health would like to remind the public to practice their social responsibilities by maintaining personal hygiene, practice proper cough and sneeze etiquette, recommended to wear a face mask in crowded public places and if feeling unwell, not to go to public places and attend social gatherings.

7. The public are required to comply with all regulations and directives related to the reduction of social distancing measures that have been issued and are still in force at the moment such as to use the BruHealth application and scan the QR Code when they enter and exit premises, especially at public areas such as shopping malls, retail shops, restaurants, beauty establishments, barber shops and others. Premise owners are required to print and display their QR code at their respective entrances. The public are urged to take the usage of the BruHealth application seriously, especially in scanning the QR Code as it is used by the Ministry of Health for contact tracing purposes in the event of an outbreak of infection.

8. Any individual found to be in violation of or disobey any order issued shall be an offense under the Infectious Diseases Act (Section 204), which if found guilty can be issued compound fine up to \$5,000 or can be prosecuted in court carrying a fine up to \$10,000 or imprisonment up to 6 months or both. The Ministry will not hesitate to take legal action against anyone who does not comply with the directives issued.

9. Since the enforcement of the directives issued during the pandemic in June 2020 until at present, a total of **967 business premises** have been inspected nationwide, where **574** violations have been found and compound fines issued. Among the common offences are that food handlers are not wearing face masks while working and premises do not perform temperature checks on customers and visitors.

10. The Ministry of Health will continue to monitor the situation of the outbreak at the national as well as regional and global level and carry out ongoing risk assessments to consider further mitigation measures. If the outbreak situation

becomes alarming yet again, the Ministry of Health will not hesitate to tighten the social distancing measures that need to be taken to control the outbreak. The Ministry of Health will notify the public of any changes to this situation, if necessary from time to time.

11. 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** or through the **BruHealth App**.

- **END** -

Reference : KK/PR/2

Date : 26 Safar 1442H / 14 October 2020