



MEDIA STATEMENT ON THE CURRENT COVID-19 INFECTION IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

14 March 2020

1. The Ministry of Health Brunei Darussalam would like to inform the public of the recent development of the COVID-19 infection in the country.

2. As of today, 14 March 2020, 3 new cases have been confirmed bringing the **total number of COVID-19 cases in Brunei Darussalam to 40**. All of the new cases are related to the religious congregation (tabligh) cluster in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, where one attended same the religious gathering and the other two are family members of the religious congregation (tabligh) that has been infected with COVID-19.
 - Case 38, a local man aged 17 years old is neither studying or employed. He had attended a religious congregation (tabligh) in Kuala Lumpur and returned home on 3 March 2020 by boarding Air Asia from Kuala Lumpur to Miri, Sarawak. He has no signs of infection.

 - Case 39, aged 38 tahun is the sister-in-law of Case 13 and the wife of Case 33. She attended the family dinner with Case 13 and Case 33 on 4 March 2020. She has no history of traveling to Kuala Lumpur and has no signs of infection.

- Case 40, aged 9 months old is the daughter of Case 15 who has no history of travel to Kuala Lumpur and has no signs of infection.
3. The Ministry of Health wants to inform the public that Alhamdulillah, all the cases being treated at the National Isolation Centre are well and stable, afebrile and do not require any breathing assistance.
 4. The Ministry of Health is still actively investigating the contacts of each case. To date, a total of 638 people have been ordered to undergo quarantine under the Infectious Diseases Act Chapter 204. Meanwhile, since the start of COVID-19 outbreak in early January 2020, a total of 776 laboratory tests for COVID-19 have been conducted.
 5. The Ministry of Health would like to inform the public that all locals who have attended the religious congregation (tabligh) in Kuala Lumpur have been detected. Out of a total of 85 people, 76 has returned home and underwent laboratory tests for COVID-19 in which 19 tested positive and 57 tested negative.
 6. Meanwhile, 9 people are still in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia where 8 of them are undergoing quarantine and are awaiting laboratory results for COVID-19. A Brunei student who tested negative for COVID-19 is undergoing quarantine at River Hospital Buloh, Selangor.
 7. Members of the public, especially the Tabligh congregation, are reminded not to participate in any of the present-day mass gatherings, including the Tabligh

Meeting to be held from 19 – 22 March 2020 in Makatto, South Sulawesi, Indonesia.

8. The Ministry of Health wants to remind the public that while the number of new cases today has not an increase in the number of cases, most contacts are still undergoing quarantine and it is possible that new positive cases will be detected. At the same time, the trend of infection in other countries around the world has also shown a drastic increase and although COVID-19 in the country is still under control, the risk of entry and transmission of the virus in the country remains.
9. In this regard, the Ministry of Health has also reviewed the Risk Categorization of countries affected by COVID-19 and the public is advised to refer to the Ministry of Health's website (www.moh.gov.bn) for the latest updates.
10. For further information and latest developments, go to the Ministry of Health's website www.moh.gov.bn or call Health Advice Line 148 (operating 24-hours).

- **END** -

Reference : KK/PR/2
Date : 19 Rejab 1441H / 14 March 2020M