



**MEDIA STATEMENT OF
THE REDUCTION OF SOCIAL DISTANCING MEASURES
BASED ON THE CURRENT SITUATION
OF THE COVID-19 INFECTION
IN BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

21 Syawal 1441 / 13 June 2020

1. The Ministry of Health would like to inform the public that today, Saturday, 21 Syawal 1441 / 13 June 2020, Alhamdulillah with the grace of Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'Ala, **there is no new case of COVID-19 infection in the country. Therefore, the total number of COVID-19 cases in Brunei Darussalam remains at 141 cases**, whereas the total number of cases that have recovered is **138 individuals**.
2. At this time, only one patient is still being treated at the National Isolation Centre, where the patient is still in critical condition and require heart / lung machine (ECMO) as well as respiratory assistance. Let us together pray for the patient to be granted full recovery by Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala. Aamiin Aamiin Ya Rabbal Alamin.

3. In the past 24 hours, a total of **268 samples** have been tested for the SARS-CoV-2 virus that brings the total number of laboratory tests conducted since January 2020 to **24,399 tests**.

4. Meanwhile, taking into account the situation of COVID-19 in Brunei Darussalam which is currently under control, with the consent of His Majesty the Sultan and Yang Di-Pertuan of Brunei Darussalam, the Ministry of Health would like to inform the public on **additional** reduction of the social distancing measures commencing **Monday 23 Syawal 1441 / 15 June 2020**, as follows:

4.1. Commencing new activities to Level 1 as follows,

- Senior citizens activity centres
- Museums, gallery and libraries
- Internet café

4.2. Allowing activities to be escalated from Level 1 to Level 2 as follows:

- Mosques, *surau* and musallas (*balai ibadat*)
- Driving schools
- Gyms and fitness centres
- Indoor and outdoor sports facilities
- Golf courses

- Restaurants, cafe and food courts
- Markets

4.3. Information regarding the terms of the reduction of the social distancing measures for senior citizens activity centres, museums, gallery and libraries; gyms and fitness centres; indoor and outdoor sports facilities; and golf courses will be explained by Yang Berhormat Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports.

4.4. Meanwhile, the terms for the reduction of social distancing measures for additional activities are as follows:

i) For activities that will be escalated from Level One to Level Two are as follows:

4.4.1. Mosques, *surau* and musallas (*balai ibadat*) will be open to perform for Friday Prayers and Five daily prayers which is only to perform the Prayers only. This includes for all *surau* at shopping complex and other respective *suraus*, commencing on Fajr prayer, Monday, 23 Syawal 1441 Hijrah / 15 June 2020.

The guidelines to perform the Friday Prayers are similar to previously announced. However, for the Five daily prayers, each jamaah must scan the QR Code every time they enter mosques.

The implementation for conducting Friday prayers and Five daily prayers are as follows:

- Social and physical distancing, using the BruHealth App and scanning the QR Code.
- Temperature checks before entering the mosque will be implemented and each jamaah are advised to use face masks, as well as to bring their own prayer mat and to sanitise their hands before entering the mosque.
- Women and children under the age of 15 years old are still restricted to attend Friday Prayers but they are allowed to participate in the Five daily prayers.
- For the Five daily prayers at mosques, *surau* and musallas (*balai ibadat*) nationwide, each

individuals who have a **Yellow code** will be allowed to enter.

- 4.4.2. For driving schools, small size classes are allowed at 60% of the normal capacity at any one time. Other terms are to be maintained as with the directives and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications;
 - 4.4.3. Restaurants, café and food courts are allowed to operate at 60% of the normal capacity at any one time, whereas food stalls and markets that offer dine-in facilities are allowed to be open at 75% of the normal dine-in capacity at any one time. Other terms are to be maintained as with the directives and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs;
- ii) For newly approved activities such as internet café are allowed to operate at 30% capacity from the usual capacity at any one time according to the directives and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Transport and Infocommunications;

- 4.5. All visitors attending to the aforementioned premises are required to comply with the directives and guidelines of social distancing issued by the relevant ministries and those with signs of infection should carry out the social responsibilities by not attending to these premises.
5. The Ministry of Health would like to inform that the public is required to comply with all regulations and directives related to the reduction of social distancing measures. 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 carries a fine of 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.
6. 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.

7. Following the announcement on the **Bruhealth App**, Alhamdulillah at this time a total of 375,052 individuals have registered to the application. In addition to that, a total of 7,438 companies and premises have registered for the BruHealth application. Meanwhile, a total of 2,437 business premises have downloaded the PremiseScan application. In relation to the PremiseScan application, all premises are advised to download the application to facilitate the QR code scanning especially for those who do not have access to mobile phone devices to enter premises.

8. 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** or **healthinfo.gov.bn**

- **END** -

Reference : KK/PR/2

Date : 21 Syawal 1441H / 13 June 2020