



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

22 March 2020

1. As of today, 22 March 2020, **5** new cases have been confirmed **bringing the total number of cases in Brunei Darussalam to 88 people.**
 - Case 84, aged 32 is a contact of Case 69. This case started developing symptoms (fever, headache and joint pain) on 15 March 2020.
 - Case 85, aged 10 years old is the child of Case 81 and has no travel history and started developing symptoms (flu and headache) on 21 March 2020.
 - Case 86 and Case 87 is a family contact of Case 63. Both of them has no travel history and have not shown any symptoms.
 - Case 88, a local aged 39 who recently came home from United Kingdom on 21 March 2020 via flight onboard Royal Brunei BI004 (seat number 10K). He started developing symptoms (cough) on 19 March 2020 while still abroad.
2. The Ministry of Health would like to inform the public that one case that was previously in critical condition has been gradually recovering and is no longer in need of respiratory assistance. Meanwhile, several cases that previously required close monitoring are also gradually recovering. Subsequently, as of this point in time, one case is still in critical condition and is in need of respiratory assistance, while two cases are being monitored closely and the remaining cases are in stable condition.
3. The Ministry of Health at this point in time is still actively performing contact tracing for every confirmed case. As of today, as many as 1,651 individuals are

undergoing quarantine according to the Infectious Diseases Act (Chapter 204). To date, 204 individuals have completed their quarantine at the Sports Village Complex or in their respective homes, and all are well. Since the emergence of COVID-19 in early January 2020, a total of 3,011 laboratory tests for COVID-19 have been conducted.

4. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Health would like to inform the public of the latest update on the mandatory Self-Isolation Notice for all passengers arriving in Brunei Darussalam via the Brunei International Airport, which started on 20 March 2020, which also includes visitors and employees - authorized foreign workers who arrived in the country. Any person who meets the following conditions can be considered to self-isolate at home. The conditions are as follows:

1. has a separate room and preferably has its own toilet;
2. there are no high risk individuals staying in the same premise;
3. signs an agreement to comply with the rules stated in the **Self-Isolation Notice**, where they are required to stay in their own room and not allowed to leave their residence for 14 days;
4. report in person to undergo a laboratory test for COVID-19 at the Sports Complex, Raja Isteri Pengiran Anak Saleha Hospital within 24-hours upon arrival.

5. Any citizen or permanent resident of Brunei Darussalam who chooses to stay at **The Empire Brunei** to undergo their self-isolation can contact the hotel directly for their own reservation, with a cost of \$100 per day (\$1,400 for 14 days). This will be paid by the individual and will not be funded by the government.

6. In this regard, the Ministry of Health would like to again remind the public, especially those who have been issued a **Quarantine Order or Self-Isolation Notice** must comply with the instructions given, especially not to leave the designated quarantine area or home. The Ministry of Health with the cooperation of the Royal Brunei Police Force is constantly monitoring the whereabouts of those undergoing Quarantine Order or self-isolation. Today, a local man has been found to be in violation of the Quarantine Order and has been brought for further

investigation. If convicted, he could be fined up to \$ 10,000 or imprisonment for up to 6 months or both.

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 (HAL 148)** (operating 24-hours).

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Reference : KK/PR/2
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