

Kuala Lumpur, Selangor have 61 per cent of cases

KUALA LUMPUR: The country recorded a new high in its number of daily Covid-19 cases with 2,335 cases, up to noon yesterday.

Health director-general Tan Sri Dr Noor Hisham Abdullah said the daily tally brought the overall number of Covid-19 cases to 103,900, with 20,035 being active cases. All but 11 of the new cases were local infections.

Kuala Lumpur logged the highest number of cases at 728 (31.2 per cent), followed by Selangor at 710 cases (30.4 per cent) and Johor with 412 cases (17.6 per cent).

This was followed by Sabah with 248 cases, Penang (58), Kelantan (54), Negri Sembilan (33), Perak (26), Pahang (19) and Kedah and Labuan (both 16).

States that recorded single-digit cases yesterday were Sarawak (six), Melaka (five), Putrajaya

(three) and Perlis (one).

"A total of 308 cases (13.2 per cent) are linked to clusters in lockups, immigration detention centres and prisons," said Dr Noor Hisham.

The clusters were Jalan Harapan Prison (156 cases), Pagar Siput (128), Tembok (eight), Sandakan Prison (seven), Pagar Bentong (four), Tembok Gajah (two), and GK Tawau, Keparayan Prison and Kolam Air (one each).

A total of 108 patients were being treated in intensive care units, with 50 requiring ventilators.

Dr Noor Hisham said two people died yesterday, bringing the country's Covid-19 death toll to 451.

Another 874 people had been discharged, increasing the number of recoveries to 83,414 cases, or 80.3 per cent of all cases.

Dr Noor Hisham said the

Health Ministry recorded 11 new clusters, bringing the total number of active clusters to 215.

Of the total, 59 clusters reported an increase in cases, with the new Jalan Seng Construction Site cluster having the highest number at 232 cases.

Other clusters with high numbers were Tampoi Jaya and Jalan Harapan, with 218 cases and 156 cases, respectively.

More than 400 people had been screened in the Jalan Seng Construction Site cluster, detected in Titiwangsa here, and 232 tested positive.

"The cases were reported since Dec 25 through a targeted screening at a construction site."

The Pagar Siput cluster in Kota Tinggi, Johor, was first identified after the index case tested positive on Dec 24.

He added that up to yesterday, 200 people linked to the cluster had been screened, and 129 tested positive.

The Plastik Subang cluster, also related to a workplace, was detected in Petaling and Klang in Selangor.

The cases from the cluster were reported since Dec 23, and were detected through targeted screening in a factory.

"Up to Dec 26, 354 people linked to the cluster have been screened, and 111 of them tested positive," said Dr Noor Hisham.

New clusters were also detected in Kota Baru, Bachok and Tumpat in Kelantan; Barat Daya, Timur Laut, Seberang Prai and Utara and Seberang Prai Tengah in Penang; and, Bentong and Kuantan in Pahang.

The Halban cluster in Kota

Baru saw 29 positive cases, while the Seragam Chepa cluster in Kota Baru, Bachok and Tumpat saw 13 positive cases after 430 people were screened.

"The index case for the Lis Putih cluster in Barat Daya, Penang, was a patient with severe acute respiratory infection, who tested positive on Dec 7. To date, 128 people have been screened, with 24 testing positive," said Dr Noor Hisham.

Other clusters include the Sentosa Residensi cluster in Penang with 18 cases, the Pagar Bentong cluster in Bentong (13) and the Semambu cluster in Kuantan (11).

The Jalan Asam cluster detected in Petaling and Klang, Selangor logged 13 cases and the Sungai Redan cluster in Kluang and Kota Tinggi recorded 11 cases.