



---

**KERATAN AKHBAR  
DAN MEDIA ONLINE  
UNTUK MAKLUMAN :**

**Y.B. MENTERI  
Y.B. TIMBALAN MENTERI  
Y.BHG. KSU  
Y.BHG. TKSU (PDN)  
Y.BHG. TKSU (PUP)  
SETIAUSAHA AKHBAR**

---

**5 JULAI 2021 (ISNIN)**



KEMENTERIAN PERDAGANGAN DALAM NEGERI  
DAN HAL EHRAL PENGGUNA

---

# **KERATAN AKHBAR DAN MEDIA ONLINE (KPDNHEP)**

---

**5 JULAI 2021 (ISNIN)**

## Gesa percepat vaksinasi perdagangan domestik

**Kuala Lumpur:** Kementerian Perdagangan Dalam Negeri dan Hal Ehwal Pengguna (KPDNHEP) menggesa program vaksinasi COVID-19 bagi sektor perdagangan domestik termasuk peruncitan, pemborongan dan pengedaran dimulakan pada bulan ini, bagi memastikan pekerja sektor itu mendapat suntikan vaksin secepat mungkin.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi, berkata perdagangan domestik adalah antara sektor yang perlu beroperasi setiap hari sepanjang tempoh Fasa Satu Pelan Pemulihan Negara (PPN) supaya orang ramai boleh mendapatkan bekalan makanan dan keperluan harian seperti biasa tanpa perlu membuat pembelian panik serta berlebihan.

"Sudah tiba masa kerajaan

memberi keutamaan program imunisasi kepada industri ini kerana kepentingannya sebagai enjin ekonomi negara dan risiko yang dihadapi, yang mana tenaga kerjanya sentiasa berinteraksi dengan orang ramai dan menyiapkan logistik untuk pengguna.

"Risiko jangkitan yang dihadapi tenaga kerja sektor ini setiap hari adalah sangat serius dan boleh membantutkan usaha kerajaan untuk mencapai tahap imuniti kelompok yang dikehendaki dalam memacu kejayaan PPN," katanya dalam kenyataan, semalam.

Ketika ini, empat sektor yang sudah disenaraikan di bawah



Alexander Nanta Linggi

program pemberian vaksin COVID-19 bagi sektor ekonomi adalah pembuatan, pengangkutan, pembinaan dan perladangan serta komoditi.

Menteri Penyelaras Program Imunisasi COVID-19 Kebangsaan (PICK), Khairy Jamaluddin, sebelum ini berkata pihaknya sedang memperhalusi rancangan untuk memperluas program itu kepada sektor lain seperti peruncitan dan pelancongan yang mungkin dimulakan kemudian.

Alexander memaklumkan, berdasarkan data Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM), sektor perdagangan domestik mengekalkan

prestasi cemerlang dalam membendung penyebaran jangkitan COVID-19, iaitu hanya 0.8 peratus daripada keseluruhan kluster, manakala tahap pematuhan prosedur operasi standard (SOP) adalah 98.54 peratus.

Katanya, walaupun kluster COVID-19 di sektor peruncitan juga amat rendah, pekerja sektor itu terutama di pasar raya berdepan risiko jangkitan yang tinggi kerana sentiasa bersemuka dengan orang ramai dan pelbagai kategori pengguna setiap hari.

"Sehingga 1 Julai lalu, terdapat 1,162 pekerja dari 59 pasar raya dijangkiti COVID-19, yang menyebabkan operasi pasaraya itu terpaksa ditutup dan setakat hari ini (semalam), terdapat tujuh cawangan pasaraya masih ditutup kerana kebanyakan pekerja per-

lu menjalani proses kuarantin.

"Justeru, KPDNHEP berpendapat adalah tidak adil bagi mereka yang terbahit dalam sektor perdagangan domestik ini untuk menunggu lebih lama bagi program vaksinasi yang dikehendaki buat mereka," katanya.

Beliau turut memaklumkan, melalui satu sesi libat urus antara beliau dan pengurusan tertinggi KPDNHEP bersama Persekutuan Persatuan Perniagaan Malaysia (FMBA) pada 1 Julai lalu, semua pemain industri ber-setuju langkah utama yang perlu dilakukan ketika ini adalah menyegerakan program imunisasi kepada barisan hadapan sektor peruncitan dan bersedia memberi apa juga bantuan yang diperlukan daripada pihak mereka.

## 'Prioritise retail, distribution workers'

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Ministry said Covid-19 vaccinations for players in the distribution and retail sectors needed to be done quickly to help in the recovery of the domestic economy.

Its minister, Datuk Alexander Nanta Linggi, said considering the importance of the domestic trade and retail sectors as drivers of domestic trade and the economy, this should be made a priority.

He said the retail sector was one of the essential services that were allowed to operate during Phase One of the National Recovery Plan (NRP).

"This is to ensure the public has access to food and beverage supplies, without having to panic and make excessive purchases," he said in a statement yesterday. Nanta said during an engagement session recently, all industry players had agreed that there was a need to expedite the immunisation programme for the distribution and retail sectors.

"The ministry is concerned with the current situation, where the domestic trade sector, including retail, wholesale and distribution, was not allowed to operate or operate on a limited basis, causing financial burden and workers losing income to support families.

"As such, it is time for the government to give priority to vaccinate those in this industry."



A barber making preparations yesterday to reopen his outlet in Ipoh today. BERNAMA PIC

Nanta said the sector faced a serious risk of infection, which could hamper the government's efforts to achieve herd immunity as required under the NRP and announced by Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin recently.

He said based on data obtained from the Health Ministry, the domestic trade sector had maintained excellent performance in curbing the spread of Covid-19 infections, with only 0.8 per cent of clusters, and the level of standard operating procedure compliance was 98.54 per cent.

"Although the clusters from the retail sector were low, employees of the retail sector, especially su-

permarkets, had a high risk of Covid-19 infection as they are facing customers daily."

He said up to July 1, it was reported that 162 workers from 59 supermarkets were infected by Covid-19, causing a temporary closure of the outlets.

"To date, there are seven supermarkets that are still closed as most workers have to undergo quarantine.

"As such, the government needs to pay serious attention to expedite vaccination programmes for this sector to ensure the viability of the business and also the lives of workers are protected."



## Nanta: Prioritise jobs for trade, distribution and retail

PUTRAJAYA: Priority for Covid-19 immunisation must be given to trade, distribution and retail industry players due to their importance as the country's economic engine, says Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Alexander Nanta Linggi.

"This is because the workforce that constantly interacts with consumers faces a very serious risk of infection each day, and this could hamper the government's efforts to achieve herd immunity for the success of the National Recovery Plan (NRP).

"As such, these sectors should be given due attention in the implementation of the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme, just like

those in other sectors such as manufacturing and construction," he added.

"The ministry is of the opinion that it is unfair for those in these sectors to wait longer under the vaccination programme," he said in a statement yesterday.

While suggesting that those in the trade, distribution and retail sectors be given their vaccine jabs beginning this month, he said the immunisation programme for economic frontliners was extremely important as preparation for the reopening of various economic sectors under the next phase of the NRP.

In an engagement session which was also participated by his deputy



Datuk Rosol Wahid, the Federation of Malaysian Business Associations, senior officers of the ministry, as well as 90 representatives of various retail sub-sectors recently, the industry players agreed that priority should be given to the sectors' frontliners, he added.

Nanta said based on the Health Ministry's data, only 0.8% of the overall clusters involved the domestic trade sector while the level of

compliance with the standard operating procedure in the sector was at 98.54%.

Nanta said the retail sector, as one of the essential services, would operate daily throughout Phase One of the NRP in order to ensure the public could get their supply of food.

He added that although the number of clusters from the retail sector was low, workers from this sector, especially supermarkets, faced a high risk of Covid-19 infection due to their constant face-to-face interaction with various categories of consumers.

He said a total of 1,162 employees from 59 supermarkets had tested positive for Covid-19, which result-

ed in the supermarkets having to shut down, and as of yesterday, seven of these supermarket branches were still closed as most of their staff members were undergoing quarantine.

Nanta said the government should pay serious attention to reopening domestic businesses to ensure their sustainability and also livelihoods.

"The domestic trade sector also plays an important role in driving the country's economy, thus ensuring the well-being of the B40 and M40 groups is protected.

"The fact is that many parties are involved, either directly or indirectly, in the domestic trade and retail sectors," he said. — Bernama

COMMENT by Saravanan Thambirajah

## Be wary of shopping via social media platforms

FOMCA has been receiving numerous complaints from people who have been cheated when shopping via social media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, WeChat, WhatsApp, Telegram and others. Buying via social media platforms is unadvisable.

The government is encouraging Malaysians to venture into online businesses as the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted many people due to job loss, while some have been forced to take no-pay leave.

Although there are many sincere sellers who are selling their products such as food, clothes, art and craft, etc, to make ends meet, nevertheless, there are many who are using online platforms to cheat gulleless consumers.

The largest number of reports were on non-delivery of goods purchased. Most of the complaints were regarding sellers not delivering the promised goods, sellers were missing, ghosting, etc.

Most of the transactions ranged from RM30 to RM9,000. Once payments were made, the scammers disappeared without a trace. Even the websites and phone numbers were no longer available.

Besides being victims of online scams, many consumers also claimed to be given the runaround and when it came to product delivery, with some products taking more than a month to arrive.

While many online sellers are legitimate, social media scammers use the internet to rip off unsuspecting shoppers. They will often ask consumers to wire transfer money upfront.

While many online sellers are legitimate, social media scammers use the internet to rip off unsuspecting shoppers. They will often ask consumers to wire transfer money upfront.

As more Malaysians turn to the internet to purchase goods and services, there is a pressing need for an improved legal framework to protect rights of consumers.

The Ministry of Domestic Trade and Consumer Affairs and Ministry of Communication and Multimedia Commission should regulate online sellers who use social media to sell their products and services.

Many of them are not registered with the Companies Commission of Malaysia. Consumers are urged not to trust any social media platform to do any transaction.

We also encourage consumers to report scams to the ministries so people can be pre-warned about current scams, and the ministries can monitor scam trends and disrupt them.

Make sure to include details of the scam contact, for example, email or screenshot. Always use legitimate online platforms so if there are any disputes, they are traceable and refunds can be obtained, or a case can be filed at a tribunal as there are proper

channels for disputes.

### Warning signs to look out for:

- A product is advertised at an unbelievably low price or advertised to have amazing benefits or features that sound too good to be true. Some advertisements will coax consumers to buy as the items are limited, or push consumers to grab the offer within a stipulated date, which is often immediate, leaving consumers no time to check on the sellers.
- The other party insists on immediate payment or payment via electronic funds transfer, or wire service. They may insist that consumers pay up-front for vouchers before they can access a cheap deal or a give-away.
- The social media-based store is new and selling products at very low prices. The store may have limited information about delivery and other policies.
- AN online retailer that does not provide adequate information about privacy, terms and conditions of use, dispute resolution or contact details.

### Protect yourself

- Check if the website or social media page has a refund or returns policy, and that their policies sound fair. The better online shopping sites have detailed complaint or dispute handling processes in case something goes wrong.
- When using retail websites, find out exactly who you are dealing with. If it is a Malaysian company, you are in a better position to sort out problems if something goes wrong.
- When using retail websites, find out exactly who you are dealing with. If it is a Malaysian company, you are in a better position to sort out problems if something goes wrong.
- When making online payments, only pay for items using a secure payment service - look for a URL starting with "https" and a closed padlock symbol or a payment provider such as PayPal. Think twice before using virtual currencies such as bitcoin - they do not have the same protections as other transaction methods, so you cannot get your money back once you have sent it.
- Avoid any arrangements with strangers who ask for up-front payment via money order, wire transfer, international funds transfer, pre-loaded card or electronic currency. It is rare to recover money sent this way.
- Never send money or give credit card or online account details to anyone you do not know or trust.
- Check if the sellers are blacklisted via <https://ccid.rmp.gov.my/semakmule>.

Saravanan Thambirajah is chief executive officer of FOMCA.  
 Comments: [letters@thesundaily.com](mailto:letters@thesundaily.com)

Senarai Harga Barang Keperluan	
• Ayam	<b>RM5.85</b>
• Daging Lembu Tempatan	<b>RM35</b>
• Daging Lembu Import	<b>RM29.90</b>
• Telur Gred A	<b>RM11.10</b>
• Ikan Kembung	<b>RM8.90</b>
• Minyak Masak	<b>RM6.35</b>
• Gula Pasir	<b>RM2.85</b>
• Bawang Besar Holland	<b>RM2.80</b>
• Bawang Putih	<b>RM5.50</b>
• Cili Merah	<b>RM8.95</b>
• Kubis Bulat Tempatan	<b>RM3.49</b>
• Tepung Gandum	<b>RM2.20</b>

\*Harga (RM/kg) Sumber: KPDNHEP