



## UNOFFICIAL ENGLISH TRANSLATION

### MEDIA STATEMENT

#### PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

A National Security Council (NSC) Special Session on COVID-19 Management chaired by the YAB Prime Minister this afternoon decided to implement a **full closure of the social and economic sectors** or a Phase One '**total lockdown**' for the entire country for a period of 14 days from **1 June 2021 to 14 June 2021**.

During this period, **ALL** sectors are **NOT ALLOWED** to operate EXCEPT for the essential economic and service sectors which will be listed by the National Security Council.

This decision was made after taking into account the current situation of COVID-19 transmission in Malaysia with the total number of daily cases exceeding 8,000 cases and active cases exceeding 70,000 cases. As of today, as many as 2,552 people have died as a result of this pandemic and the death toll is rising. The existence of more virulent new variants with high and rapid infectious rates also influenced today's decision.

With the increase in daily cases showing a dramatic upward trend recently, the capacity of hospitals nationwide to treat COVID-19 patients is becoming increasingly limited.

If this Phase One lockdown succeeds in reducing daily COVID-19 cases, the Government will implement a Phase Two lockdown, by allowing the re-opening of several economic sectors which do not involve large gatherings and can comply with physical distancing. This Phase Two lockdown would be implemented for a period of four weeks after the end of Phase One.

At the end of a Phase Two lockdown, the next step is to enter Phase Three, which is to implement a Movement Control Order as the one currently in force whereby social



activities are not permitted and almost all economic sectors are allowed to operate subject to tight SOPs with limited physical attendance at the workplace.

However, the decision to move from one phase to the next is subject to a risk assessment conducted by the Ministry of Health, Malaysia. Assessments will be made based on the development of current daily cases and the capacity of hospitals nationwide to treat COVID-19 patients.

The government will ensure that the public healthcare system in our country will not collapse and various support and assistance will be provided to the Ministry of Health, Malaysia to increase the capacity of hospitals nationwide. The government will also increase the number of vaccinations over the next few weeks in the effort to produce herd immunity in this country.

Following the decision of the government to implement a full closure of the economic and social sectors, the Ministry of Finance will craft a stimulus package for affected people and economic sectors. An announcement on this stimulus package will be made in the near future.

All Malaysians are advised to remain disciplined and to always adhere to the prescribed SOPs to break the transmission chain of COVID-19. It is best to STAY AT HOME to collectively flatten the COVID-19 curve.

**PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE**

**PUTRAJAYA**

28 May 2021