

PM calls for patience

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Your sacrifice vital in nation's virus battle, Muhyiddin tells M'sians

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PUTRAJAYA: With the country on track to achieve herd immunity, the Prime Minister called on the public to remain patient, while describing their sacrifice as crucial in the effort to save lives during the pandemic.

Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said based on how smooth the national vaccination programme was going and with the vaccination rate at 400,000 doses daily, herd immunity was just a few months away.

"I hope everyone can remain disciplined and abide by standard operating procedures. For now, we are still not allowed to cross borders and make visits.

"I appeal for all of us to be patient. Your sacrifice is a great jihad in this endeavour to save our lives," he said in his Hari Raya Aidiladha message broadcast over main television stations.

Malaysia has ramped up its vaccination drive in recent weeks, with 14,347,285 total doses having been



Raya message:

Muhyiddin delivering his Hari Raya Aidiladha speech that was broadcast over main television stations.

— Bernama

administered as of Sunday.

Muhyiddin said the Hari Raya Aidiladha celebration was a time to reflect and honour sacrifices.

"Frontliners, be it health workers, security personnel, civil servants and non-governmental organisations, have made great sacrifices since the fight against Covid-19 began last year," he said.

"I truly appreciate our frontliners

who have sacrificed their energy and time for the health and safety of the people. I pray that you will be rewarded by Allah the Almighty."

Muhyiddin said that while many missed the opportunity to perform haj this year, this was inevitable following the decision by the Saudi Arabia government not to allow pilgrims from abroad due to health threats from Covid-19.

"I understand that many among us feel sad over the news but I believe we accept this with an open heart. May Allah allow Muslims to perform haj next year, Insyallah," he said.

He said during the recovery phase under the National Recovery Plan, SOP set by the National Security Council required everyone to remain at home and celebrate Hari Raya Aidiladha moderately with members of the same household.

"But I believe the spirit of the festivity will still be felt, despite it being celebrated moderately," he said.

Muhyiddin said korban or sacrificial activities carried out during the festivity this year would also be somewhat different as guidelines imposed by the authorities are meant not just to ensure religious rites are followed but also to protect lives from Covid-19 during these activities.

"Let us pray that the pandemic will be over soon," he said.