

No more blanket MCO, says PM

PUTRAJAYA: Controlling the spread of Covid-19 is part of the initiatives spelled out under the People and Economic Strategic Empowerment Programme (Pemer-kasa), which includes efforts to accelerate vaccination programme and no longer impose blanket movement control order across the country.

Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said the government would implement a more targeted Covid-19 containment strategy backed by science and data to reduce the nega-

tive impact on the country's economy.

"Taking into consideration the ongoing National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme, the government may no longer need to impose a blanket MCO nationwide or state-wide.

"Instead, targeted movement control restrictions will be implemented based on localities and imposed only on specific clusters," Muhyiddin said in a special address yesterday to unveil *Pemer-kasa*, the government's sixth economic sti-

mulus package to date.

The Prime Minister said allocation for the immunisation programme would be increased from RM3bil to RM5bil to accelerate the target for herd immunity by December 2021, compared to the initial target of the first quarter of 2022.

To achieve this target, 15,000 personnel will be stationed at nearly 950 vaccination centres nationwide.