

# Managing the spread of the virus

The Star - 14/11/2021 pg. 2

## Government's efforts to contain Covid-19 starting to bear fruit, says PM

**KUALA LUMPUR:** The government's efforts to curb the spread of Covid-19 is beginning to see benefits as a result of the cooperation of all parties as well as the implementation of effective strategies, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

He said the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme had succeeded in dispensing vaccines to more than 95% of the adult population and more than 66% of the adolescent population as at Nov 2.

This was a game changer and catalyst to revive the economy with the reopening of all economic and social sectors including interstate movement, he added.

"Generally, from a psychological aspect, the people are more positive after being able to restart their daily lives.

"Nonetheless, the government will continue to monitor developments and is prepared to introduce certain measures to protect the people and the country's economy," Bernama quoted him as saying at the official birthday celebration ceremony of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong at Istana Negara yesterday.

Watch the video  
TheStarTV.com



Ismail Sabri also voiced his appreciation of the sacrifice of frontliners as well as the support of all strata of society in assisting the government to combat the pandemic.

"The government sympathises and expresses its condolences to all who have lost family members in the pandemic. Indeed, the loss of loved ones is saddening," he said.

He added that the welfare and well-being of the people would be the government's top priority regardless of race or religion, and for this purpose, it was introducing various initiatives including the Malaysian Family concept.

The concept, he said, had received positive feedback and acceptance from the people and it would be the new philosophy in the administration of the country.

"In this regard, I would like to express my gratitude to Allah SWT for the success of the Confidence

---

**"The government sympathises and expresses its condolences to all who have lost family members in the pandemic."**

Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob

---

and Supply Agreement (CSA) signed between the government and the Opposition.

"All focus is now on mutual cooperation to develop the country to bring the nation out of the economic crisis, and for public health.

"Alhamdulillah, it is bearing fruit with proceedings in Parliament going on smoothly and constructively, which is the manifestation of

the Malaysian Family consensus as well as democratic deliberations as called by Your Majesty," he added.

Since the pandemic hit the country, he said eight assistance and economic stimulation packages were launched, aimed at boosting economic growth and assisting entrepreneurs in reviving their business.

He said an initiative indicator of the success of these packages was when the country's economic growth hit 7.1% in the first half of 2021.

"The government is confident of meeting the projected economic growth of between 3% and 4% this year and growth between 5.5% and 6.5% in the following year," the Prime Minister said.

Ismail Sabri, citing as factors in the success in "controlling the pandemic effectively via the implementation of the vaccination programme as well as the resilience of world trade and economic prospects".

He added that the economic rehabilitation mission was driven by the 12th Malaysia Plan as well as several other initiatives including trade

promotion missions.

He said the government was aware that the good economic performance would not be accepted if issues such as weak governance, leakages, misappropriation as well as abuse of power were still prevalent, including issues reported in the Auditor-General's Report Year 2020 which clearly showed that certain reform efforts needed to be done.

Therefore, he said the government would be conducting firmer and more efficient enforcement to ensure the same issues do not arise again, apart from renewing procedures and high-performance working ethics.

"The Cabinet is also working on harnessing ideas and efforts to ensure the achievement of the government. InshaAllah, I hope to table the government's 100-day achievements when the time comes," he added.



For more stories:  
See pages 5 & 13