

'No plans for shutdown'

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PM reminds rakyat to be cautious of rising Covid-19 cases

BERA: Malaysia has no plans for another round of economic shutdown despite the rising number of Covid-19 cases, says Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

The Prime Minister, however, reminded the people to take appropriate measures to avoid infection by the virus.

"Life will go on as usual, but we need to take proactive measures to protect ourselves and our families, such as taking the booster dose for Covid-19," he said.

Ismail Sabri revealed that seven million Malaysians had yet to take their booster dose so far.

He advised people to take it immediately and added that it was still critical because not only have positive cases of Covid-19 increased, but the dose would also help in dealing with new variants of the virus, particularly the more infectious Omicron BA.5 variant.

"It is not mandatory, but I would like to advise those who have yet to take the booster dose to immediately take it to protect themselves from infection, and if they are showing symptoms, go see a doctor for confirmation," he told Bernama after attending the Korban Perdana programme in conjunction with Aidiladha celebration at Darul Fikri Mosque here yesterday.

When asked whether there was a plan to



To share is to care: Ismail Sabri (right) distributing meat to Muslims celebrating Aidiladha during the Korban Perdana programme in Bera, Pahang. — Bernama

reopen large-scale vaccination centres to facilitate those who have yet to take the booster dose, Ismail Sabri said it was up to the Health Ministry to decide if they think it was necessary.

Ismail Sabri said even though many relaxations, including not having to wear a face mask outdoors, had been given since the country entered the 'Transition to

Endemic' phase on April 1, people could take their own initiative to put on face masks, especially in crowded areas.

For the Korban Perdana programme, Ismail Sabri, who is also Bera MP, said it had been a tradition for his constituency to hold the programme, and for this year, 79 cows were distributed for the purpose. — Bernama