

Dengue cases on the rise, says Muhyiddin
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Dengue cases have risen to 32,535 cases nationwide from January till March 29 this year compared with the 23,633 cases during the same period last year.

Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin in a Bernama report yesterday said this indicated an increase of 37.7% or 8,902 cases.

"Selangor contributed 59% out of the total dengue cases nationwide and recorded 19,162 cases during the same period with 52 deaths," he added.

He said this in a statement after chairing the national committee meeting on dengue at Parliament.

Muhyiddin said 101 deaths were reported from 59 deaths during the same period in 2014, an increase of 71.2%.

He added that concerted efforts through the cooperation of the seven ministries and state governments had been reactivated to overcome the problem.

The setting up of the state-level dengue special task force in every state to coordinate prevention activities and dengue control in collaboration with the relevant departments and agencies was among the six measures implemented that had brought about positive results, he said.

Muhyiddin said the Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Ministry issued action plans to ensure local authorities that had hotspot localities improve their domestic and bulk waste-collection aspects according to schedule.

He said local authorities also needed to ensure landfill sites, vacant land and public parks did not become Aedes breeding grounds.

He also said the Home Ministry coordinated and deployed uniformed teams such as the police, Civil Defence Department and Rela to help conduct dengue prevention and control activities.

The enforcement of the construction sites' Ops Gempur was being carried out by the Health Ministry besides conducting prosecution cases in court, he said.

Ops Gempur activities conducted from Feb 10 to March 14 this year revealed 95% of the 111 construction sites inspected bred Aedes mosquitoes and all the offenders would be brought to court. About 80 construction sites were ordered to be closed.

Muhyiddin added that the Health Ministry also conducted a new control method, the outdoor residual spray, involving 103 hotspot areas since February 11 in Petaling, Hulu Langat, Gombak and Klang districts. – April 1, 2015.

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