

kini morning brief

NEWSLETTER

Choose your vaccine

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brief



Prepared for you
By Nigel Aw

Good morning, here's what you need to know today.

Key Highlights

- Choose your vaccine
 - Umno tries to turn the table
 - Azalina moots unity govt
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Choose your vaccine

Putrajaya took measures to address criticism of the Covid-19 national immunisation programme, including claims that it was progressing too

slowly.

Among the measures include buying additional Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine doses even though the country already ordered enough to cover more than 100 percent of the population.

Science, Technology and Communication Minister Khairy Jamaluddin said with the additional purchase, more than half of the 44.8 million Pfizer doses will arrive by the third quarter of this year.

Surplus doses are unlikely to be an issue as health experts have suggested that booster shots (third shot and beyond) may be required if the pandemic persists.

Khairy also revealed that the government is mulling to allow people the option to choose their Covid-19 vaccine - a departure from the previous "no choosing" policy.

With the option, Khairy said the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine will join the mainstream national Covid-19 immunisation programme.

Previously, the AstraZeneca Covid-19 vaccine, which had rare risks of blood clots, was offered through a separate voluntary programme because the government was worried it could hurt the overall vaccination registrations.

HIGHLIGHTS



'We've requested vaccine for students since Feb'

A medical college said the govt only responded recently.



Frustration over sudden vaccine appointment changes

Senior citizens have been turned away at vaccine centres.



'Threat' against Orang Asli who don't vaccinate criticised

They were told that aid to them would be cut off.



Malaysiakini-Lim Huey Teng

Umno tries to turn the table

Umno sought to turn the tables on its estranged coalition partners amid the spotlight on the performance of its own leaders in government.

Umno supreme council leader Razlan Rafii (*above*) sought to put the focus

on Bersatu and GPS leaders in the Perikatan Nasional government, who he claimed were [not performing](#).

Several Umno leaders have been taking heat.

This included an [insensitive](#) press conference by Pasir Salak MP Tajuddin Abdul Rahman over Monday's LRT [crash](#) that led to his [sacking](#) as Prasarana Malaysia Bhd chairperson.

Tajuddin formally [received](#) his termination letter yesterday.

Previously, Umno president Ahmad Zahid Hamidi also sought to [distance](#) his party from the government's "failure" in the Covid-19 battle.

This was despite two key components of the Covid-19 fight - overall standard operating procedures and vaccination - being led by Umno ministers.

HIGHLIGHTS



[Transparency International wants RCI into LRT collision](#)

'Findings should be made public for accountability.'



[PM assures LRT mishap won't recur](#)

He also promises a swift probe.



[Selayang Hospital also gets freezer container](#)

This comes amid rising Covid-19 deaths.



Azalina moots unity govt

Dewan Rakyat deputy speaker Azalina Othman Said (*above*), who is also Umno's Pengerang MP, [proposed](#) the creation of a unity emergency government and the reconvening of Parliament.

She said the proposal was out of "utter frustration" and the inability to obtain answers from the government in a "crippled" democracy.

DAP's Iskandar Puteri MP Lim Kit Siang threw his support behind Azalina.

Lim [lauded](#) her efforts and contrasted them with Dewan Rakyat speaker Azhar Azizan Harun's passiveness despite Parliament's suspension.

Meanwhile, the independent committee advising the Yang di-Pertuan

Agong on the emergency said it had agreed on setting the [criteria](#) to end the emergency.

It provided no details. The statement appeared to be a response to Pakatan Harapan's criticism that the panel had been ["silent"](#).

The committee is led by Arifin Zakaria, a former chief justice who Prime Minister Muhyiddin Yassin has appointed to several key positions after coming to power.

HIGHLIGHTS



[1MDB board in 'sandiwara' on overseas funds - Witness](#)

Ex-CEO says they knew what was going on.



[Outgoing Gombak police chief drops RM10m suit against media](#)

Arifai says police are deeply upset over custodial deaths.



[Period spot checks: Many complaints, little response](#)

The Education Ministry yet to announce action.

A daily glance at Covid-19

- 7,857 [new cases](#) yesterday (May 27), the third consecutive day of a new record high.

- A total of 292 people died in the first five days of this week.
 - The number of patients in the intensive care unit continued to climb to a new record high of 771 with 392 on ventilators, which suggests that daily deaths will likely increase in the coming weeks.
 - For trends on daily cases, tests, hospital beds capacity, vaccination progress and more, follow our [Covid-19 tracker](#).
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What else is happening?

- The government finally [acknowledged](#) that incidents of Covid-19 vaccine underdosing did take place, a week after the first complaint. However, it said such cases are rare.
- Songstress Siti Nurhaliza and her husband Khalid Mohamad Jiwa were [fined](#) RM10,000 each for failing to comply with the standard operating procedures (SOPs) against Covid-19 during a ceremony for their newborn.
- Wisma Putra is seeking [information](#) that a Malaysian called "Dr Nur" had been detained by Israeli authorities.
- A retiree who was supposed to be under Covid-19 quarantine was [fined RM4,000](#) after he visited a market wearing a pink bracelet, which indicates that he is supposed to be under home observation.
- Sarawak will [finally join](#) the rest of the country under the movement control order from tomorrow (May 29). The state previously decided

to remain under the more lenient conditional MCO despite the rest of the country going under MCO 3.0.

HIGHLIGHTS



[Tears of joy as delivery rider's kindness rewarded](#)

He travels an extra 20km and refuses a large tip.



[Awam: Institutional change, diversity needed](#)

This is to fight sexual harassment in sports.



[UM student seeks to take ex-lecturer to court](#)

This is over a sexual harassment claim.

What are people saying?



[Suggest pragmatic steps in Covid-19 fight](#)

By Dr Jeyakumar Devaraj



[An open letter to the prime minister](#)

By Ly Aziss

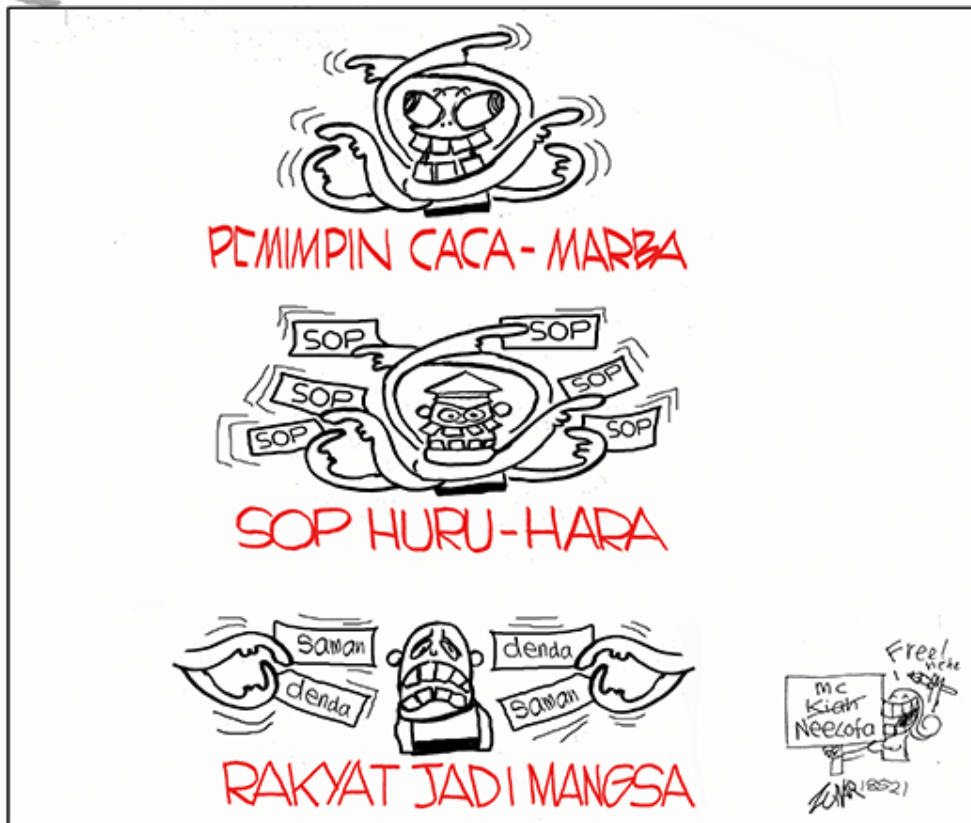


[Lack of empathy for LRT accident victims](#)

By Malaysiakini readers

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