

Find out which location is a potential Covid-19 hotspot with HIDE



By JOSEPH KAOS JR

NATION

Wednesday, 05 May 2021



PUTRAJAYA: Starting Friday, Malaysians will be able to find out which shopping malls or eateries are potential Covid-19 hotspots under the Hotspot Identification by Dynamic Engagement (HIDE) system, says Khairy Jamaluddin.

"At the moment, some of the large hotspots in Kuala Lumpur and Selangor are shopping malls, F&B (food and beverage) outlets and bazaars.

"The HIDE system has to date identified 1,660 locations in the country that potentially can b

[Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

"Last week, there were 1,170," said the National Covid-19 Immunisation Programme coordinating minister.

Khairy, also the Science, Technology and Innovation Minister, said when these hotspots are identified, business owners can take pre-emptive measures.

This could include "testing their workers, strengthening the gatekeeping process, tightening crowd control and lowering the number of occupants (at their premises).

"The transparency will also help the people make informed decisions and practise self-control," he added.

Khairy said HIDE was developed using data from the Health Ministry's Crisis Preparedness and Response Centre (CPRC).

The variables used to determine if a location is a hotspot include the number of Covid-19 cases in the area, exposure time, area size, and also whether it is well ventilated.

He added that the list of hotspots will be published by CPRC, and the method will be announced soon.

Locations identified as Covid-19 clusters by the Health Ministry are not the same as premises flagged by HIDE as hotspots, as the latter are places that potentially turn into a cluster if there is no intervention, said the minister.

"HIDE uses advanced technology to predict where potential clusters are, so that more targeted action can be taken early.

"It is to avoid the emergence of large clusters, especially now that there is an increased number of Covid-19 infections," he explained.

Further elaborating on what sort of intervention can be taken, Khairy said owners of office premises could instruct employees to work from home or send their workers for Covid-19 testing.

Eateries could reduce the number of customers allowed into their premises or even fully stop dine-ins, while shopping centres can strengthen the gatekeeping process at entrances and lower the number of occupants, he suggested.

The Health Ministry will also conduct risk analysis to decide if certain premises need to be shut down temporarily.

Individuals who have visited hotspots will be categorised as "casual contacts" on MySejahtera and encouraged to undertake self-health checks.

"If you are flagged as a casual contact, it does not mean you need to test for Covid-19.

"It is only if you are symptomatic," Khairy said.

[Privacy - Terms](#)[Home](#)[For You](#)[Bookmark](#)[Audio](#)[Search](#)

How useful is this article to you?



73% of our readers find this article useful

Found a mistake in this article?

Report it to us.



Stories You'll Enjoy

METRO NEWS 10h ago

'Clear doubts about vaccine'

NATION 20h ago

Decision to use National Trust Fund will expedite Covid-19 vaccination process, says...

NATION 15h ago

Malaysia imposes travel ban on Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, and Nepal citizens

STARPICKS

Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre is now a vaccination centre

[Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)



Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

STARPLUS 3h ago**INTERACTIVE: Vaccine passports - the what, how, why and why not****NATION** 10h ago**Shortages delay Phase Three****NATION** 3h ago**INTERACTIVE: Vaccine passports – the what, how, why and why not****PHILIPPINES** 10h ago**Moderna vaccine gets emergency use approval****WORLD** 3h ago**Brazil's Bolsonaro says United States will soon**[Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)

Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

NATION 15h ago 

EMCO imposed in several areas in Perak, Melaka and Sabah from May 7-20

NATION 21h ago 

Excitement, relief as participants of opt-in AstraZeneca Covid-19...

WORLD 20h ago

South Korea says AstraZeneca, Pfizer COVID-19 vaccines 87% effective after first shot

[Load More](#)

Subscriptions

[The Star Digital Access](#)[SMS Services](#)[Newsstand](#)[Other Publications](#)

Advertising

[Our Rate Card](#)[Classifieds](#)[Privacy](#) - [Terms](#)

Home



For You



Bookmark



Audio



Search

[About Us](#)[Job Opportunities](#)[Investor Relations](#)[Contact Us](#)[FAQs](#)

Policies

[Privacy Statement](#)[Terms & Conditions](#)

Subscribe to our FREE newsletter!

[Subscribe](#)

Copyright © 1995- 2021 Star Media Group Berhad (10894D)
Best viewed on Chrome browsers.

[Privacy - Terms](#)[Home](#)[For You](#)[Bookmark](#)[Audio](#)[Search](#)