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NUTP confident all teachers will receive at least one dose before school starts in September

By <u>Dawn Chan</u> - July 28, 2021 @ 9:05pm



NUTP secretary-general Harry Tan expressed confidence that it would materialise, judging by the ramping up of the Covid-19 National Immunisation Programme (NIP), which has seen vaccination rates on a steady climb in the recent weeks. - NSTP file pic

KUALA LUMPUR: The National Union of the Teaching Profession (NUTP) is optimistic that all teachers nationwide would receive at least one of two Covid-19 vaccine doses before schools reopen in September as promised by the government.

NUTP secretary-general Harry Tan expressed confidence that it would materialise, judging by the ramping up of the Covid-19 National Immunisation Programme (NIP), which has seen vaccination rates on a steady climb in the recent weeks.

"A lot of teachers have gotten their appointments to go for their first dose and they are waiting to be immunised. I have been following this matter closely and the feedback has been positive.

"I believe more will be receiving their appointments soon and the process is on-going. We have another month to go (before the schools reopen) and I am sure the immunisation of teachers, at least for the first dose, can be concluded by then," he told the New Straits Times.

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Tan added that the NUTP had also written to NIP coordinating minister Khairy Jamaluddin requesting for priority to be given to lecturers in polytechnics and community colleges and that they have submitted a list of vaccine recipients.

Meanwhile, Vong Swee Ling, a teacher at SJKC Bachang in Melaka, was happy to receive her first vaccination shot at the Encore Vaccination Centre in Kota Syahbandar today.

"I am now looking forward to going back to school to teach my pupils face-to-face after being away for several months. The vaccination gives me the assurance of my own safety as well as my pupils.

"As a teacher who is also a frontliner, I am glad to be able to protect our pupils as well as our family members at home from the virus," said the 48year-old who teaches English.

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