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Lee: Provide facts, findings on empty syringe probe



By <u>Hana Naz Harun</u> - July 24, 2021 @ 4:57pm



NSTP file pic, for illustration purpose. -NSTP/ROHANIS SHUKRI

KUALA LUMPUR: The media should be provided with credible facts, and reveal the findings of investigations into allegations of empty syringes in Covid-19 vaccinations.

Alliance for Safe Community chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said it was the duty of the government to be transparent about investigations and present its detailed outcome in detail, however unpleasant it may be.

"The police have said they are investigating 13 reports about empty vaccines. Have they completed their investigations? If they have, shouldn't the police themselves be making their findings public?

"The government should know of the various scams that are being propagated at this critical time by those who wish to make a quick buck by nefarious means and scams.



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<u>NATION</u> Jul 24, 2021 @ 6:07pm

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"Do not muzzle the press. Instead, help them to separate the wheat from the chaff by investigating allegations and then providing them with credible facts," he said in a statement today.

Lee said if the situation was wrongly handled, the "treatment" would cause further injury.

He also said the empty syringes were a "very big deal", adding that millions of those who have been inoculated were now wondering if they have been scammed.

Other cases were being circulated in social media and by members of the public who have first-hand knowledge of the alleged malpractices, he added, who were reluctant to come forward.

"It's been several days now since the first such case was reported. Why has this malfeasance been allowed to go on for so many days between instituting an investigation and making it public?

"These are very stressful times for everybody. Please do not add to their misery by spewing messages not backed by solid evidence.

"Face the realities on the ground and address them. Get the facts straight and all else will logically follow."

Lee also said the standard operating procedure (SOP) of requiring vaccinators to show recipients of the syringe filled with the right quantity should have been the SOP from the start.

This, he said, would have avoided the issue of empty syringes.

He also questioned whether it was possible to trace the booths from where the empty syringes were used, adding that it should be part of the SOP to make it feasible for a person to identify the vaccinator.

"(Science, Technology and Innovation Minister) Khairy (Jamaluddin) said it is unfair to tarnish the names of the scores of frontliners who have been giving such sacrificial service.

"Everybody appreciates the great sacrifices they have been making. They are the unsung heroes.

"But the public wants to be able to identify any of those few miscreants who give the rest of the frontliners a bad name.

"So, please consider this as an exercise to protect the name of the dedicated and committed frontliners and isolate them from the bad," he added.

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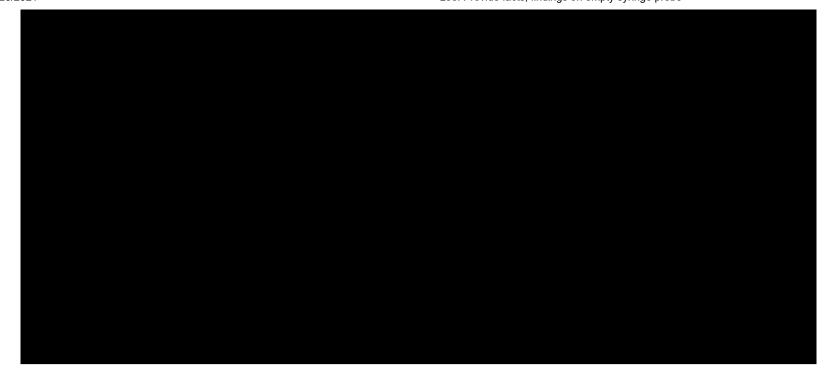


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