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Penang on track to achieve vaccination target



By [Audrey Dermawan](#) - August 12, 2021 @ 1:08pm



Penang is inching closer to achieving the target of having 100 per cent of its adult population, who have registered for Covid-19 vaccination, being administered with at least the first dose by early September. -NSTP/MIKAIL ONG

GEORGE TOWN: Penang is inching closer to achieving the target of having 100 per cent of its adult population, who have registered for Covid-19 vaccination, being administered with at least the first dose by early September.

As of yesterday, about 67 per cent of those registered for vaccination had received at least one dose of the vaccine.

Chief Minister Chow Kon Yeow said the state was confident of achieving the target of having 40 per cent of its adult population being fully vaccinated by end of August.

"With the arrival of 917,200 doses of Covid-19 vaccine this month, we are certain that we can achieve the target set.

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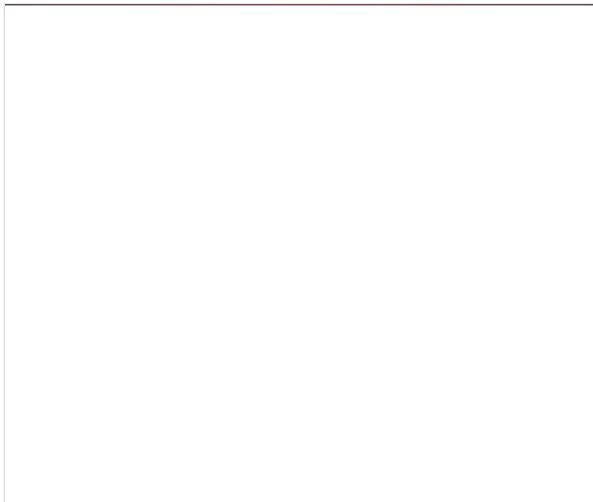
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"We can even achieve 50 per cent target of having the adult population fully vaccinated by the end of August," he said after visiting the Penang Covid-19 Screening (PSC-19) Programme at Taman Manggis Flat, here, today.

Present were state Local Government Committee chairman Jagdeep Singh Deo, Penang Island City Council Mayor Datuk Yew Tung Seang and northeast district police chief Assistant Commissioner Soffian Santong.



Penang received 188,875 Covid-19 vaccine doses in the first week, second week (236,200 doses), third week (163,800 doses) and final week (328,345 doses).

Chow said, for now, the state Health Department would use results from the RTK-Antigen to be incorporated into the daily cases beginning this week.

"Until and unless the positivity rate dips below 10 per cent, we will use results from the RTK-Antigen screenings for the daily cases. After that, we will revert back to the RT-PCR results

"For now, the positivity rate in the state is 11.24 per cent.

"By taking into account results from the RTK-Antigen screenings, this will push the cases higher," he added.

Meanwhile, Chow said Penang hoped for the political crisis at the federal level would not affect the Covid-19 vaccine supply to states.

He said the minister concerned, Khairy Jamaluddin, had reaffirmed his commitment that he would focus on the Covid-19 National Immunisation Programme (NIP) to achieve the target set out.

"I believe the political crisis involving several political figures will not want to see the vaccination programme derail. Whatever it is, the vaccination programme will go on as planned.

"The vaccine supplies depend on the producers. When the date has been set, come what may, the supplies will arrive," he said.

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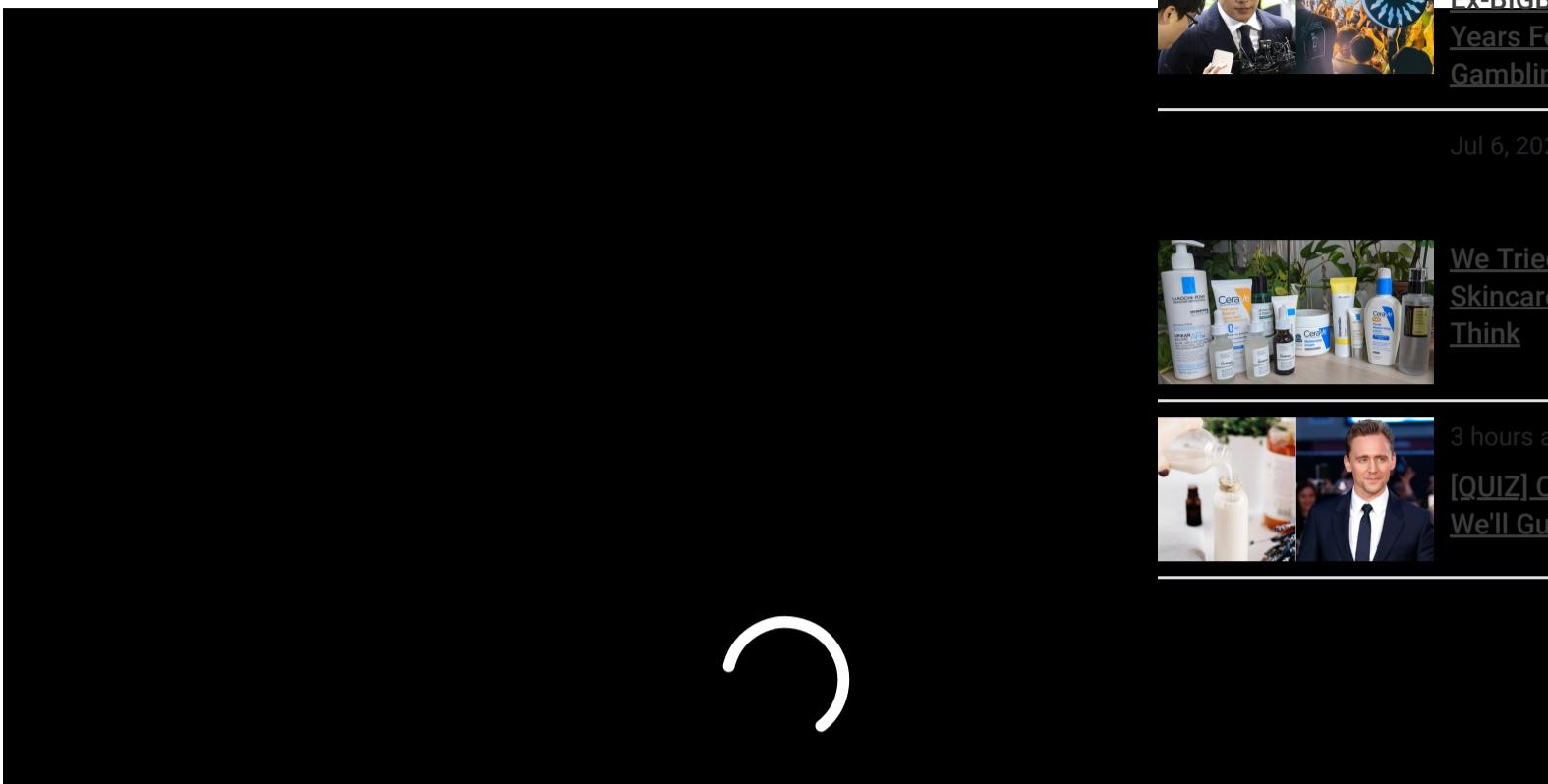
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