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Interstate: M'sians reminded not to let their guard down

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KUALA LUMPUR: With interstate travel allowed starting Monday, members of the public are urged not to let their guard down and keep complying with the standard operating procedures (SOPs).

Senior Defence Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Tun Hussein, in a recent tweet, said the first line of defence against Covid-19 begins with one's self.

"Continue to comply with all precautionary measures #TRIIS (Test, Report, Isolate, Inform and Seek) and prevailing SOPs. In #ReopeningSafely, let's remain vigilant," he said.

National Recovery Council (MPN) Chairman Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin advised Malaysians to practise self-control and not to be complacent even though interstate travel is allowed.

He reminded the people to conduct screening with Covid-19 self-test kit for quick detection of infection and those found positive should go into isolation to effectively break the chain of virus infection in the community. "If one could afford, carry out screening with

Covid-19 self-test kits more frequently at home as the kits are now sold at reasonable prices in pharmacies and online,” he said.

The former Prime Minister also praised the Government for consistently providing vaccine to as many people as possible in the country and reduce the burden on the health sector and enable more economic and social sectors to open.

“The relaxation was only given when the risk sectors had been evaluated and the Government had implemented its responsibility well in dispensing vaccine to as many people as possible in Malaysia,” he said.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob in a special media conference on Sunday said the Government had agreed to allow movements across states without the need to obtain police permit starting Monday. Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation (Mosti) Datuk Seri Dr Adham Baba advised the public not to be complacent and keep complying with SOPs.

“Syukur Alhamdulillah and congratulations to Keluarga Malaysia (Malaysian Family) as 90 per cent of the adult population is now fully vaccinated and can begin travelling interstate from Monday. At the same time, we should never be complacent and abide by the SOPs at all times. ‘Kita jaga kita!’ (We take care of ourselves),” he said via his official Twitter account.

Minister of Environment and Water Datuk Seri Tuan Ibrahim Tuan Man, in a tweet, also congratulated the Malaysian Family and frontliners on the good news.

Transport Minister Datuk Seri Dr Wee Ka Siong said the Government had delivered on its promise to allow interstate travel to commence once 90 per cent of the adult population was fully vaccinated.

“Besides that, the MyTravelPass application for travelling overseas is no longer required. However, travellers still need to undergo mandatory quarantine upon returning from abroad,” he said.

Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Datuk Zuraida Kamaruddin said the lifting of interstate travel restrictions by the Government did not automatically mean that the Melaka state election would be held.

“On whether the Melaka state polls will be held or not, we should wait for the (Yang di-Pertuan) Agong’s decision. Let His Majesty decide whether it should be held or not, the Cabinet will abide by it,” she said.

Umno President Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi also advised the people to abide by the Government’s recommendations and conduct self-Covid-19 screening tests prior to travelling.

“For those who have symptoms, it is better to postpone (the trip) until you are completely well. We should make sure we’re free of any infection. We have sacrificed for so long, so it’s not a huge loss to wait a little longer to ensure it is safe for us to visit our father, mother, husband, wife, siblings and friends in the village.

“Let us be responsible over this important matter. We should not let such short-term pleasure leave us in regret in the long term,” he said.