

AKHBAR : BERITA HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 9

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

RUU langkah pertama denormalisasi amalan merokok

Kuala Lumpur: Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) Kawalan Produk Tembakau dan Merokok 2022 berupaya menjadi 'semanang' bagi sebuah pendekatan holistik untuk menyaksikan individu yang lahir pada 2007 dan seterusnya atau generasi penamat (GEG), hidup sihat tanpa rokok.

Ketua Sustainable Smokefree Campus Community Flagship Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia, Prof Dr Mohamad Haniki Nik Mohamed, berkata usaha kerajaan itu akhirnya akan mewujudkan situasi denormalisasi bagi amalan merokok dalam kalangan GEG.

Beliau bagaimanapun, percaya keberhasilan undang-undang itu akan dilihat impaknya dalam tempoh sekurang-kurangnya lima tahun lagi bagi menyaksikan suatu lembaran baharu dalam amalan merokok.

"Kesannya walaupun tidak dapat dilihat dalam tempoh dekat, ia menjadi kaedah intervensi bersama strategi lain dilaksanakan kerajaan bersama Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) dalam isu ini bagi ditangani secara holistik.

"Apabila akta ini digubal kelak, ia menyekat generasi muda untuk membeli dan menghisap rokok dan apabila tiada permintaan, maka ia boleh denormalisasikan rokok dan amalan merokok.

"Ia juga akan membina sebuah jati diri baharu dalam kalangan anak muda apabila mereka tidak akan menggalakkan amalan merokok kepada generasi akan datang," katanya ke-



Dr Mohamad Haniki

pada BH, di sini.

Sebelum ini, Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) turut komited membentuk generasi bebas daripada sebarang bentuk amalan merokok melalui Pelan Strategik Bagi Kawalan Tembakau 2021-2030.

Pada masa sama, Mohamad Haniki berkata aspek penguatkuasaan harus

ditingkatkan untuk memastikan isu penyeludupan rokok dapat ditangani dengan lebih efektif.

Selain itu beliau berkata, pihaknya percaya larangan merokok bagi GEG ini tidak terpakai dalam aspek hak kebebasan individu kerana ia membabitkan isu memudaratkan diri sendiri dan orang lain.

"Dengan adanya akta ini ke-

lak, kita menjangkakan sasaran kurang daripada lima peratus golongan perokok dapat dicapai lebih awal berbanding tahun 2040," katanya.

Penyelamat generasi muda

Sementara itu, Pakar Perubatan Kecemasan Pusat Perubatan Universiti Malaya (UM), Dr Mohd Afiq Mohd Nor, pula berkata akta ini perlu diluluskan di Dewan Rakyat kerana ia berupaya menjadi penyelamat GEG daripada terjebak dalam amalan merokok.

Beliau berkata, larangan ini juga mampu menjimatkan perbelanjaan kerajaan pada masa depan yang kini terpaksa memperuntukkan sehingga RM6 bilion setahun bagi menanggung kos rawatan perokok akibat pelbagai jenis barah.

"Ini adalah masanya RUU ini bertindak sebagai langkah si-

gnifikan bagi mengurangkan prevalen kurang lima peratus perokok sejajar dengan hasrat kerajaan.

"Peraturan ini adalah bagi melindungi mereka daripada terjerumus dalam budaya merokok kerana perokok sedia ada yang sudah ketagih nikotin sukar untuk dihentikan," katanya.

Beliau berkata, walaupun pada perancangan asalnya GEG ini membabitkan golongan yang dilahirkan bermula 2005 namun pihaknya percaya tahun itu dianjakan selepas mengambil kira pandangan industri dan orang awam.

"Anjakan selama dua tahun ini adalah jangka masa maksimum bagi akta ini untuk diadaptasi kepada GEG kerana kita faham keberkesanan pelaksanaan akan mengambil sedikit masa," katanya.

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MUKA SURAT : 9

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

RUU Kawalan Produk Tembakau dan Merokok 2022

Tiga peruntukan baharu diperkenalkan

Kawalan jualan lebih ketat, denda, hukuman penjara pastikan generasi muda lebih sihat

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Kuala Lumpur: Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) Kawalan Produk Tembakau dan Merokok 2022 yang dibentangkan bagi bacaan kali pertama di Dewan Rakyat oleh Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin memperuntukkan tiga peruntukan baharu bagi menangani masalah merokok.

Antara tiga peruntukan baharu yang dicadangkan adalah Larangan Pembelian dan Penjualan kepada mana-mana individu yang lahir pada 1 Januari 2007 dan seterusnya; Keperluan pendaftaran produk merokok; dan Kuasa Menteri untuk melarang sebarang bentuk produk merokok sekiranya terdapat situasi akut atau kritikal yang membahayakan nyawa, kesihatan atau keselamatan penduduk akibat penggunaannya.

Bagi individu yang melakukan kesalahan menjual kepada ma-

na-mana individu yang lahir pada 1 Januari 2007 dan seterusnya pada kali pertama, individu itu boleh dikenakan denda tidak melebihi RM20,000 atau dipenjarakan tidak melebihi setahun atau kedua-duanya.

Individu itu juga boleh didenda tidak melebihi RM30,000 atau dipenjarakan selama tempoh tidak lebih dua tahun atau kedua-duanya bagi kesalahan kedua dan seterusnya.

Bagi pertubuhan perbadanan yang melakukan kesalahan itu pada kali pertama, denda tidak kurang daripada RM20,000 dan tidak melebihi RM100,000 atau dipenjarakan selama tempoh tidak melebihi dua tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Bagi kesalahan kali kedua dan berikutnya, membabitkan pertubuhan perbadanan, mereka boleh didenda RM50,000 atau dipenjarakan tidak melebihi dua tahun atau kedua-duanya sekali.

Manakala denda yang lebih rendah dikenakan bagi individu yang lahir pada 1 Januari 2007 dan seterusnya. Sekiranya mereka membeli dan memiliki sebarang jenis produk merokok, denda tidak melebihi RM 5,000 dan tiada penjara boleh dikenakan.

Peraturan lebih ketat

Sementara itu, menjelaskan berkaitan denda bagi individu yang lahir pada 1 Januari 2007 dan ke atas sekiranya mereka membeli

dan memiliki sebarang jenis produk merokok, Pakar Perubatan Kesihatan Awam Bahagian Kawalan Penyakit, Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM), Dr Nor Aryana Hassan, berkata kesalahan ini bagaimanapun, boleh dikenakan kompaun.

"Ia adalah sebagaimana Fasal 48 (1) di mana menteri boleh dengan kelulusan pendakwa raya membuat peraturan-peraturan yang menetapkan kaedah dan tatacara untuk mengkompaun kesalahan itu. Kesalahan pengkompaunan ini sememangnya telah dilaksanakan di bawah Peraturan-Peraturan kawalan hasil tembakau (PPKHT 2004) yang membabitkan orang belum dewasa.

"Oleh itu, mereka yang lahir pada 1 Januari 2007 dan seterusnya tidak semestinya didenda sebanyak RM5,000. Sebaliknya, mereka hanya akan dikenakan kompaun yang akan ditetapkan berpandukan garis panduan sedia ada.

"Untuk rekod, jumlah kompaun yang dikenakan di bawah PPKHT bagi Orang Belum Dewasa (OBD) adalah hanya RM50," katanya kepada BH.

Bagi dua lagi peruntukan baharu yang dinyatakan di atas iaitu larangan mengimport, mengilang atau mengedar mana-mana produk merokok yang tidak didaftarkan; dan juga kuasa menteri melarang sebarang bentuk produk merokok yang menyebab-



Khairy pada Sidang Dewan Rakyat di Parlimen.

(foto BERNAMA)

kan situasi akut atau kritikal yang membahayakan nyawa, kesihatan atau keselamatan penduduk; denda tidak melebihi RM20,000 atau dipenjarakan tidak melebihi setahun atau kedua-duanya boleh dikenakan bagi kedua-dua kesalahan yang dilakukan untuk kali pertama.

Individu itu juga boleh didenda tidak melebihi RM30,000 atau dipenjarakan selama tempoh tidak lebih dua tahun atau kedua-duanya bagi kesalahan kedua dan seterusnya.

Hukuman penjara, denda

Bagi pertubuhan perbadanan yang melakukan kesalahan itu pada kali pertama, denda tidak kurang daripada RM20,000 dan tidak melebihi RM100,000 atau dipenjarakan selama tempoh tidak melebihi dua tahun atau kedua-duanya.

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Larangan turut dicadangkan membabitkan pengiklanan produk tembakau, bahan merokok atau produk pengganti tembakau termasuk yang mengandungi sebarang jenama, tawaran, pelawaan, dimaksudkan untuk menggalakkan orang merokok dan sebarang produk tembakau, bahan merokok atau produk pengganti tembakau yang menjadi pemberian atau hadiah kepada golongan terbahit, larangan penjualan sebarang jenama yang ditetapkan dan larangan merokok di tempat yang diwartakan.

Terdahulu, Khairy turut membentangkan RUU Makanan (Pindaan) 2022 untuk bacaan kali pertama bertujuan bagi memansuhkan Seksyen 36 berkaitan Pemakaian Mengenai Tembakau.

Pemotongan ini susulan pengubahan Akta Kawalan Produk Tembakau dan Merokok 2022 di mana sebarang kawalan dan penguatkuasaan berhubung hasil tembakau yang dibuat di bawah Seksyen 36 Akta Makanan akan dikuatkuasakan di bawah Akta Baru ini.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 6

RUANGAN : LOKAL

CACAR MONYET

Kesan awal sekat penularan

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Kuala Lumpur

Pengesanan awal kes cacar monyet mampu mengekang penularan wabak itu dalam kalangan komuniti.

Profesor Kesihatan Awam, Datuk Dr Lokman Hakim Sulaiman berkata, tindakan segera ini antara lain boleh menyelamatkan pesakit daripada menjadi lebih kritikal.

Beliau yang juga Pro Naib Canselor Universiti Perubatan Antarabangsa Kuala Lumpur berkata, doktor klinik awam dan swasta perlu lebih teliti jika ada pesakit disyaki menghidap cacar monyet datang untuk mendapatkan rawatan.

Katanya, kes sedemikian perlu ditangani segera dan sempurna agar rawatan lanjut dapat diberikan sebelum ia lebih kritikal.

"Tindakan pengesanan awal mampu menghalang wabak ini masuk ke dalam komuniti dan ia perlu di-siasat dengan sempurna.



PERLINDUNGAN sendiri perlu ditingkatkan agar penularan dapat dielak walaupun ia tidak boleh disebarkan melalui udara.

"Setakat ini, cacar monyet boleh merebak, namun ia lebih berisiko kepada golongan yang melakukan seks rambang," katanya ketika dihubungi Harian Metro.

Dr Lokman berkata, perlindungan sendiri perlu ditingkatkan agar penularan dielak walaupun ia tidak mam-

pu disebarkan melalui udara. Katanya, rakyat juga perlu diberikan pendidikan yang lebih meluas dan langkah penjagaan yang perlu diambil bagi memastikan Malaysia bebas dari wabak ini.

Beberapa negara jiran sudah melapor kes cacar monyet termasuk Singapura

yang kini melaporkan sembilan kes.

Kementerian Kesihatan (KKM) kini menyediakan pelan strategik bagi menghadapi risiko kemasukan jangkitan cacar monyet ke negara ini walaupun tiada kes setakat ini.

Menteri Kesihatan Khairy

Jamaluddin sebelum ini dilaporkan berkata, garis panduan bagi pengurusan kes itu merangkumi tatacara pengesanan dan notifikasi kes, pengambilan sampel bagi ujian makmal, siasatan dan pengurusan kes serta kontak rapat, langkah pencegahan dan kawalan dan Pemanta-



Setakat ini, cacar monyet boleh merebak namun ia lebih berisiko kepada golongan yang melakukan seks rambang"

Dr Lokman Hakim uan di Pintu Masuk Antarabangsa (PMA) negara. Dua hari lalu, Pertubuhan Kesihatan Sedunia (WHO) mengisytiharkan penularan cacar monyet sebagai darurat kesihatan global, amaran tahap tertinggi.

4,759 kes baharu Covid-19 dilapor

Putrajaya: Sebanyak 4,759 kes baharu Covid-19 dilaporkan kelmarin dengan 80 peratus penularan dilapor berlaku di Lembah Klang.

Berdasarkan Covidnow, Malaysia kini mencatat keseluruhan 4,659,710 kes Covid-19, manakala 46,260 kes aktif, melonjak 25.5 peratus berbanding dua minggu lalu.

Kuala Lumpur mencatat jumlah kes tertinggi iaitu 1,840 kes diikuti Selangor 1,447 kes, Perak (223), Pulau Pinang (211), Sabah (209), Negeri Sembilan (170), Kedah (130), Melaka (103), Sarawak (95), Johor (74), Kelantan

(73), Putrajaya (59), Pahang (47), Terengganu (37), Labuan (27) dan Perlis (14).

Sebanyak 1,477 pesakit sedang menerima rawatan di hospital dengan 52 kes dirawat di unit rawatan rapi (ICU).

Dalam pada itu, sembilan kematian dilapor termasuk tiga kes mati ketika dibawa (BID) yang mana dua kes di Perak dan masing-masing satu di Johor, Pahang, Sabah, Sarawak, Selangor, Terengganu dan Kuala Lumpur.

Jumlah itu menambah kadar kematian akibat Covid-19 negara kepada 35,932 kes.

Hospital di Sarawak terima bayaran tunai

Kuching: Semua hospital dan klinik milik Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) di Sarawak masih menerima pembayaran secara tunai walaupun KKM dalam pekelilingnya baru-baru ini, mengumumkan pembayaran hanya akan dilakukan menggunakan e-pembayaran mulai 1 Oktober ini.

Timbalan Premier Sarawak Datuk Seri Dr Sim Kui Hian berkata, pengecualian untuk Sarawak itu sudah dimaklumkan oleh Menteri Kesihatan Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar.

Menurutnya, keputusan itu diambil selepas mengambil kira liputan Internet yang tidak memuaskan teru-

tamanya di luar bandar di Sarawak.

"Menteri Kesihatan (Khairy Jamaluddin) memberi jaminan itu selepas mengambil kira liputan Internet luar bandar di Sarawak yang masih kurang stabil selain segelintir warga emas yang masih tidak dapat menggunakan gajet digital.

"Terima kasih



Terima kasih (Kerajaan Persekutuan) kerana memahami situasi itu
Dr Sim

(Kerajaan Persekutuan) kerana memahami situasi itu bagi membolehkan perkhidmatan kesihatan terus dapat diakses dan mampu milik di Sarawak," katanya.

Beliau yang juga Menteri Kesihatan Awam, Perumahan dan Kerajaan Tempatan negeri berkata demikian pada kenyataan menerusi akaun Facebooknya semalam.

Beliau bagaimanapun menegaskan, Sarawak tetap menyokong inisiatif bayaran tanpa tunai di klinik dan hospital milik KKM kerana ia selaras dengan usaha

kerajaan negeri untuk membangunkan ekonomi digital.

Namun pelaksanaannya ketika ini masih belum dapat dilaksanakan secara menyeluruh khususnya di kawasan luar bandar.

Berdasarkan pekeliling KKM bertarikh 25 Julai 2022, pembayaran tanpa tunai seperti penggunaan kad debit, kad kredit dan e-dompet sebagai pilihan kaedah transaksi ditetapkan menerusi Rangka Tindakan (Blueprint) Ekonomi Digital Malaysia Tahun 2021 sama ada di peringkat Persekutuan atau negeri.

Kaedah itu turut dilaksanakan bagi mengelakkan berlakunya ketirisan hasil kerajaan, selaras dengan Pelan Antirasuah KKM 2021-2022.

AKHBAR : HARIAN METRO

MUKA SURAT : 29

RUANGAN : LOKAL

Kuching: Polis merampas pelbagai jenis rokok dan minuman keras disyaki tidak bercukai berjumlah lebih RM83,000 pada serbuan di sebuah premis di Demak Laut di sini, jam 3.30 petang kelmarin.

Turut ditahan pada serbuan oleh Bahagian Siasatan Jenayah Daerah Kuching itu ialah seorang remaja lelaki berusia 19 tahun yang berada di dalam premis berkenaan.

Ketua Polis Daerah Kuching Asisten Komisioner Ahsmon Bajah berkata, pihaknya menemui sebanyak 55,000 batang rokok dan 2,058 liter minuman keras di dalam premis terbabit.

Rampas arak, rokok tak bercukai RM83k



Remaja tempatan terbabit kini direman bagi membantu siasatan. Kes disiasat mengikut Seksyen 135(1)(d) Akta Kastam 1967

Ahsmon Bajah

"Remaja tempatan terbabit kini direman bagi membantu siasatan. Kes

disiasat mengikut Seksyen 135(1)(d) Akta Kastam 1967, sabit kesalahan boleh didenda tidak kurang 10 ganda nilai barangan atau RM100,000 dan tidak lebih 20 kali ganda nilai barangan atau RM500,000," katanya.

Ahsmon berkata, pihaknya akan meneruskan operasi bagi membanteras kegiatan penyeludupan dan orang ramai yang mempunyai maklumat berkaitan kegiatan terbabit diminta tampil menyalurkan maklumat.



ROKOK dan minuman keras yang dirampas dalam serbuan di sebuah premis di Demak Laut.

AKHBAR : KOSMO
 MUKA SURAT : 5
 RUANGAN : NEGARA

Denda, penjara jual rokok, vape kepada individu lahir 2007 ke atas

KUALA LUMPUR – Mana-mana individu yang menjual atau memamerkan produk tembakau, bahan merokok atau produk pengganti tembakau kepada individu yang lahir pada 1 Januari 2007 dan ke atas dicadang didenda tidak lebih RM30,000 atau dipenjarakan tidak lebih dua tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Perkara itu dimasukkan dalam Rang Undang-Undang (RUU) Kawalan Produk Tembakau dan Merokok 2022 yang dibentangkan bagi bacaan kali pertama di Dewan Rakyat oleh Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin semalam.

Berdasarkan draf RUU itu, individu didapati melakukan kesalahan kali kedua dan berikutnya menjual serta memamerkan produk tembakau, kepada individu yang lahir pada 1 Januari 2007 dan seterusnya pula dicadang didenda tidak lebih RM30,000 atau dipenjarakan tidak lebih dua tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Bagi pertubuhan perbadanan yang melakukan kesalahan itu untuk kali pertama, dicadang dikenakan denda tidak kurang



KERAJAAN bertegas dalam mengenakan hukuman berkaitan rokok bagi membendung sebarang aktiviti tidak berfaedah. – GAMBAR HIASAN

RM20,000 dan tidak lebih RM100,000 atau dipenjarakan tidak lebih dua tahun atau kedua-duanya.

Bagi kesalahan kali kedua

dan berikutnya pula, pertubuhan perbadanan, boleh didenda RM50,000 atau dipenjarakan tidak lebih dua tahun atau kedua-duanya.

AKHBAR : SINAR HARIAN

MUKA SURAT : 15

RUANGAN : NASIONAL

RM6.2 bilion rawat pesakit merokok

Kos dijangka meningkat sehingga RM8.8 bilion menjelang 2030

Oleh **TUAN BUQHAIKHAIRAH**
TUAN MUHAMAD ADNAN
PUTRAJAYA

Kerajaan membelanjakan RM6.2 bilion bagi merawat pesakit merokok pada tahun 2020 berbanding kutipan cukai produk tembakau RM3 bilion.

Menteri Kesihatan, Khairy Jamaluddin Abu Bakar berkata, kos rawatan itu dijangka meningkat sehingga RM8.8 bilion menjelang tahun 2030.

"Ramai mungkin tidak tahu kos yang ditanggung kerajaan ini adalah lebih tinggi daripada jumlah kutipan cukai produk tembakau," ujarnya.

Menurutnya, kos rawatan bagi seorang pesakit rokok elektronik (vape) atau vaping associated lung injury (EVALI) untuk 12 hari kemasukan hospital adalah RM150,000.

"Ia sangat mahal untuk merawat pesakit ini," katanya menerusi hantaran di laman TikTok pada Rabu.

Tambahnya, dengan

adanya Rang Undang-undang (RUU) Kawalan Produk Tembakau dan Merokok, industri rokok elektronik dapat dikawal selia.

"Kita boleh pastikan cecair vape yang dijual dikawal dengan baik dan lulus ujian makmal. Jadi, pengguna tidak akan jatuh sakit," jelasnya.

Khairy berkata, pengusaha rokok elektronik telah menyatakan sokongan terhadap akta itu.

"Mereka mahu dikawal selia dan kerajaan juga boleh kutip cukai jualan vape yang dianggarkan RM500 juta setahun," ujarnya.

Khairy memaklumkan, dengan melaksanakan peruntukan generasi penamat (GEG), Kementerian Kesihatan Malaysia (KKM) bukan sahaja mampu mengurangkan kos rawatan akibat komplikasi rokok, bahkan paling penting dapat menyelamatkan nyawa dua juta rakyat Malaysia.

"Merokok bukan sahaja membunuh tetapi memberi impak besar kepada ekonomi negara," katanya.



KHAIRY

“

Ramai mungkin tidak tahu kos yang ditanggung kerajaan ini adalah lebih tinggi daripada jumlah kutipan cukai produk tembakau.”

Lebih 10,000 pesakit masih menunggu organ

SHAH ALAM - Seramai 10,357 pesakit direkodkan sedang menunggu untuk mendapatkan pelbagai organ selepas kematian penderma.

Pusat Sumber Transplan Nasional (PSTN) memaklumkan, mereka yang terlibat merupakan pesakit yang mengalami kegagalan organ peringkat akhir dan telah menjalani ujian saringan bagi pembedahan transplantasi.

Mereka juga golongan yang bersedia pada bila-bila masa untuk menerima organ baharu sekiranya ada penderma selepas kematian yang bersesuaian.

"Pelbagai ujian saringan awal perlu dilengkapkan oleh bakal penerima supaya pusat transplantasi mempunyai data yang lengkap bagi suai padan dengan maklumat penderma," menurutnya dalam kenyataan di laman Facebook Derma Organ pada Rabu.

Berdasarkan statistik PSTN, hanya 19 orang penderma sebenar selepas kematian direkodkan pada Januari hingga Jun tahun ini.

Pendaftaran sebagai pengikrar derma organ boleh dilakukan menerusi pautan <https://bit.ly/ikradermaorgan>.



Terpaksa besarkan anak penjara beri keinsafan



Iktibar Tirai Besi menyingkap kisah Amira, ibu tunggal yang menanti sinar di sebalik tembok Penjara Wanita Kajang, Selangor.

SHAH ALAM - "Tipu kalau saya cakap saya tak menyesal. Mungkin ALLAH dah tentukan kehidupan saya di sini untuk ubah diri."

Itu antara ungkapan yang dikeluarkan seorang banduan di Penjara Wanita Kajang, Selangor yang dikenali dengan panggilan Amira (bukan nama sebenar).

Amira, 38, adalah antara banduan yang sedang menjalani hukuman penjara di bawah Akta Dadah Berbahaya Seksyen 39C.

Kongsi Amira, dia pernah melahirkan anak di sebalik jeriji besi angkara dadah durjana sehingga membuatkan hatinya benar-benar remuk.

Bagaimanapun katanya, kehidupan di penjara sangat menginsafkan dan memberikan banyak pengajaran.

"Anak saya membesar dalam penjara sampai umur tiga tahun. Kalau saya tak bawa anak saya di

sini mungkin saya teruskan lagi dengan kehidupan saya di luar itu.

"Saya masuk untuk pertama kali pada tahun 2011. Penyesalan yang dirasa pada waktu itu memang tidak dapat saya lupakan. Banyak dosa dengan keluarga yang telah dibuat sehingga saya tak boleh tengok muka bapa sendiri.

"Saya ada mak umur 80 tahun sekarang. Jadi, saya tak nak perkara sama berulang," katanya menerusi satu video yang diterbitkan Sinar Harian bertajuk **Sumpah Mommy**.

Bapa Amira sudah meninggal dunia ketika dia di

penjarakan telah memberikan keinsafan kepada dirinya.

Tambahnya, sepanjang berada di penjara pelbagai aktiviti yang dilakukan, antaranya program halaqah.

"Dalam halaqah ini kita banyak belajar agama. Ustazah pun banyak membantu saya yang memang tak

pandai agama. Daripada tajwid, saya belajar mengaji dan alhamdulillah, kini saya dah hafazan," ujarnya.

Ibu tunggal yang menanti sinar di sebalik tembok Penjara Wanita Kajang itu turut mengakui sudah bersedia untuk bertemu dengan orang di sekelilingnya apabila dibebaskan nanti.

Amira mengakui bukan senang untuk mendapat kepercayaan orang, tetapi dia akan cuba kuatkan diri demi keluarga dan anak-anak.

"Saya akan tunjuk kepada orang luar, yang bekas banduan bukan buruk seperti yang disangka.

"Orang boleh pandang hina pada saya, tetapi saya tak mahu anak-anak saya lalui apa yang saya rasa. Saya mahu mereka belajar pandai-pandai, jadi anak yang soleh dan solehah.

"Saya sayang anak-anak. Walaupun mereka tiada bapa, saya kuat untuk mereka," luahnya dengan nada sebak.



AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES

MUKA SURAT : 1

RUANGAN :-



BEGINNING OF THE END

THE Control of Tobacco Product and Smoking Bill, also known as the Tobacco Generational Endgame (GEG) law, is tabled in Parliament. If it is passed, Malaysia will become the first country to ban smoking and stop those born after 2006 from owning tobacco and vaping products. They can be fined up to RM5,000 for buying cigarettes and smoking.

REPORTS BY NURADZIMMAH DAIM AND DHESEGAAN BALAKRISHNAN ON PAGE 7

AKHBAR : NEW STRAITS TIMES
MUKA SURAT : 7
RUANGAN : STORY OF THE DAY/NEWS

CONTROL OF TOBACCO PRODUCT AND SMOKING BILL TABLED

NURADZIMMAH DAIM
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THE Control of Tobacco Product and Smoking Bill, also known as the tobacco generational endgame (GEG) law, was tabled in the Dewan yesterday.

The law is aimed at snuffing out the smoking habit and protecting the health of Malaysians. It will apply to those born from 2007 onwards, and not 2005 as initially proposed.

"The second reading (debate) and third reading will be done in this meeting," said Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin, who tabled the bill for the first reading.

If passed, Malaysia will become the first country to ban smoking and prohibit the ownership of tobacco and vape products by those born after 2007.

The bill is divided into 12 parts, with 55 clauses.

Section 13 (of Part Four on control of sale) of the proposed act comprises the prohibition of the sale of tobacco products or services for smoking to individuals born on Jan 1, 2007 onwards and penalties. The first

offence carries a maximum fine of RM20,000 and one year's jail for individuals, and RM100,000 fine and two years' jail for corporate bodies.

For the second or subsequent offence, an individual could face a maximum fine of RM30,000 and two years' imprisonment. A corporate body faces a maximum fine of RM300,000 and three years' imprisonment.

The bill reads: "No person who was born on Jan 1, 2007 onwards shall purchase any tobacco product, smoking substance, substitute tobacco product or smoking device (under Section 13(3)).

"Any person who contravenes Subsection (3) commits an offence and shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine not exceeding RM5,000." Part Six covers the prohibition of smoking in non-smoking areas or places, with offenders facing a maximum fine of RM5,000 each.

Under Section 17, individuals born after 2007 are prohibited from smoking any tobacco product, substitute tobacco product or using any smoking device. The offence carries a maximum fine of RM5,000.

Building owners and occupiers have a duty to display a no-smoking



Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin tabled the first reading of the Control of Tobacco Product and Smoking Bill at the Dewan Rakyat yesterday. BERNAMA PIC

sign and are prohibited from providing "smoking equipment, facilities or any method intended to encourage any person to smoke". They shall take all reasonable measures to prevent any person from smoking in the building or vehicle, or in the place or area.

Those found violating the subsection are liable to a fine of up to RM5,000.

The health minister will be allowed to appoint any person as an analyst and approve laboratories to implement certain provisions in the act. Any approved laboratory shall be issued with a certificate of approval, which, in any legal proceedings under this act, shall be admissible in evidence as prima

facie proof of the facts stated in the certificate.

Part Nine of the proposed act deals with the provisions relating to enforcement.

"An authorised officer shall have the powers of a police officer of whatever rank as provided for under the Criminal Procedure Code (Act 593) in relation to investigation," reads Section 25 on the power of investigation.

Section 30 allows the authorised officer to open any baggage, package or any other container, and may examine any tobacco product, smoking substance, substitute tobacco product, smoking device or their imitations.

1: WHAT IS GENERATIONAL ENDGAME (GEG)

Generational Endgame (GEG) is a form of legislative control that prohibits smoking-related activities such as:

- * using;
- * inhaling; and,
- * possession of any form of smoking product by those born on Jan 1, 2007 and later



2: WHAT IS CONTROL OF TOBACCO PRODUCT AND SMOKING BILL

The Control of Tobacco Product and Smoking Bill is for:

- Protecting the young generation in Malaysia from getting caught up in the practice of smoking and becoming addicted to smoking products when they grow up.
- Reducing the percentage of smokers in Malaysia by 5% by 2040.

Support this bill to protect future generations from nicotine addiction and harmful chemicals of smoking products.



'Tobacco generational endgame is our final hope'

KUALA LUMPUR: Shamsul Rizal Ramli took his first puff when he was 15 and went on to become a chain smoker.

Twenty years later, he paid a hefty price for the habit.

In 2014, Shamsul was diagnosed with laryngeal cancer (Stage 3) and had his voice box removed during a total laryngectomy procedure to save his life.

Now, he uses an artificial voice box to communicate.

"The first puff will take youngsters down a path of regret. The tobacco generational endgame (GEG) is our final hope to prevent them from picking up the deadly habit.

"I almost died because my cancer tumour had enlarged and was almost blocking my respiratory tract. No one should go through this in their lives," he told the *New Straits Times*.

Shamsul, who is the president of the Malaysia Laryngectomee Association (MLA), fully backs the Control of Tobacco Product and Smoking Bill, also known as GEG, to reduce prevalence of smoking in the country.

The bill, tabled for first reading

by Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin yesterday, seeks to prohibit the sale and ownership of tobacco and vaping products by those born from 2007 onwards.

Several tobacco industry players, though, have called for the government to focus on harm reduction strategies instead of implementing the GEG.

However, Shamsul said some vaping products did contain nicotine and recent studies had suggested that they contributed to e-cigarette or vaping use-associated lung injury (EVALI) cases.

"In fact, many smokers who are trying to kick the habit eventually get hooked on vaping in the process. Some have even relapsed to cigarette smoking," he said.

Likewise, National Cancer Society Malaysia (NCSM) managing director Dr M. Murallitharan said harm reduction strategies would not deter new potential smokers from lighting up.

"Actually, what industry players want is initiation, which suggests to people who have not been

exposed to smoking to opt for vape or non-cigarette products.

"This way, they would continue to profit from nicotine addiction for generations to come.

"The GEG, on the other hand, lays out a concrete action plan and a clear roadmap to reduce smoking prevalence in the country by five per cent by 2040."

Dr Murallitharan said the ministry's decision to revise the implementation of GEG to those born after 2007, instead of 2005, would allow for better community education and enable industry stakeholders to gradually adjust to the regulations.

"NCSM made a similar suggestion, which the government agreed to and adopted, when it wanted to ban smoking at restaurants previously."

Meanwhile, economist Dr Wendy Bui Kher Thinnig from Tunku Abdul Rahman University College said GEG would reduce the burden



Dr M. Murallitharan



Dr Wendy Bui Kher Thinnig

on the country's already overstretched health-care system. "All forms of tobacco products are harmful and the notion of having a safe level of exposure to tobacco is grossly false.

"In Malaysia, the cost of treating three major smoking-related diseases was RM2.92 billion in 2004 and is projected to increase to RM8.77 billion in 2030.

"Moreover, a smoke-free generation creates a healthier environment for Malaysians, leading to greater productivity and ultimately benefiting the economy."

Bui also dismissed arguments from certain quarters that GEG would exacerbate the illicit cigarette trade in the country.

"Similar to the prohibition of drugs, such as cocaine, all it takes is tougher enforcement and to reduce incentives for illicit cigarettes." By Dhesegaaan Balakrishnan

3: WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING GEG AND CONTROL OF TOBACCO PRODUCT AND SMOKING BILL

The proposed implementation of this law is to protect the young generation in Malaysia from getting into the practice of smoking and becoming victims of smoking product addiction when they grow up, as well as reducing the percentage of smokers in Malaysia by 5% by 2040.

"This is the right time to completely close the door on smoking for young people in Malaysia."

KHAIRY JAMALUDDIN
Health minister



AKHBAR : THE STAR

MUKA SURAT : 10

RUANGAN : AT THE DEWAN RAKYAT

It's a historic move, says PM

Ismail Sabri: Anti-hopping Bill sends a 'clear message' to all MPs

THE anti-party hopping Bill sends a "clear message" to all lawmakers to hold on to the principles of the political parties they represent and to uphold the mandate bestowed upon them by voters, says Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

While tabling the Constitution (Amendment)(No.3) Bill 2022 for the second reading yesterday, Ismail Sabri said the Bill aimed to ensure political stability and prevent the country from undergoing a never-ending political crisis.

Ismail Sabri (BN-Bera) said the government viewed "defection",

"party jumping" and "floor crossing" - which have created public debate recently - seriously.

"This is because it involves the mandate and confidence of the people who chose them to represent them in the Dewan Rakyat," he said.

"The Bill is a historic moment for the country because it was established through negotiations and discussions by both the Opposition and Federal Government."

He said that the tabling of the Bill was as historic as the amendment to the Malaysia Agreement 1963 which had earned the full support

of "big-hearted" parliamentarians.

He said he hoped this Bill too would be passed with unanimous support, adding that it needed two-thirds of the House - or a minimum of 148 votes - to pass the Bill.

Speaker Tan Sri Azhar Azizan Harun said about 600 minutes had been allocated for the debate on the Bill. The amendment comprises four paragraphs and six clauses.

Among them is a clause that MPs who defect from the political party they represented as election candidates or become Independent later would have to vacate their parlia-

mentary seats.

However, there are exemptions for MPs who change political parties when their former parties have been deregistered, or if they are appointed to become Speakers of the House.

MPs who are sacked from political parties will not lose their seats.

The third reading is expected to take place today.

Watch the video
TheStarTV.com



Tough laws to stamp out smoking among the young

THOSE who are born after Jan 1, 2007, may end up paying a RM5,000 fine if they are caught smoking or puffing away on vapes or e-cigarettes.

This will come into effect if the Tobacco and Smoking Control Bill, to pave way for the generational end-game laws to ban smoking among the young generations, is passed in Parliament.

The proposed Bill was tabled for its first reading by Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin yesterday.

It not only makes smoking an offence for those born in 2007 and the years after, the law also bans the group from buying or being in possession of cigarettes and tobacco-related products.

Apart from this, shopkeepers and cigarette vendors are also not allowed to display tobacco products, and smoking devices as well as their substitutes or sell them to those covered by the ban.

Offenders may face a fine of up to RM20,000 or one year's jail or both upon conviction.

In order to ensure the generational end-game on smoking is further cemented, the proposed law also prohibits advertisements of tobacco products or substances.

This includes advertisements that encourage smoking or promote tobacco products as a "quit smoking product".

Failing that, the offenders can be fined up to RM20,000 or face a one-year jail term or both.

Individuals will also be prohibi-

ed from offering tobacco products or related substances as a reward, gift or prize.

Failing that, offenders can be fined up to RM20,000 or jailed for a year or both upon conviction.

Offending companies may also be fined up to RM30,000 and sentenced to two years in jail or both upon conviction.

Besides curbing smoking among youths, the proposed law also addresses matters such as registering, importing, packaging, and labelling of tobacco and related products.

It will also be an offence for a person caught smoking in a declared non-smoking area that the public has access to.

Those convicted under this provision could face a maximum RM5,000 fine.

The proposed laws also provide for the setting up of a committee to advise the Health Minister if there is an "acute or critical situation" related to the use of tobacco and related products which endangers lives and public safety.

The minister could prohibit the importation, manufacturing, distribution or sale of tobacco and related products if such a situation arises.

The ministry had initially proposed the ban to cover those born

Highlights of anti-smoking Bill

- 1. Section 7 -** Prohibition on advertising - **RM20,000 fine, one year jail or both.**
- 2. Section 10 -** Prohibition of sale - **RM20,000 fine, one year jail or both.**
- 3. Section 11 -** Prohibition of imitation products - **RM10,000 fine, one year or both.**
- 4. Section 12 -** Prohibition as gift or prize - **RM20,000 fine, one year jail or both.**
- 5. Section 13 -** Prohibition of sale to those born Jan 1, 2007, and onwards - **RM20,000 fine, one year jail or both.**
- 6. Section 16 -** Smoking in non-smoking area - **RM5,000 fine.**
- 7. Section 17 -** Prohibition on smoking and possession of tobacco by those born Jan 1, 2007, and onwards - **RMS,000 fine.**

TheStar graphics
Source: Tobacco and Smoking Control Bill 2022

before Jan 1, 2005, but increased the age limit to Jan 1, 2007.

The last-minute changes came amid uncertainty about support for the proposed law from some MPs.

On Monday, Khairy tweeted that the changes were made to allow for

"community education, a robust implementation plan, and ramped up enforcement" before the law comes into force in 2025.

The proposed law is expected to be debated and passed during the current Dewan Rakyat meeting, which ends on Aug 4.

Several MPs support generational end game

SEVERAL MPs have given the thumbs up for generational end game laws to prohibit smoking among youths soon.

Larry Sng (PBM-Juluat) said he supported the effort to prevent smoking from becoming a habit among the nation's youths.

"Smoking does not bring any health benefits, and it is only through legislation can we stem out this cancerous habit in our society," he said.

Ahmad Fadhli Shaari (PN-Pasir

Mas) said the proposed law was timely as it would help protect young Malaysians from developing health problems due to smoking.

"It is a very good move to table the Bill and we must all support it," he said.

Based on a study, about 49% of adult males in Malaysia are smokers, and over 20,000 deaths a year are due to cigarette-related diseases.

"This data should give rise to worry among us," he said.

However, Ahmad Fadhli said

there must also be education awareness programmes and clarity on how the law would be enforced.

Sim Tze Tzin (PH-Bayan Baru) said the tabling of the Bill was the right step forward.

"This marks a new beginning for our youth. It will stop an entire generation from smoking, which is a step in the right direction," he said.

However, he said the anti-smoking initiative should not lead to the government curbing other liberties.

Nik Nazmi NIK Ahmad (PH-

Setiawangsa) also supported the smoking ban.

"It is an intervention needed for the future of young Malaysians," he said.

However, he said that the government needs to beef up enforcement of the law to effectively curb the smoking habit among the young.

Nurul Izzah Anwar (PH-Permatang Pau) said she would vote to support the Bill.

However, she noted that she would continue to push the autho-

rities to clamp down on the sale of illicit cigarettes.

The Tobacco and Smoking Control Bill 2022 was tabled in Parliament by Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin, paving the way for generational end-game laws to prohibit smoking among youths.

The proposed law will prohibit those born on Jan 1, 2007, and onwards from smoking.

This includes banning sales of tobacco and related products to this future generation.

AKHBAR : THE SUN
MUKA SURAT : 9
RUANGAN : SPEAK UP

The vaping epidemic of children is stoppable

TWO wrongs cannot make a right. Our generation created a society of smoking and vaping, and then spent billions of ringgit on tobacco-related diseases.

Children suffer due to the negligence of our past and present eras, and we cannot pretend we have nothing to do with it.

We owe it to the next generation to give them cleaner air to breathe.

From 1982 to the 1990s, Malaysia's advertising for smoking was the highest in the world.

The advertisements overtly indoctrinated smoking into our society, and politicians offered a fertile environment for tobacco companies to test new smoking marketing strategies in Malaysia. For nearly 12 years a Tobacco Bill was in the making.

Finally, the Tobacco and Smoking Control Bill targeted at a smoke-free future generation is to be tabled next week by the Health Ministry.

The plan is a long-term phasing out of nicotine for the next 20 years to include a "generational endgame" targeted initially at children born in 2005 onwards, and those yet to be born.

For everyone else, they will still be able to smoke and vape at permitted locations.

Some opposition leaders have said publicly that they would only vote for the Bill if it was amended further while others are adopting a "wait-and-see" attitude or are abstaining from voting.

After various discussions with stakeholders, there is now a concession in the Bill to propose the ban for children born in 2007 instead of 2005 as initially proposed, to provide more time to consolidate community education, implementation and enforcement.

If the Bill is passed, Malaysia will be the first country in the world to announce a decisive pathway toward legislation.

This is not about the Health Ministry alone. Constitutional implementation is only the beginning of a long road to curbing smoking on the ground.

Those who lament the economic consequences of the Tobacco Bill should consider that the treatment of tobacco-related diseases causes a dent as deep as RM132.7 million per year.

This money could be better spent treating unpreventable cancers with unknown causes.

"If this situation is left unchecked, the government would have to bear treatment costs of about RM8 billion to treat health problems linked to smoking," said Health Minister Khairy Jamaluddin.



"It is better to not even try it than to endure the ramifications of either quitting smoking or dying."

— Christy Turlington

In the last few weeks, chilly facts and figures have been pushed by the Malaysian Health Coalition of medical specialists, health experts, civic societies, parents and teachers, who have been pleading with MPs to use their political will to support the Bill.

Smoking offers zero health benefits but is the main contributor to nearly 30,000 tobacco-related deaths every year.

Smoking is a well-documented risk factor for hypertension, lung disease, cardiovascular disease, cancer and diabetes, and is the leading cause of chronic diseases and deaths worldwide.

Malaysia has the largest vaping market in the Southeast Asian region.

The vape industry is estimated to be worth RM2.3 billion, with 330 manufacturers and importers, and 3,000 retail shops employing around 15,000 people.

There are now 4.9 million current smokers and millions of others who are prone to cancer due to second-hand smoke exposure.

Victims include their children who are involuntarily inhaling smoke.

The new epidemic of vaping or other e-cigarettes still has its known and unknown potential risks.

According to the National Health and

Morbidity Survey 2019, about 1.12 million people in this country are now using e-cigarettes.

New vapers addicted to nicotine are younger children who have never smoked cigarettes before.

At least 600,000 children between the ages of 11 and 18 have taken up vaping.

When the vaping epidemic hits it will be unstoppable.

None of this will magically disappear unless we do something about it.

The next generation should not look at the no-smoking policy as a law enforcement issue on individual choice, but as a health hazard.

Indeed, there is still a lot more that needs to be done. It is for society as a whole, the government and health experts to make this work.

Parents and teachers can do much more to protect children from exposure to second-hand smoke.

As a committed society, we will resolve many issues as we go along for the sake of the children.

As of right now, all the Bill needs is for parliamentarians to genuinely attempt to start the process and make all the wrongs right again.

Comments: letters@thesundaily.com