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Prisoner deaths mostly from illness

ALMOST 99 per cent of 2,587 deaths among prison inmates recorded between 2000 and Nov 23 this year occurred in hospitals and were caused by health problems. Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said 2,555 of the inmates died while being treated for their ailments, especially HIV. Other diseases were septicaemia, pulmonary tuberculosis, cancer, heart ailments, blood problems and asthma. He said this in a written reply to Senator Mustafa Kamal Mohd Yusoff who wanted to know the number and causes of death of inmates. — Bernama