

Headline **Significant drop in HIV cases in Malaysia - Rosnah**

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Significant drop in HIV cases in Malaysia – Rosnah

KUALA LUMPUR: Malaysia has recorded a significant drop in the number of HIV cases due to the government's implementation of various initiatives and awareness programmes, the Dewan Rakyat was told Thursday.

Deputy Health Minister Datuk Rosnah Abdul Rashid Shirlin, when answering to a question from Datuk Johari Abdul (PKR-Sungai Petani) said Malaysia recorded a significant drop last year as 3,080 cases per 100,000 population were recorded (10.8%) compared with 21.7% in 2000 based on the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) report.

Johari had wanted to know the initiatives taken by the government to combat the disease and statistics of HIV patients according to their states and ethnic.

Rosnah added that though the target of MDG was to reduce the number of new HIV cases to 11% per 100,000 population by 2015, Malaysia has been able to achieve that target six years ahead.

The government, through government agencies and non governmental organisations had carried out 55 medium and long term HIV and AIDS awareness programmes over the past five years, she said.

She said, as of 2009, 87,710 HIV cases were reported, of which, 74,316 were still alive, 15,317 or (17.5%) are AIDS cases while 13,394 (15.3%) have died.

From the total, Malays topped the list with 62,953 cases, Chinese (12,887), Indians (6,929), Bumiputra Sarawak (2,200), Bumiputra Sabah (630), others (478), foreigners (1,298) and the of 535 cases has yet to be determined.

Johor topped the list with 14,600, followed by Selangor (11,859), Kelantan (9,891), Pahang (9,036), Terengganu (8,269), Negeri Sembilan (6,455), Kuala Lumpur (6,604), Perak (5,789), Kedah (5,784), Penang (3,514), Melaka (2,687), Perlis (1,175), Sarawak (1,066) and Sabah (971).
- Bernama