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Malaysia winning the health war

MALAYSIA is more advanced than other developing countries in the Asean region in reducing incidences of infectious diseases, Deputy Health Minister Datuk Rosnah Abdul Rashid Shirlin said.

This is because Malaysia has already achieved the target of the Millennium Development Goal (MDG) in reducing the incidences of malaria by 2015.

“In 1990, the number of malaria cases was 289.5 per 100,000 people but this rate has reduced to 18.6 in 2011.

“The mortality rate due to malaria has almost reached zero. It is less than 0.2 per 100,000 people since 1992,” Rosnah told Chew Lee Giok.

She added that Malaysia is also expected to achieve its MDG target for HIV infection rate to 11 people for every 100,000 by 2015.

She explained that the implementation of various activities under the public health service has been successful in reducing the HIV infection rate from 21.7 persons per 100,000 in 2000 to 12.2 persons in 2011.

For disease such as Tuberculosis (TB), Rosnah said, the case detection rate has increased from 51% in 1990 to 84% in 2011.