



JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR

LAPORAN PEMANTAUAN MEDIA

7 – 9 MAC 2026 (SABTU - ISNIN)

Newcastle Disease Outbreak Could Cause Malaysia About RM50 Mil in Losses

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
SME Asia	Business	Dalam Talian	6 Mac



Pic from SME Asia

Following recent reports of Newcastle Disease (ND) detected by the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) in certain chickens and ducks in Malaysia since last month, China has requested Malaysia to temporarily suspend the export of edible birds' nest products into the country.

The submission request was done by the General Administration of Customs China (GACC) to the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) involving the export of both raw clean and

unclean edible birds' nest products from Malaysia since 20 December.

However, DVS noted that to date, there have been no detections of the disease at premises or in edible birds' nest products monitored by the department.

Regardless, the temporary suspension involving over 1.76 metric tonnes of birds' nest of consignments worth an estimated RM7.23 million, could potentially cause Malaysian birds' nest producers losses of about

US\$15 million (RM50 million), especially with Chinese New Year celebrations around the corner.

Currently, there are 58 companies authorised to export birds' nest to China.

According to DVS, it has held discussions with producers and exporters to provide the latest information and discuss resolutions including actions to mitigate its spread, with an assurance that the products sent to China will be free of ND.

DVS is also in the midst of updating its protocols for the export of birds' nest products to China while still being committed to ensuring compliance with international export standards and preserving the interests of Malaysian producers and exporters at the same time.

One of such exporters, MYMBN Bhd stated that the suspension has disrupted its operations, supply chains and revenue stream tied to the China market, which is one of its major export destinations.

Despite not being able to fulfil orders worth approximately RM2.5 million due to the suspension, the company continues to incur monthly overhead costs of approximately RM92,000.

This has caused the company to redirect its sales to existing alternative export markets such as Vietnam and the domestic market.

The company is also working closely with relevant authorities to monitor developments, expedite the resumption of exports and adjust operational strategies to manage inventory and ensure business continuity during this period.-[SMEASIA](#)

Bekalan Ayam dan Daging Lembu Mencukupi Sempena Hari Raya Aidilfitri

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
TV Sabah News	News Portal	Dalam Talian	6 Mac



Gambar dari TVSabahNews

KOTA KINABALU: 6 Mac 2026 – Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar Sabah (DVS) komited dalam memastikan kestabilan bekalan protein berasaskan ayam serta daging lembu/kerbau mencukupi bagi menampung permintaan semasa sambutan Hari Raya Aidilfitri tahun 2026 di negeri ini.

Berdasarkan unjuran jabatan bagi tempoh lima (5) bulan pertama tahun 2026, pengeluaran tempatan bagi daging ayam dianggarkan mencecah 29,916.65 tan

metrik, manakala daging ruminan (lembu dan kerbau) adalah sebanyak 3,185 tan metrik.

Sebagai langkah proaktif bagi menampung sebarang peningkatan permintaan ayam bulat dalam tempoh perayaan, pihak Jabatan telah membenarkan kemasukan import ayam bulat seawal bulan Disember 2025 bagi memastikan bekalan di pasaran sentiasa mencukupi dan stabil untuk keperluan rakyat.

Mengulas berkenaan rampasan produk hasilan haiwan sejuk beku di sebuah gudang di Penampang pada 3 Mac 2026 melibatkan produk berasaskan ruminan dan ayam, DVS ingin memaklumkan bahawa pihaknya telah mengesahkan tiada sitaan dibuat ke atas 542,519.16 Kg produk tersebut di bawah Enakmen Haiwan 2015 kerana kesemua produk mempunyai lesen import yang sah.

Pihak jabatan akan terus memantau perkembangan bekalan dan permintaan semasa bagi memastikan kestabilan bekalan makanan serta kelangsungan industri ternakan di negeri ini sentiasa terjamin.-

[TVSABAHNEWS](#)

Bekalan Ayam, Daging di Sabah dijamin Cukup Menjelang Aidilfitri

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
My Metro	Mutakhir	Dalam Talian	6 Mac



Gambar Hiasan

Kota Kinabalu : Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar (DVS) Sabah memberi jaminan bekalan ayam dan daging dalam negeri ini adalah mencukupi bagi menampung permintaan menjelang Aidilfitri tidak lama lagi.

Pengarah Perkhidmatan Veterinar Sabah, Dr Zul Bahar Abdul Rashid berkata berdasarkan unjuran jabatan bagi tempoh lima bulan pertama tahun ini, pengeluaran tempatan bagi daging ayam dianggarkan mencecah 29,916.65 tan

metrik.

"Manakala daging ruminan (lembu dan kerbau) adalah sebanyak 3,185 tan metrik.

"Sebagai langkah proaktif bagi menampung sebarang peningkatan permintaan ayam bulat dalam tempoh perayaan, pihak jabatan telah membenarkan kemasukan import ayam bulat seawal bulan Disember tahun lepas.

"Ini bagi memastikan bekalan di pasaran sentiasa mencukupi dan stabil untuk keperluan rakyat," katanya

dalam satu kenyataan media yang dikeluarkan, hari ini.

Dalam pada itu, Dr Zul Bahar turut mengulas berkenaan rampasan produk hasil haiwan sejuk beku di sebuah gudang di Penampang melibatkan produk berasaskan ruminan dan ayam yang dilakukan pihaknya pada 3 Mac lalu.

"DVS ingin memaklumkan bahawa pihaknya telah mengesahkan tiada sitaan dibuat ke atas 542,519.16 kilogram (KG) produk tersebut di bawah Enakmen Haiwan 2015 kerana kesemua produk mempunyai lesen import yang sah.

"Pihak jabatan akan terus memantau perkembangan bekalan dan permintaan semasa bagi memastikan kestabilan bekalan makanan serta kelangsungan industri ternakan di negeri ini sentiasa terjamin," katanya.-

[MYMETRO](#)

DVS Sabah Pastikan Bekalan Ayam dan Daging Ruminan Stabil
Sempena Hari Raya 2026

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
Sabah News	Berita Sabah	Dalam Talian	6 Mac



Gambar Hiasan

KOTA KINABALU: Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar (DVS) Sabah menegaskan komitmennya untuk memastikan bekalan protein berasaskan ayam serta daging lembu dan kerbau mencukupi bagi menampung permintaan semasa sambutan Hari Raya Aidilfitri tahun 2026 di negeri ini.

Pengarah DVS Sabah, Dr. Zul Bahar Abdul Rashid berkata, unjuran jabatan bagi lima bulan pertama 2026, pengeluaran tempatan daging ayam dijangka mencecah 29,916.65 tan

metrik, manakala pengeluaran daging ruminan (lembu dan kerbau) pula dianggarkan sebanyak 3,185 tan metrik.

“Bagi menampung sebarang peningkatan permintaan ayam bulat sepanjang tempoh perayaan, DVS telah membenarkan kemasukan import ayam bulat seawal Disember 2025 bagi memastikan bekalan di pasaran sentiasa mencukupi dan stabil,” katanya dalam satu kenyataan di sini, hari ini.

Mengulas mengenai rampasan produk hasil haiwan sejuk beku di sebuah gudang di Penampang pada 3 Mac lalu yang melibatkan produk berasaskan ruminan dan ayam beliau berkata, tiada sitaan dibuat.

“Kami telah mengesahkan tiada sitaan dibuat ke atas 542,519.16 kg produk tersebut di bawah Enakmen Haiwan 2015 kerana kesemua produk mempunyai lesen import yang sah,” jelasnya.

Dr. Zul turut menekankan bahawa pihak jabatan akan terus memantau perkembangan bekalan dan permintaan semasa bagi memastikan kestabilan bekalan makanan serta kelangsungan industri ternakan di Sabah sentiasa terjamin.-[SABAHNEWS](#)

DVS Assures Stable Chicken, Beef Supply For Hari Raya

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
Daily Express	News	Dalam Talian	6 Mac



For illustrative purposes only. - Pexels

KOTA KINABALU: The Sabah Veterinary Services Department (DVS) said it is committed to ensuring a stable supply of chicken-based protein as well as beef and buffalo meat to meet demand during the Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebrations this year.

The department projected that local chicken meat production for the first five months of this year would reach 29,916.65 metric tonnes, while ruminant meat production involving cattle and buffalo is estimated at 3,185 metric tonnes.

As a proactive step to meet any surge in demand for whole chickens during the festive period, the department allowed the import of whole chickens beginning December 2025 to ensure a sufficient and stable supply in the market.

Commenting on the seizure of frozen animal products at a warehouse in Penampang on March 3, involving ruminant and chicken products, DVS said it confirmed that no seizure was made under the Animals Enactment 2015.

The department said the 542,519.16 kilogrammes of products were found to have valid import licences and added that monitoring of supply and demand will continue to ensure food supply stability and the sustainability of the livestock industry in the state.-

[DAILYEXPRESS](#)

Bekalan Ayam dan Daging Lembu Mencukupi di Sabah Untuk Hari Raya dan Seterusnya

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
Suara Merdeka	Nasional	Dalam Talian	6 Mac



Gambar Hiasan

Bekalan daging lembu dan protein berasaskan ayam untuk Sabah mencukupi untuk Hari Raya Aidilfitri sehingga sekurang-kurangnya Mei tahun ini, kata Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar (DVS) Sabah.

Pengarah DVS, Dr Zul Bahar Abdul Rashid berkata jabatan itu komited untuk memastikan bekalan produk yang stabil untuk musim perayaan dan beberapa bulan akan datang.

“Berdasarkan pengiraan sehingga lima bulan pertama

tahun 2026, pengeluaran ayam tempatan boleh melebihi 29,916.65 tan metrik, manakala bagi daging lembu dan kerbau, ia adalah sekitar 3,185 tan metrik,” katanya dalam satu kenyataan.

Sebagai pendekatan proaktif untuk menampung sebarang peningkatan permintaan semasa musim perayaan, jabatan itu telah membenarkan import produk seawal Disember tahun lepas.

Ditanya mengenai rampasan makanan sejuk beku

baru-baru ini di sebuah unit penyimpanan di Penampang pada 3 Mac, Dr Zul berkata hasil tersebut didapati mempunyai lesen import yang sah.

“Oleh itu, tiada rampasan terhadap lebih 542kg makanan sejuk beku di bawah Enakmen Haiwan 2015,” katanya.

Beliau juga memberi jaminan kepada orang ramai bahawa pemantauan berterusan terhadap bekalan dan permintaan akan dijalankan bagi memastikan kesinambungan industry ternakan Sabah.-
[SUARAMERDEKA](#)

This has caused the company to redirect its sales to existing alternative export markets such as Vietnam and the domestic market.

The company is also working closely with relevant authorities to monitor developments, expedite the resumption of exports and adjust operational strategies to manage inventory and ensure business continuity during this period.-
[SMEASIA](#)

Bekalan Ayam, Daging di Sabah Cukup Menjelang Aidilfitri

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
Sinar Harian	Sabah Sarawak	Dalam Talian	6 Mac



DVS Sabah komited memastikan kestabilan bekalan protein berasaskan ayam serta daging lembu dan kerbau mencukupi bagi menampung permintaan semasa sambutan Aidilfitri.

KOTA KINABALU - Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar (DVS) Sabah memberi jaminan bekalan ayam serta daging lembu dan kerbau mencukupi untuk menampung permintaan semasa sambutan Hari Raya Aidilfitri di negeri ini.

Pengarah Perkhidmatan Veterinar Sabah, Dr Zul Bahar Abdul Rashid berkata, DVS Sabah komited memastikan kestabilan bekalan protein berasaskan ayam serta daging lembu dan kerbau

mencukupi bagi menampung permintaan semasa sambutan perayaan itu.

"Berdasarkan unjuran jabatan bagi tempoh lima bulan pertama tahun 2026, pengeluaran tempatan bagi daging ayam dianggarkan mencecah 29,916.65 tan metrik, manakala daging ruminan (lembu dan kerbau) sebanyak 3,185 tan metrik.

"Sebagai langkah proaktif bagi menampung sebarang peningkatan permintaan

ayam bulat dalam tempoh perayaan, pihak jabatan telah membenarkan kemasukan import ayam bulat seawal bulan Disember 2025 bagi memastikan bekalan di pasaran sentiasa mencukupi dan stabil untuk keperluan rakyat," katanya dalam kenyataan pada Jumaat.

Bagaimanapun, Zul Bahar berkata, DVS akan terus memantau perkembangan bekalan dan permintaan semasa bagi memastikan kestabilan bekalan makanan serta kelangsungan industri ternakan di negeri ini sentiasa terjamin.

Sementara itu, dalam kenyataan sama DVS turut mengesahkan tiada sitaan dibuat terhadap produk hasil haiwan sejuk beku yang dilaporkan dirampas di sebuah gudang di Penampang pada Selasa lalu.

"DVS ingin memaklumkan bahawa tiada sitaan dibuat terhadap sebanyak 542,519.16 kilogram produk tersebut di bawah Enakmen Haiwan 2015 kerana kesemuanya mempunyai lesen import yang sah," jelasnya.-

[SINARHARIAN](#)

MPKS Perhebat Kempen Vaksinasi dan Lesen Anjing, Kekang Penularan Rabies di Samarahan

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
UKAS	Edis Selatan	Dalam Talian	7 Mac



Gambar dari UKAS

KOTA SAMARAHAN: Majlis Perbandaran Kota Samarahan (MPKS) mempergiat usaha membendung penularan penyakit rabies menerusi Program Walkabout Vaksinasi Antirabies, Pendaftaran Lesen Anjing dan Pendidikan Kesihatan Rabies yang diadakan di Taman Rekreasi Uni Central, pada Sabtu.

Program anjuran Jabatan Perkhidmatan Veterinar Bahagian Samarahan itu turut mendapat kerjasama

Pejabat Kesihatan Bahagian Samarahan serta MPKS bagi meningkatkan kesedaran masyarakat, khususnya dalam kalangan pemilik anjing, mengenai kepentingan vaksinasi dan pelesenan haiwan peliharaan.

Antara pengisian utama program tersebut termasuk pemberian vaksin antirabies kepada anjing peliharaan, pendaftaran lesen anjing secara percuma serta sesi libat urus bersama pemilik anjing berkaitan langkah pencegahan penyakit rabies.

Pengerusi MPKS, Abang Ismawi Abang Ali berkata, kempen tersebut merupakan sebahagian daripada usaha berterusan pihak berkuasa tempatan bagi memastikan pemilik anjing lebih bertanggungjawab dalam melesenkan serta memvaksinkan haiwan peliharaan mereka.

Menurut beliau, inisiatif pendaftaran lesen anjing secara percuma diperkenalkan bagi tahun 2026 dengan tempoh sah selama tiga tahun sebagai galakan kepada masyarakat untuk mematuhi peraturan yang ditetapkan.

“Program ini juga bertujuan memberi pendidikan kesihatan kepada masyarakat mengenai bahaya penyakit rabies serta langkah pencegahan yang perlu diambil, terutama dalam kalangan pemilik anjing.

“Kita turut memberi tumpuan kepada kawasan dalam lingkungan 10 kilometer daripada lokasi kes kematian akibat rabies yang dilaporkan baru-baru ini bagi memastikan tindakan pencegahan dapat dilaksanakan secara menyeluruh,” katanya ketika ditemui media.

Tambah beliau, pemilik anjing yang gagal mematuhi peraturan pelesenan boleh

dikenakan kompaun sehingga RM2,500 mengikut undang-undang kecil yang dikuatkuasakan oleh pihak berkuasa tempatan.

Dalam masa sama, beliau menegaskan bahawa tindakan tegas akan diambil terhadap pemilik yang membiarkan anjing peliharaan berkeliaran di luar kawasan rumah kerana keadaan itu boleh meningkatkan risiko penularan penyakit rabies.

Sehubungan itu, beliau menyeru orang ramai khususnya pemilik anjing agar tampil mendapatkan vaksinasi serta mendaftarkan lesen anjing sepanjang tempoh kempen tersebut bagi membantu usaha kerajaan membanteras penyakit rabies di Sarawak. -

[EDISI UKAS](#)

Animal Cruelty Must Be Met With Firm Justice

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
NST	Letters	Dalam Talian	8 Mac



The Sunday Times report today revealing that 6,423 animal welfare complaints were investigated over the past five years, with more than 80 per cent involving neglect, was deeply troubling. These figures highlighted that animal cruelty and neglect remained serious concerns that must not be taken lightly.

LETTERS: The Sunday Times report today revealing that 6,423 animal welfare complaints were investigated over the past five years, with more than 80 per cent involving neglect, was deeply troubling.

These figures highlighted that animal cruelty and neglect remained serious concerns that must not be taken lightly.

Malaysia already had strong

legislation in place through the Animal Welfare Act 2015, which provided for penalties of up to RM100,000 in fines, imprisonment of up to three years, or both.

These provisions reflected Parliament's recognition that cruelty to animals was a serious offence that should be treated with the gravity it deserved.

However, there had been growing public concern that

in many cases the penalties imposed were far below what the law allowed, with offenders often receiving minimal fines or lighter sentences.

When punishments were too lenient, they undermined the deterrent effect of the law and could embolden others to commit similar acts of cruelty.

Animals were living beings capable of experiencing pain and suffering, depending entirely on human beings for care and protection.

A society that allowed cruelty towards animals to go unchecked risked eroding its moral conscience and compassion.

For this reason, it was important that animal cruelty cases were treated seriously at every stage — from investigation and prosecution to sentencing.

We must put an end to "impulse buys" for children by calling out parents who treat animals as temporary toys, failing to realise that a pet is a "forever thing" that requires a long-term bond and a commitment to the long haul.

Providing medical care must be viewed as a non-negotiable obligation where

dikenakan kompaun sehingga RM2,500 mengikut undang-undang kecil yang dikuatkuasakan oleh pihak berkuasa tempatan.

Dalam masa sama, beliau menegaskan bahawa tindakan tegas akan diambil terhadap pemilik yang membiarkan anjing peliharaan berkeliaran di luar kawasan rumah kerana keadaan itu boleh meningkatkan risiko penularan penyakit rabies. taking a sick pet to the vet is mandatory, as providing food is merely the bare minimum of a responsibility that includes full health attention.

Ultimately, the main takeaway is that pets represent a lifelong bond equivalent to family and should be treated with the same unwavering respect and care as any other member of the household.

Courts played a critical role in ensuring that justice was not only done but seen to be done through sentences that reflect the seriousness of the offence and send a clear message that cruelty would not be tolerated.

At the same time, enforcement agencies had to continue strengthening investigations and prosecution efforts to ensure offenders were brought to

justice effectively.

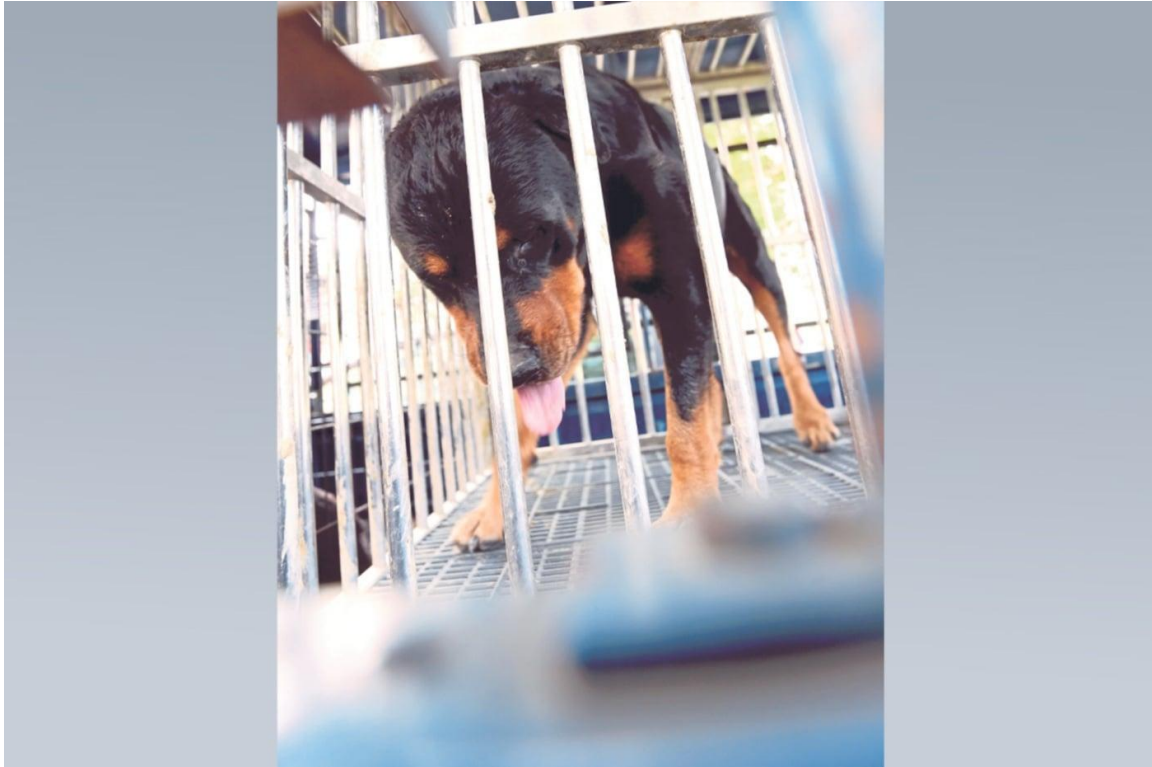
Beyond legal enforcement, there was also a need to cultivate greater compassion and responsibility through public education, responsible pet ownership, and stronger community awareness.

The way a society treated its animals was often seen as a reflection of its humanity and moral values.

As a caring and civilised nation, Malaysia had to ensure that animal welfare was protected and that those who inflicted cruelty were held fully accountable under the law.-[NST](#)

Neglect Tops Animal Welfare Complaints

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
NST	Nation	Dalam Talian	8 Mac



A dog being brought to the Ampang magistrate's court as an exhibit in an animal neglect case in 2016. The owner was found guilty and fined RM4,000. - NSTP FILE PIC

KUALA LUMPUR: More than 6,000 complaints were investigated under the Animal Welfare Act over the past five years, with about 80 per cent involving neglect, the Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) said.

Of the 19,903 complaints investigated between 2021 and Dec 18 last year, 6,423 were found to be offences under the Act, while the remaining were categorised as duplicates, unrelated or false complaints, or

complaints that fell outside the Act.

Selangor recorded the highest complaints at 2,146, followed by Kuala Lumpur (964) and Penang (798).

DVS director-general Datuk Dr Mohd Noor Hisham Mohd Haron said most cases involved neglect, while the rest concerned cruelty and other offences.

The department's data also showed an increase in

complaints, which he attributed to rising public awareness and improved access to the MyAnimalWelfare system for digital submissions.

However, he said a higher number of complaints does not necessarily mean more cases of neglect or cruelty.

"Rather, it reflects improved reporting efficiency, greater transparency and heightened public awareness," he told the New Straits Times.

ALL COMPLAINTS TREATED FAIRLY

He said cases that go viral often trigger multiple reports.

They included more than 2,000 complaints received last year over a veterinary clinic owner who allegedly abandoned cats and dogs under her care, leading to the animals' deaths.

"These are classified as duplicate complaints for a single case. As such, the number of complaints received often exceeds the number of actual incidents.

"Although the MyAnimalWelfare system allows digital submissions, every complaint, including viral complaints, must still be manually

reviewed and assessed by DVS officers before any response is issued," he said.

Dr Noor Hisham also addressed the perception that a higher volume of complaints will lead to swifter action by the authorities.

"In reality, an influx of repeated or duplicate complaints can slightly delay the review process, as each submission must be carefully assessed.

"All complaints are treated fairly and priority is not determined solely by the number of reports received," he said, adding that action is based on the severity of the case.

Cases involving serious cruelty that threaten an animal's life are acted upon within 24 hours and given priority.

Neglect cases are handled according to risk level and, on average, are acted on within five working days, regardless of whether the complaint is lodged by one person or many.

NEGLECT VS CRUELTY

Dr Noor Hisham also explained the legal distinction between neglect and cruelty, which some

animal lovers had previously misunderstood.

"Neglect refers to the owner or custodian's failure to provide the five basic animal welfare needs: food, water, shelter, healthcare and appropriate care.

"In many cases, neglect occurs due to lack of knowledge, negligence or certain constraints, and does not necessarily involve intent to harm the animal.

"In contrast, animal cruelty involves deliberate acts or intent to cause pain, suffering or injury to an animal, including acts of brutality or behaviour that compromises the animal's welfare.

"There are 21 cruelty offences stipulated under the Act," he said.

He called on the public not to immediately label viral or reported cases as cruelty, as each complaint must be investigated based on facts, evidence and legal provisions.

"This approach ensures fair and principled enforcement in line with animal welfare standards.

"DVS emphasises that every complaint is investigated professionally.

"The public is encouraged to submit complete and accurate information to facilitate enforcement," he said.

NOT ALL PROSECUTED

Dr Noor Hisham said officers assessed each case based on findings and evidence on the ground.

Actions may include advisory services, improvement notices to ensure compliance, or compounding and prosecution if offences under the Act are established.

"If compounding or prosecution is warranted, the inspecting officer will prepare a report for the Veterinary Enforcement Division for further action," he said.

If needed, officers conduct follow-up inspections to ensure compliance with improvement notices.

"They will revisit the premises until they are satisfied that the required improvements have been made," he said.

Among the challenges facing DVS are the growing volume of complaints, manpower and logistical constraints, wide geographical coverage and the need for technical expertise.

He acknowledges that limited resources may affect case management.

Nevertheless, DVS prioritises high-risk cases, particularly those involving serious cruelty, and optimises available resources.

While some parties perceive the department's response as slow, Dr Noor Hisham said DVS remains the competent authority for managing animal welfare and cruelty complaints.

He added that the MyAnimalWelfare system through systematic recording, screening, monitoring and follow-up, allowing faster responses to complainants.

Negative perceptions, especially in high-profile or viral cases, may stem from limited public understanding of screening processes, enforcement timelines and prioritisation criteria under DVS standard operating procedures.

In this regard, he said, DVS continues to promote responsible pet ownership through animal welfare campaigns at state and federal levels.-NST

DVS Targets Four-star Rating in Upcoming Australian Livestock Supply Audit

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
NST	Nation	Dalam Talian	8 Mac



A Department of Veterinary Services inspector at an abattoir in Shah Alam. DVS wants to increase the number of meat inspectors to ensure that livestock are safe for slaughter. - NSTP FILE PIC

KUALA LUMPUR: The Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) will increase the number of meat inspectors nationwide as it seeks a four-star rating in an audit under Australia's Exporter Supply Chain Assurance System (ESCAS) scheduled for June.

Its director-general, Datuk Dr Mohd Noor Hisham Mohd Haron, said strengthening meat inspection capacity is crucial not only for public health, but also for

maintaining international confidence in Malaysia's management of imported livestock.

Malaysia is rated at 3.5 stars under the ESCAS framework and is aiming to achieve at least a 4-star rating after the next audit.

"Our direction now is to reach four stars. Once DVS is recognised at that level, our standing is higher and closer to developed countries," he told the New Straits Times.

He said a stronger rating would enhance confidence in Malaysia's veterinary health certification, particularly among trading partners.

"When our entrepreneurs export, our health certificates must be trusted by other countries.

"They need to know that Malaysian authorities have carried out their responsibilities properly," he said.

Dr Noor Hisham said one concern raised in the previous audit involved meat and product inspection, as well as food safety areas constrained by manpower shortages.

Ideally, he said, every animal slaughtered for consumption in Malaysia, including poultry, cattle, goats and pigs, should be inspected by DVS officers to ensure that they are healthy.

"But we face limitations in terms of staff and manpower to do this."

He cited the scale of poultry consumption in Malaysia to illustrate his point: between 1.9 million and 2.1 million chickens are consumed in the country daily.

"In principle, each of these chickens should go through

our inspection.

"That is just poultry. We have not even included cattle and other livestock," he said.

DVS has 70 meat inspectors overseeing 112 premises, including departmental slaughterhouses, private premises and poultry plants.

"On average, one inspector needs to cover about two premises.

"DVS estimates that an additional 20 to 30 inspectors are required to ensure permanent placement at key abattoirs and plants to ensure more consistent monitoring.

"This approach takes into account long-term effectiveness compared with the temporary appointment of part-time state officers," he said.

While certified meat inspectors are stationed at major licensed slaughterhouses, Dr Noor Hisham acknowledged that DVS does not have the capacity to inspect every animal slaughtered nationwide.

To address manpower constraints, he said DVS is adopting a two-pronged approach:

GRADUALLY increasing the number of meat inspectors; and

EXPLORING greater involvement of the private sector, including retired veterinary officers and private veterinarians, to support inspection efforts.

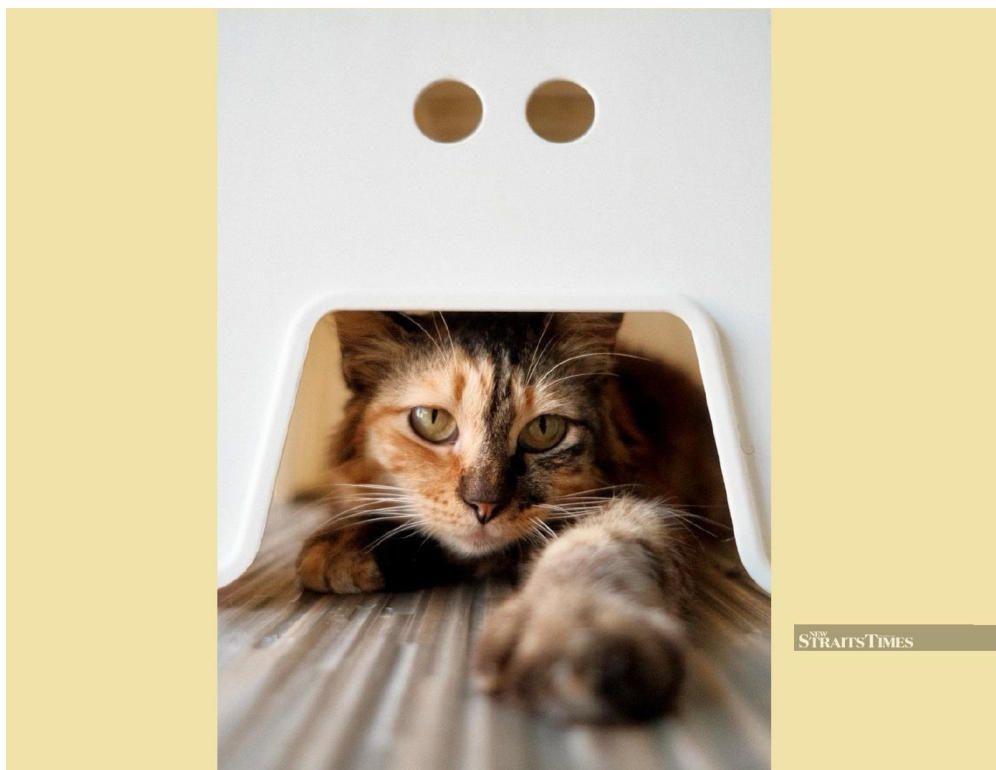
"Australia exports live cattle to us. They want assurance that we handle their livestock humanely including the slaughter systems we use.

"We will increase the number of meat inspectors gradually. It is a step-by-step process, but our direction towards four stars is clear," he said.

Consumers, he added, can look for the "V" logo indicating veterinary-inspected products.-[NST](#)

NST Leader: Loving Animals Must Be Matched With Responsibility To End Neglect

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
NST	Leaders	Dalam Talian	8 Mac



Failure by an owner or custodian to provide basic animal welfare needs – such as food, water, suitable shelter and healthcare – qualifies as neglect under the Act. - NSTP/LOONG WAI TING

THE Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) dashboard shows a rising awareness of animal welfare among Malaysians. Yet complaints of animal neglect and cruelty remain plentiful, judging by the disclosure of DVS director-general Dr Mohd Noor Hisham Mohd Haron to the New Straits Times.

Start with the numbers. Over the last five years beginning in 2021, DVS investigated 19,903 complaints. That is a

remarkably large number for a department that has responsibilities beyond animal welfare alone. Of these, 6,423 were found to be offences under the Animal Welfare Act 2015.

When DVS further analysed the data, it found that 80 per cent of the complaints investigated involved animal neglect rather than animal cruelty — two distinct offences under the Act. The distinction matters.

For an act to qualify as animal cruelty, it must be deliberate and intended to cause pain, suffering or injury to the animal. The Animal Welfare Act stipulates 21 cruelty offences, including commonly reported acts such as cruelly beating, torturing and terrifying animals.

Animal neglect, however, is often the result of lack of knowledge, negligence or constraints, and does not necessarily involve intent to harm. Failure by an owner or custodian to provide basic animal welfare needs — such as food, water, suitable shelter and healthcare — qualifies as neglect under the Act.

What we learn from this is that while awareness of animal welfare is rising, reports of neglect are also increasing. Increased reporting partly reflects greater public awareness and the accessibility of the MyAnimalWelfare reporting system. This is a positive sign of civic engagement.

As DVS has revealed, animal neglect often stems from ignorance rather than cruelty. It is troubling to learn that many owners fail to provide basic necessities: adequate food, water, shelter, healthcare and proper care.

Lack of knowledge about

responsible pet ownership remains widespread. Pets are sometimes acquired impulsively without a clear understanding of the long-term responsibilities involved.

Enforcement alone cannot solve the problem. DVS faces manpower, logistical and geographical constraints. Investigations, inspections and follow-ups require time and resources. Preventive measures are far more effective than reactive enforcement.

Education is the long-term solution. Public campaigns on responsible pet ownership must be intensified. Schools, communities and local councils can help promote awareness.

We are encouraged to learn that DVS continues to emphasise public education through animal welfare campaigns at both state and federal levels to promote responsible pet ownership and improve understanding of animal welfare principles.

With 650 registered veterinary clinics in the country, veterinarians in private practice can and must also play a role. Animal welfare groups should likewise strengthen their efforts to educate owners.

Love must be matched by responsibility. Loving animals means ensuring their welfare, not merely reacting when cruelty goes viral online. Responsible ownership is the first and most important line of defence against neglect.

A society that truly cares about animals must move beyond outrage over viral cruelty cases. Real progress will come when responsible pet ownership becomes the norm rather than the exception.-NST

Meat Supply Sufficient For Aidilfitri Demand

MEDIA	RUANGAN	MUKA SURAT	TARIKH
Daily Express	News	Dalam Talian	8 Mac



KOTA KINABALU: The Sabah Department of Veterinary Services (DVS) has assured that the supply of chicken, beef and buffalo meat is sufficient to meet the high demand ahead of this year's Hari Raya Aidilfitri celebration.

Its Director, Dr Zul Bahar Abdul Rashid, said that based on the department's projections for the first five months of the year, local chicken production is estimated to reach 29,916.65 metric tons, while ruminant meat (beef and buffalo) is expected to hit 3,185 metric tons.

"As a proactive measure to accommodate any increase in demand for whole chickens during the festive period, the department has allowed for the import of whole chickens since December last year to ensure that supplies remain sufficient and stable," he said.

Commenting on reports about the seizure of 542,519.16 kg of frozen ruminant and poultry products at a warehouse in Penampang on March 3, Dr. Zul Bahar clarified that no such confiscation was made.

He explained that upon review under the Animals Enactment 2015, all the products were found to have valid import licenses.

He added that the department will continue to closely monitor supply and demand trends to safeguard the stability of food supply and long-term sustainability of Sabah's livestock industry.-

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TERIMA KASIH

DISEDIAKAN OLEH:

UNIT KOMUNIKASI KORPORAT
JABATAN PERKHIDMATAN VETERINAR