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COVID-19 RESPONSES AROUND THE WORLD

THE World Health Organisation has reported more than 126,000 cases worldwide, calling it a 'pandemic', but China, where the virus originated, is seeing a drop in the number of cases

ITALY
Total recorded cases: **10,000+**
Total deaths: **631**
Measures taken: Italy is the first European country to enforce a ban on flights to and from China. The country is in lockdown. Schools, public spaces and tourist attractions have been closed. Bars and restaurants must shut by 6pm. Citizens must remain at least 3ft apart. Prison visits have been banned. People who defy the lockdown will be fined €206 and jailed for three months.
Latest: A total of 20,000 new healthcare workers have been hired. The government has allocated €25 billion to mitigate the economic impact of the outbreak.

DENMARK
Total recorded cases: **617**
Total deaths: **0**
Measures taken: On Wednesday, Denmark became the second European country after Italy to be in lockdown. All state schools, cultural institutions, libraries and leisure facilities will close for two weeks starting this weekend. Non-essential public sector workers, except those in healthcare, elderly care and the police, will work from home.
Latest: A total of 1,303 people are being quarantined.

CHINA
Total recorded cases: **80,793**
Total deaths: **3,169**
Measures taken: About 50 million people are in mandatory quarantine and 1,800 teams have been deployed to trace confirmed cases. China's government tracks citizens' movements using mobile applications. Neighbours of confirmed cases have been told to report attempted breaches of the quarantine. Two hospitals for Covid-19 were built within a week. Social distancing and closure of schools, businesses and theatres are in place.
Latest: The number of cases has decreased due to strict measures. Travel restrictions have been relaxed.

UNITED STATES
Total recorded cases: **1,000+**
Total deaths: **38**
Measures taken: President Donald Trump has announced a month-long travel ban on travellers from European countries, except the United Kingdom. Defence Department service members have been banned from travelling to virus-stricken nations for 60 days. Economic relief efforts, such as low-interest loans for affected small businesses, have been put in place.
Latest: Actor Tom Hanks and his wife, actress Rita Wilson, have tested positive for Covid-19 after arriving in Australia for filming.

SOUTH KOREA
Total recorded cases: **7,869**
Total deaths: **66**
Measures taken: South Korea has raised the alert level to the highest grade recently. Citizens have been told to avoid large gatherings, including religious services. People have been urged to wear face masks when outdoors. High-risk locations are disinfected regularly. Schools have been closed for a week.
Latest: Number of cases is declining.

MALAYSIA
Total recorded cases: **149**
Total deaths: **0**
Measures taken: Direct flights between Sabah and China have been stopped indefinitely. Checks at the Thai border have been heightened. Sarawak is shutting out all visitors from China. All Iranian, Italian and South Korean nationals have been banned from entry, in addition to those from Hubei, Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces in China and Hokkaido in Japan. A RM20 billion economic stimulus package has been launched to tackle the affects of the Covid-19 outbreak. It will likely be reviewed to include more funding. The Economic Action Council will help handle the situation.
Latest: 26 patients have recovered up to Wednesday.

SAUDI ARABIA
Total recorded cases: **49**
Total deaths: **0**
Measures taken: The kingdom has banned the entry of citizens from 39 countries, including Gulf Cooperation Council states. Umrah to Islam's holiest sites in Makkah and Madinah have been suspended. Schools and universities will be closed this week.
Latest: A total of 24 new cases have been reported up to yesterday, comprising those with close contact with Iraqis, Iranians and Egyptians.

IRAN
Total recorded cases: **9,000+**
Total deaths: **354**
Measures taken: Citizens have been urged to stay indoors. Universities, tertiary institutions and schools in several cities have been closed until March 20. Some 70,000 prisoners have been temporarily released to limit the spread of the virus in prisons.
Latest: 2,959 patients have recovered.

COVID-19 AFFECTING LARGE-SCALE EVENTS

CANCELLED

- FEB 22: Seventeen 'Ode To You' World Tour (Axiata Arena)
- MARCH 7: GOT7 'Keep Spinning' 2020 World Tour (Axiata Arena)
- MARCH 15: Unicorn Fun Run (MAEPS Serdang)

POSTPONED

- MAY 1-3: MATTA Fair (March 13-15*)
- JUNE 22-24: Palm and Lauric Oils Price Outlook Conference and Exhibition (March 2-4*)
- AUG 24-27: Defence Services Asia 2020 and National Security Asia 2020 (April 20-23*)
- SEPT 1-4: Malaysia International Halal Showcase (April 1-4*)
- JULY 2-5: Malaysia Autoshow 2020 (April 9-12*)
- OCT 18: Kenny G Concert Live in Malaysia (Feb 16*)
- TBA: Putrajaya International Hot Air Balloon Fiesta (March 19-22*)
- TBA: Raveena 'Lucid' Asia World Tour 2020 (March 8*)
- TBA: Super Junior 'Super Show 8: Infinite Time' (March 1*)
- TBA: Rockaway Festival (March 14-15*)
- TBA: Kim Jae Joong Asia Tour (March 14*)

TBA: To be announced * Original date

VIRUS EXPLOSION

ENDEMIC

- » A disease that exists permanently in a particular community and locality.
- » It is expected to have frequent cases, but at a low and stable rate.

Example: Dengue is an endemic disease in Malaysia.

EPIDEMIC

- » A disease that exists among people in several districts.
- » It refers to an out of the ordinary, sudden spike of cases within a certain time frame.
- » It is also known as an outbreak.

Example: The Covid-19 outbreak is affecting several countries.

PANDEMIC

- » It refers to an epidemic that has spread across the world and affects a large population where infections are high within a short period of time.
- » It is often associated with a new disease [novel].
- » It is a widespread disease resulting in high death rates.

Example: The Black Death pandemic that occurred from the 14th to 17th century saw the deaths of two-thirds of the world population.