

MOH warns civil servants not to make statements

PETALING JAYA: The Health Ministry (MOH) has warned civil servants against issuing unauthorised statements regarding policies, programmes or government decisions, especially on social media.

This followed reports that a staff member had made a statement about the national vaccination programme.

Unverified statements could lead to public confusion and affect the credibility of the government, MOH secretary-general Datuk Mohd Shafiq Abdullah said on the ministry's official Facebook page.

"Rules on ethics in the public sector, particularly on the usage of social media, are not meant to prohibit officers from speaking out but to ensure that they use the right medium to channel feedback and complaints," he said.

"All Health Ministry officers are constantly reminded to be courteous and ethical when using social media and to ensure that they maintain boundaries so as to avoid misconduct that can lead to disciplinary action.

"The ministry takes social media misconduct and unreasonable public statements by civil servants seriously," he said, adding that disciplinary action would be taken against offenders.