

**Go, balik kampung, be with family [NSTTV]**

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BERA: The government is sticking to its stand to allow Malaysians to "balik kampung" for Hari Raya Aidilfitri, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

Ismail Sabri said he even advised those he had met to celebrate Aidilfitri with their families after two years of not being able to cross state lines following the implementation of the Movement Control Order to curb the spread of Covid-19.

He also said that as the Prime Minister, he would be doing things a little differently this year by not holding the customary Seri Perdana open house on the first day of Aidilfitri.

This he said was to give the people the opportunity to celebrate the festival with their families first.

"I mentioned to them that their children can return home to celebrate (Aidilfitri) this year. I believe many had already 'balik kampung' on the first day of Ramadan because the roads were badly congested then.

"This time, to give people the opportunity to 'balik kampung' for raya, we will hold the Prime Minister's Open House on May 8. Do 'balik kampung' to celebrate raya with family first, because we have been eagerly anticipating the eve of raya so we can prepare for the celebration together," he said.

Ismail Sabri, who is also Bera Member of Parliament, said this when met after presenting donations from the Petronas Foundation to the underprivileged including the poor, persons with disabilities (PwDs), orphans and single mothers at the Al-Muttaqin Mosque, Kampung Mengkarak here today.

However, in the excitement of returning to their hometowns, the Prime Minister reminded the public to continue exercising self-control despite the various relaxations accorded following Malaysia entering the transition to endemicity phase on April 1.

"Although self-control is not mandatory, the wearing of face masks is still mandatory. I hope everyone can continue practising self-control to ensure their own safety as well as that of their family members and others even if there is no more physical distancing required," he said.

Commenting on the donation, Ismail Sabri said the cash donation distributed today and tomorrow, to 4,800 recipients from around the Bera parliamentary constituency, was to help the recipients prepare for Aidilfitri.

Muslims in Malaysia are likely to celebrate Aidilfitri on May 3 and Ismail Sabri said the open house for the Bera parliamentary constituency will be held on May 7 at Dataran Kerayong, here.- BERNAMA



The government is sticking to its stand to allow Malaysians to 'balik kampung' to celebrate Aidilfitri, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob. - NSTP/ FARIZUL HAFIZ AWANG