

Dengue fever death toll reaches 100

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BENTONG: The health minister has raised the alarm bells on dengue fever after receiving news of the 100th death of the year.

Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai said the latest case had raised the number of dengue cases to 31,375. The victim was a 46-year-old man from Kota Baru.

"These are critical times. The total number of deaths has increased by 40 per cent this year compared with the corresponding period last year.

"We reported 29,183 cases with 67 deaths last year," he said at the Bentong Health Carnival yesterday.

Liow urged the public to give its fullest co-operation in *gotong-royong* programmes, including following the advice of the ministry.

"The ministry has declared a war against dengue, but we cannot do it alone.

"There is a need for concerted effort from all parties."

Liow said he had prepared a paper to inform the cabinet of the worsening situation.

He said the rising trend was also faced by countries like Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam due to the rainy season and global warming.

"An increase of one degree in world temperature will have a double effect on the breeding of mosquitoes," stressed Liow.

During the health carnival, Liow gave away spectacles sponsored by Yayasan Tun Rahah to 86 primary and secondary students in his constituency.

The carnival held at SJK (C) Kampung Perting yesterday was the second to be organised in the Bentong parliamentary constituency.

The first was in Kampung Baru Repas. There will be a similar carnival at SJK (C) Karak and SJK (C) Telemong on Sept 5 and 26 respectively.

FACTS&FIGURES

Dengue toll

31,375

dengue cases
this year

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year

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