

**PRESS RELEASE ON  
HAND-FOOT-MOUTH DISEASE  
YB Datuk Patinggi Tan Sri Dr George Chan Hong Nam  
13<sup>th</sup> March 2006**

I would like to touch on the following issues during this press conference

**1. Statistics on Hand Foot and Mouth Disease (HFMD) as of 13/03/2006 at 10.00am:**

Total cumulative reported cases: 4278

Highest in the following Divisions:

- Sibü - 1748
- Bintulu - 620
- Kuching - 535
- Miri - 465
- Sarikei - 326
- Mukah - 267

Total new reported cases: 158

Highest in the following Divisions:

- Miri - 55
- Sibü - 45
- Bintulu - 27
- Mukah - 14

Total number of cumulative admissions - 584

- Highest in Sibü with 297
- Bintulu (77) , Miri (61), Mukah (33)

No. of new admission: 31

- Highest Sibü Hospital - 16
- Bintulu (10)

No. of HFMD patients still in the ward: 89

No. of HFMD patient in intensive care unit: 1

## **2. Clarification on newspaper article : “Ban on traveling among children under the age of 10 years old from Sarawak to West Malaysia”**

There was report in some of the local papers on the 13<sup>th</sup> March 13, 2006 stating that the Minister Of Health had called on the ban of traveling especially among children below the age of 10 years old from Sarawak to West Malaysia.

This statement was incorrect,

There is no ban implemented as such but traveling among children of this age group should be discouraged.

Nevertheless, if anyone found having the following signs and symptoms below are advised to stop traveling;

- a) fever > 38.5 degree celcius
- b) sorethroat
- c) ulcers and blisters on the mouth, foot and hand
- d) headache
- e) blisters and rashes over the hand, foot and mouth.