



## **Media Statement**

**CYBERJAYA**

**29 January 2020**

### **FOUR INDIVIDUALS DETAINED FOR SPREADING FAKE NEWS ON THE NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCov) OUTBREAK**

The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) and the Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM) have detained four (4) individuals suspected of spreading false news regarding the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) outbreak.

PDRM and MCMC conducted four separate raids between 11:00 am and 5:00 pm, two (2) in Melaka and one (1) in Kedah and Pahang respectively, whereby the suspects were detained to record their statements.

In Alor Setar, a part-time tutor aged 49, was detained at about 12:00 pm for allegedly uploading fake news about the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) outbreak on Facebook on 25 January 2020.

Two pharmacy assistants aged between 25 and 30 were detained in Peringgit and Merlimau, Melaka respectively, around 4:00 pm to assist in investigations related to fake news on the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) outbreak that was uploaded on Facebook on 26 January 2020.

Meanwhile, a student aged 24, was also detained at 4:15 pm in Kuantan, Pahang for allegedly sharing false information on the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) outbreak via Twitter on 27 January 2020.

Four (4) units of smartphones, five (5) SIM cards and two (2) memory cards believed to have been used to upload false information on the Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCov) outbreak on social media have been confiscated from all four suspects during the raids.

All suspects will be investigated under Section 233 of the Communications and Multimedia Act (CMA) 1998, which provides a maximum fine of RM50, 000 or imprisonment for up to a year, or both, and shall also be liable to a further fine of RM1, 000 for every day during which the offence is continued after conviction.

MCMC and PDRM will continue to step up enforcement efforts to control the spreading of false news to preserve harmony and public order.

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#### **About Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC)**

The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) is a statutory body established under the Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission Act 1998 (MCMCA) which implements and promotes the Government's national policy objectives for the communications and multimedia sector. MCMC regulates and promotes the development of the communications and multimedia industry, which includes telecommunications, broadcasting, and online activities, postal services and digital certification. The Communication and Multimedia Act provides that MCMC undertakes a policy implementation role, while policy decision-making is vested with the Minister. For more information, visit [www.mcmc.gov.my](http://www.mcmc.gov.my) or contact:

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