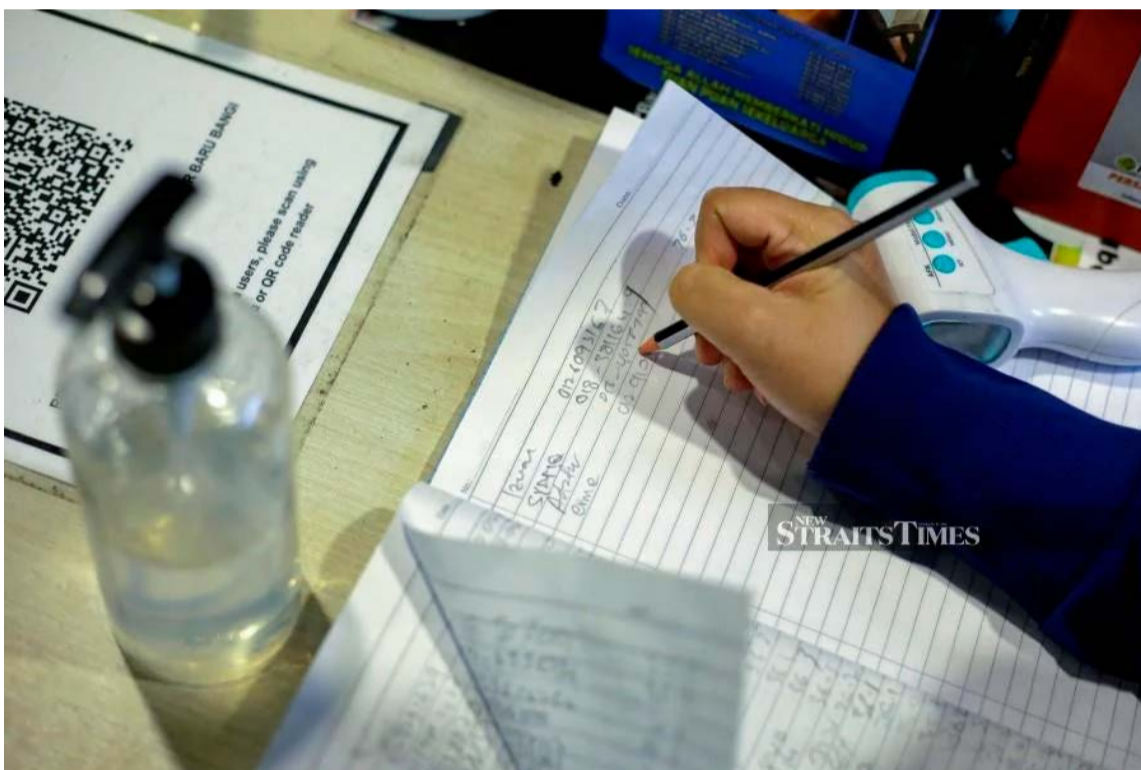


# Selangor 'resto-bar' operators concerned over 11pm closure



By [B. Suresh Ram](#) - October 3, 2020 @ 6:09pm



Selangor has been urged to review its decision to limit the operations of restaurants with bar settings or 'resto-bars' until 11pm. - NSTP file pic, for illustration purposes only

KUALA LUMPUR: Selangor has been urged to review its decision to limit the operations of restaurants with bar settings or "resto-bars" until 11pm.

The Malaysia Retailers Association (MRA), Malaysia Retail Chain Association (MRCA), and the Malaysia Shopping Malls Association said they were perplexed with the state government's move on the matter, which will take effect from today.

"We refer to the announcement by the Menteri Besar of Selangor that restaurants with bar service will have to close by 11pm beginning from 3rd October 2020.

"We are perplexed with this sudden change of operation hours when all businesses are allowed to operate up to 2am.

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## restaurant in Bangsar

"We are all deeply concerned with the sudden spike in the Covid-19 cases the past two days and the industry and business community are supportive of actions that will mitigate this spread of the pandemic," the three associations said in a joint statement here today.

They said they believe the sudden change in operation hours on a selective category of business was not the solution but detrimental to the efforts to recover, revive and survive with the reopening of the economy.

"Closing at 11pm has no relevance to the steps required to stem the spread of the disease.

"Strict observation of the SOP by everyone from individuals to businesses is the key to contain the spread of this disease," they said.

The associations added that there was no correlation between operating hours in the Bbstro-bar businesses with the spike in the Covid-19 cases and this instruction was very disruptive and detrimental to the recovery process.

"We therefore seek the Selangor Menteri Besar's urgent review of this change in operation hours on this selective sector of the F&B (Food & Beverage) industry and allow all types of businesses especially in the F&B industry to operate common allowable operating hours in order not to cause further losses detrimental to the re-start, recovery, revival process towards sustainable survival," they said.

On Friday, Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari in a statement on measures taken to mitigate the spread of Covid-19 said failure to comply with the instruction would see business licenses revoked.

"Besides complying with the National Security Council's Recovery Movement Control Order in maintaining the operation ban on nightclubs and bars, restaurants with the concept of bars will also face restrictions where they should close by 11pm, effective Saturday (Oct 3)."

Amirudin also said it was not advisable or encouraged to hold conferences and mass gatherings in the state amid the escalating cases.

"The maximum limit (of a public gathering) at any one time is 250 people," he said.

Amirudin said these were part of Selangor's "best approach" to contain the spread and prevent a possible third wave of Covid-19 transmission in the state.

He said with appropriate measures, Selangor would succeed in controlling the situation.

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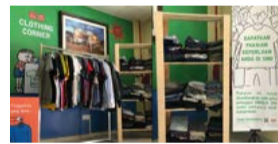
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