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Tajuk : *Covid-19: Kelantan Islamic council encourages face masks in mosques and surau*

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KOTA BARU: The Kelantan Islamic Religious and Malay Customs Council (MAIK) encourages the wearing of face masks to the mosque and surau to curb the spread of Covid-19.

Its chairman Tengku Tan Sri Mohamad Rizam Tengku Abdul Aziz said a circular to this effect would be issued to mosques and surau in the state.

"If we look at the statistics released by the Health Ministry, there is an increase (in cases), although the situation is under control," he told a press conference after the Corporate Zakat Payment ceremony at the MAIK office here on Tuesday (Dec 19).

At the event, three corporate entities, namely Felda Global Ventures Holdings Bhd (FGV), the Land Surveyors Board and **Angkatan Koperasi Kebangsaan** paid tithe amounting to more than RM1.1mil, RM1mil and RM130,493 respectively, while private company AnaZahra OEM paid tithe amounting to RM1mil.

On corporate tithe collection by MAIK this year, he said RM36,344,683.05 had been collected as of Monday (Dec 18), a 5.4% increase over RM34,480,828.96 in the same period last year.

"Business tithe payments by corporate companies in Kelantan are quite good based on the amount of payments received by MAIK," he added.

In another development, Mohamad Rizam said many asnaf (those eligible to receive tithe) under MAIK have come out of the poverty line with the drop in the number of tithe recipients from 10,000 to 8,000 people. – Bernama