

Occupational injuries up 58.9 pct in 2022, says department

KUALA LUMPUR: The number of occupational injuries increased by 58.9 per cent to record 34,216 cases last year compared to 21,534 cases in the previous year, according to the Department of Statistics Malaysia (DoSM).

Chief statistician Datuk Seri Dr Mohd Uzir Mahidin, in a statement on the National Occupational Accident and Disease Statistics 2022, said this resulted in the rate of occupational injuries per 1,000 workers in 2022 went up to 2.22 as compared to 1.43 in 2021.

“As for non-fatal occupational injuries, the number of cases was 33,899, which recorded a notable increase of 59.7 per cent as against 21,233 cases in 2021.

“Thus, the rate of non-fatal occupational injuries per 1,000 workers consequently rose to 2.20 in 2022, from 1.41 in 2021.

“Meanwhile, the number of fatal occupational injuries was 317 cases in 2022, an increase of 16 cases from 301 fatalities in the preceding year.

“This translated to a higher rate of fatal occupational injuries per 100,000 workers at 2.06 in 2022, compared to 2.00 in 2021.”

According to Mohd Uzir, more than two-thirds (84.2 per cent) of the occupational injury cases involved male workers, whereas female workers make up only 15.8

per cent of the cases.

As for fatal occupational injuries, he said the male category accounted for 98.1 per cent (311 cases), while the female category was 1.9 per cent (six cases).

“From the perspective of occupational injuries by nationality, Malaysian citizens accounted for 88.6 per cent or 30,325 cases, whereas non-Malaysian citizens comprised 11.4 per cent or 3,891 cases,” he said.

In the meantime, Mohd Uzir said all states posted an increase in occupational injuries except for Perlis, while eight states surpassed the national rate of 2.22.

Johor ranked the highest with 3.59, followed by Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya (3.53), Penang (3.35) and Perak (3.24).

He said Selangor recorded 6,563 occupational injuries or 19.2 per cent of the total cases, the highest increase with 2,368 cases, while the highest rate of fatal occupational injuries was in Kuala Lumpur and Putrajaya (3.69), resulting in 33 deaths.

With regard to comparison with other countries, Mohd Uzir said in Singapore, the workplace injury rate per 100,000 workers decreased from 673 in 2021 to 614 in 2022. However, the fatal injury rate increased by 1.3 per 100,000 workers from 1.1 in the previous year. — Bernama