

Universiti Putra Malaysia students Faruq Irsyad Razali (left) and Muhd Fahmi Saleh at their residential college in Serdang preparing to go home on Wednesday. PIC BY SAIFULLIZAN

'BALIK KAMPUNG NOT ALLOWED'

APPLICATION TO TRAVEL OPENS TOMORROW

Only varsity students and those stranded in hometowns can apply, says Ismail Sabri

KUALA LUMPUR

NLY students in universities and Malaysians stranded in their hometowns are allowed to apply for permission to travel back to the cities, said Defence Minister Datuk Seri Ismail Sabri Yaakob.

He said those living in cities were not allowed to return to their hometowns for Ramadan, which begins today. "For those in cities who wish to 'balik kampung', that is not allowed.

"Registration of travel away from rural areas is allowed only for those who are stranded (there) for more than a month."

A big number of Malaysians left for their hometowns during the recent school holidays, just before the enforcement of the Movement Control Order (MCO).

After the implementation of the MCO, they had been barred from travelling and have since remained stranded.

For these people, Ismail Sabri said they were allowed to apply for travel at police stations.

However, he said, there was no guarantee that they would automatically be given the go-ahead.

"Once we collect the data on the volume (and nature) of the travel, we will hand it to the Health Ministry, police and the National Security Council for further discussions."

He said those who wished to travel could also register online via the Gerak Malaysia mobile application from tomorrow onwards.