

INDONESIA NEWS

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PRESIDENT JOKO WIDODO GAVE A PRESS STATEMENT

President Joko Widodo gives a press statement regarding the development of COVID-19, from the Merdeka Palace, Jakarta, Thursday (16/12). The President invited the public to be aware of the transmission of the Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus that has been detected in Indonesia.

IDN/ANTARA



Indonesia's Digital Economy to Reach \$146 Billion in 2025: President

All figures in digital economy sector are climbing up.

PRESIDENT Joko Widodo (Jokowi) projects Indonesia's digital market to be valued at \$146 billion, or equivalent to Rp2,092 trillion, at an exchange rate of Rp14,332 per dollar, by 2025.

"In 2021, the number increased by 49 percent to reach approximately \$70 billion as compared to the figure in 2020. The growth of our digital market was accelerated due to the pandemic," he remarked while inaugurating the Digital Generation Acceleration Move-

ment here on Wednesday (15/12)

Furthermore, Jokowi noted that Indonesia's digital market potential had reached \$40 billion in 2019, \$47 billion in 2020, and \$70 billion in 2021. Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the sector is growing fast due to the public's increasing requirement to shop safely by minimizing physical contact with other customers.

Thus, logistics services also grew by 60 percent, as online shopping activities

became a new lifestyle and the importance of goods delivery also increased concurrently, according to the president.

Hence, the number of new digital consumers also rose 10.2 percent, while electronic money transactions soared 55 percent as of October 2021. "All figures in the digital economy sector are climbing. Hence, the market potential is huge," Jokowi stated.

The head of state noted that Indonesia should ready a digital economic development strategy, so that it will not be left behind. "Hence, I have told ministries,

state-owned enterprises (SOEs), and other institutions that we do not have much time to catch up," he emphasized.

Jokowi assessed that Indonesia will become advanced if it is willing to leap forward. However, there are several challenges to overcome, including preparing local digital talent and providing quality mentors for them.

Hence, the SOEs Ministry has initiated to establish a Merah Putih Fund to help fund domestic small and medium start-ups, especially those with a valuation of around \$200 million. (*)

Jokowi Reviews Vaccination for Children Aged 6-11 Years in Jakarta

PRESIDENT Joko Widodo (Jokowi) reviewed COVID-19 vaccination for children in the age bracket of six to 11 years at the Cideng Elementary School Complex in Gambir on Wednesday (15/12). "This morning, I come to see the start of vaccination for children aged 6-11 years. Across Indonesia, we need to vaccinate around 26.5 million children, with 1.2 million specifically in Jakarta," Jokowi remarked.

The head of state lauded the start of COVID-19 vaccination for children in Jakarta and pressed for similar activities

to be conducted in other provinces.

Through this vaccination, Jokowi is optimistic that children would be protected from the spread of COVID-19, either the old or new variants. "Apart from COVID-19 vaccination, these children also need to receive basic immunization for protection against other diseases. The Health Ministry with Health Services will arrange this. We are optimistic of wrapping up everything soon," Jokowi remarked.

Meanwhile, during the vaccination, some 200 elementary school students aged

6-11 years were administered the Sinovac vaccine. They comprised 44 students from the Cideng 4 Elementary School, 59 students from the Cideng 13 Elementary School, 44 students from the Cideng 9 Elementary School, and 53 students from the Cideng 10 Elementary School. Vaccination for children was conducted in accordance with the recommendation of the Indonesian Technical Advisory Group on Immunization (ITAGI) through Circular number 166/ITAGI/Adm/XII/2021, dated December 9, 2021, regarding the Study of COVID-19

Vaccination in Children aged 6-11 years old.

Minister of Health Budi Gunadi Sadikin has also issued Health Minister's Decree Number HK.01.07./MENKES/6688/2021 on the implementation of vaccination for the CoronaVirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) for Children Aged 6 to 11 years that he signed on December 13, 2021. Also accompanying the head of state to review the vaccination were Minister of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology Nadiem Makarim; Deputy Minister of Health Dante Saksono Harbuwono; and Jakarta Governor Anies Baswedan. (*)