

August 1, 2021

Curb the COVID-19 infections as soon as possible

We have been continuously fighting against COVID-19 for almost one and a half years since the first case was confirmed in Hyogo Prefecture on March 1, 2020. I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the hardworking efforts of the medical workers and the cooperation from Hyogo citizens and business operators.

The coronavirus has been mutating and the infections are spreading rapidly nationwide. The new case counts in Hyogo Prefecture were at 329 on July 31 and 317 on August 1, reaching the Stage IV level as defined by the national government.

To prevent the further spread of infections, pre-emergency measures will be applied to Hyogo Prefecture from August 2.

Hyogo citizens and business operators will be requested to (1) avoid outings, (2) shorten business hours at eating and drinking establishments and stop serving alcohol in designated areas, and (3) follow certain restrictions for organizing events.

If the spread of infections continues, it may lead to an emergency in the prefecture and overwhelm the healthcare systems. We are in a critical moment. Now is the time for us to work together to curb the infections as soon as possible.

Saito Motohiko
Governor of Hyogo Prefecture