

KENYATAAN AKHBAR

PENINGKATAN KAPASITI BEROPERASI UNTUK MEMBANGUN SEMULA EKONOMI (INCREASE/ENHANCE OPERATIONAL CAPACITY TO REVIVE ECONOMY)

The spread of the COVID-19 epidemic has affected the people's health and the nation's economy. The Government has taken proactive measures in particular the implementation of the Movement Control Order (MCO) to curb the spread of this epidemic. The effort to fight COVID-19 has not been fully successful but we have been able to flatten the curve to a controlled level. However, we should not be complacent and will continue to make every effort to ensure the people's health and safety.

2. The Government is also responsible for reviving the economy including protecting the people's income. This effort is to rebuild a sustainable economy, be competitive, regain investor confidence and guarantee employment.

3. On April 23, 2020, the Prime Minister announced that COVID-19 cases have dropped significantly following the Government's ongoing efforts to curb the spread of the COVID-19 outbreak. To ensure this positive achievement continues, the Government has extended the MCO period until May 12, 2020. With this extension, the Government is studying ways of restoring the economy gradually. This covers the opening of several sectors and additional economic sub-sectors subject to strict compliance of conditions to ensure that the company continues to operate and employees are in a safe environment.

4. In this regard, the Economic Action Council (EAC) meeting which convened yesterday (27 April 2020) discussed the current position of the country's economy and finance, business continuity and wellbeing of the people. The meeting reviewed the study and proposals tabled by the Ministry of Finance, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI), Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) and Khazanah Nasional. The Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH), which is represented by the Minister of Health and Director General of Health, presented views and feedback on the issues discussed. Discussions are focused on the need to re-initialize (restarting and reviving) the overall economic supply chain that will help businesses to continue to fully operate, rebuild affected stock and enable the delivery of efficient services and products to customers.

5. The decision of the EAC was tabled at the National Security Council meeting this morning (28 April 2020) and chaired by the Prime Minister and was also attended by all the Chief Ministers.

6. Realizing the urgent need to address the current economic crisis, the Government agrees that the economic sectors that have been allowed to operate at MCO levels 1, 2 and 3 increase to full operational capacity and are allowed to operate without time restriction according to their respective industry requirements.

7. The company in the authorized sector is REQUIRED to comply with the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) set for their respective sectors. Failure of the company to comply with the SOP will result in the immediate cancellation of the approval to operate and subject to legal action.

8. This authorization is effective from tomorrow (29 April 2020). The company which has already been approved to operate no longer has to apply from MITI for approval.

9. This initiative will give a boost to the recovery of the supply chain system of goods and services to meet domestic and foreign demand. This will certainly have a positive impact on the company's income in particular small and medium enterprises.

10. While the government provides this flexibility, the people and business owners need to start a "new normal" by complying with social distancing at work, personal hygiene and health control guidelines.

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Senior Minister

Minister of International Trade & Industry (MITI)

Tuesday, 28 April 2020