

GUIDELINES THAT NEED TO BE COMPLIED WITH FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR OVER THE DURATION OF THE MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER (MCO)

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Movement Control Order (MCO) Day 36 and 8th Day of Movement Control Order 3 Implemented.

- The construction sector is one of the economic sectors allowed to operate in stages beginning from 13 April, 2020 subject to approval.

The importance of the construction sector to stimulate the economy

- The construction sector is one of the economic sectors that is critical to the nation's economic development. Each year, on average construction works implemented cost RM140 billion.
- In addition, the construction industry also has multiplier effect that can affect the development of other economic sectors, e.g. manufacturing sector, transportation sector and financial sector.
- Thus, the postponement of construction activities has brought a significant impact not only to the industry itself, but also other industries related to it.
As such, steps allow part of the construction works to commence operations is essential to enhance the economic activities of the country.
- However, Ministry of Works (MOW) looked seriously balancing requirements the life ,health and the quality of life(life and livelihood). Although some companies will be allowed to operate, however, SOP and guidelines should be observed to protect the workers of the construction industry and also the general public from the risk of COVID-19 outbreak.

Opening of construction works in stages during MCO

To ensure the risk of the spread of COVID-19 is able to control, construction works are allowed to operate in stages during MCO.

Generally, the allowed projects are from 13 categories of projects:

- Do not require many employees on site, such as building construction projects that have IBS score of 70 and above, Maintenance and construction works that have made physical progress of 90 per cent and above
- Critical work to ensure the safety of construction structures such as; Slopes, tunnels, bridges and viaduct, and land investigation
- Maintenance works, Cleansing and drying of water from construction site to prevent breeding of mosquito and pests.

- All professional services as it is necessary for the management and project supervision, including approving payments for the progress of construction work
- Construction works implemented by Contractor G1 & G2, to enhance economic continuity for small companies. The work undertaken by contractors G1 and G2 is also small and does not involve many workers.

Risk control the spread of COVID 19 through SOP and guidelines

- To control the risk of the outbreak of COVID-19 epidemic on construction site and accommodation of construction workers or CLQ, to all approved construction projects must comply with the:
 - Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) Permission to operate and movement of workers for the construction project during the movement control order (MCO)
 - Preventive measures Practice Guidelines COVID-19 on construction sites
 - Operating guidelines Centralised Labour Quarters (CLQ) and construction workers accommodation During the movement control order (MCO)
 - This document can be accessed through the website: application.miti.gov.my/daftar and www.cidb.gov.my
- All companies in the supply chain of construction industry allowed to operate must comply with **General Standard Operating Procedure and general guidelines on operational clearance and employee movement for companies within the period of movement control order (MCO)**. In addition, companies in the construction sector need to comply with SOP and guidelines provided by CIDB, Including:
 - Working hours at construction site is from 8.00 am to 5.30 pm only, 5 days a week.
 - The contractor/Company shall provide Body Temperature Screening tool or thermal scanner and a screening of cough symptoms, sore throat or breathing difficulties. Measurement of body temperature and symptom screening Must be done on a daily basis at the construction site/premises.
 - Providing employee transportation
 - Ensure the practice of social distancing
 - Reduce the number of employees to the minimum, Or not more than 50 per cent of the normal requirements.
 - Encourage employees to complete their “deskjob” tasks at home, Examples of clerical duties, design and other related tasks. If an employee needs to go to the construction site, all SOP and guidelines should be followed.
 - Identify an officer responsible for ensuring the compliance of SOP, such as Safety and Health Officer (SHO), Site Safety Supervisor (SSS) or the company owner.
 - Every employee is required to download the MySejahtera application by MOH, for the purpose of contact tracing.

Status of application for permission to operate for construction project during MCO

- Application is open via website application.miti.gov.my, since Monday 13 April 2020
- All applications for the construction sector will be reviewed and recommended by CIDB. MITI will issue a letter of approval for the company.
- The application process will take at least 5 days.
- During application, companies must submit a company name, project name/ project list and employee list and pledge of undertaking to comply with all regulations and the SOP set by

MOH, National Security Council (NSC), Ministry of International Trade and industry (MITI) and Construction Industry Development Board of Malaysia (CIDB).

- For failed applicants, they can make an appeal in the same system
- The appeal process will take 5 days.
- Up to 5 pm 21 April, 2020, A total of 19,077 applications received.
 - 1856 has been approved
 - 7387 failed
- Reasons for Failed Application:
 - Incomplete project information
 - Incomplete employee information
 - The work applied is not included in the 13 categories listed.
 - The project does not belong to the construction cluster
 - The projects have not been declared in the CIDB Online system (cims.cidb.gov.my).
 - The contractor applying is not registered with CIDB, or has expired registration
 - Contractor in disciplinary action by CIDB

* An appeal can be made after the applicant completes the necessary information, For example registering contractors and declaring projects in the CIDB Online system.

Monitoring and enforcement:

- Monitoring and enforcement operations will be implemented to ensure that:
 - All companies that are allowed to operate, comply with the SOP and the prescribed guidelines.
 - No company can operate without approval.
- Enforcement operations will be implemented in collaboration with CIDB, Public Works Department, Department of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) and local authorities (PBT)
- If there is a company that found violating the SOP and the guideline line provided, action that can be taken are:
 - Construction works are stop immediately
 - Legal action under Act 342
 - Disciplinary action by CIDB based on Act 520
- MOW recommends that the public to become observer for the authorities and report suspicious construction activities, by making calls to Hotline 03-55672777.

THE END