

**MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT**

**MALAYSIA**

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**For immediate release**

**MEDIA RELEASE**

**MINISTER OF TRANSPORT MALAYSIA**

**Title: THE PORT IS BACK TO NORMAL OPERATION DURING THE MCO THE FOURTH PHASE TAKES EFFECT 29 APRIL - 12 MAY 2020**

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The Ministry of Transport has instructed all port operators nationwide to allow any companies that have obtained approval from the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) in accordance with the National Security Council's (NSC) policy to continue their import and export activities, effective April 29, 2020.

This action was in line with the Government's decision on April 28, 2020, which agreed that the economic sectors be allowed to operate and restore the supply chain of goods and services and to recover after being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic as NSC's proposal to save jobs, restore national income and give confidence to investors. Based on this decision, all companies are allowed to operate fully without time constraints according to their industry requirements.

However, companies that are approved to operate must adhere to strict guidelines to ensure the health and safety of employees such as practicing social distance and focused on hygiene. These terms also apply to those involved in import and export activities for both types of essential and non-essential goods at the port which will be allowed to operate 24 hours a day.

The Government will also continue to monitor the current developments of the COVID-19 pandemic to determine whether it will allow the resumption of all economic sectors and other sub-sectors in accordance with NSC regulations.

The Ministry recently approved cargo release works at major ports of the country for the Fourth Phase from April 20 to April 23, 2020.

Freight forwarding works at affected ports such as Port Klang, Johor, Penang, Kuantan, Melaka, Bintulu and Labuan as well as state-owned ports in Sabah and Sarawak have successfully relocated congested containers at ports according to procedure. standard operating procedures (SOP) and health guidelines are incorporated under the MCO regulations.

In terms of import container handling performance, there are several ports that record good handling performance based on container yard usage capacity of between 20 and 50 percent such as Penang Port, Tanjung Pelepas, Kuantan, Bintulu, Labuan, Sibu, Kuching, Miri and Sandakan. Meanwhile, Pasir Gudang, Northport and Tawau recorded 50 to 60 percent capacity.

Westports and Tanjung Bruas Port recorded more than 70 per cent of field use of container yard.

As for export container handling performance, Pasir Gudang Port, Kuantan, Labuan, Sibuan and Sandakan posted congestion below 50 percent. Westports are between 50 and 60 percent, while Tanjung Bruas and Miri are more than 70 percent.

Based on the above achievements, there are differences in the yard utilization and export container handling between ports that may be affected by the amount of output production volume from factories for export that cannot operate in full capacity over a period of MCO.

The ministry will continue to monitor the current status of logistics and transportation affecting companies within the MCO period and will recommend a policy that can reduce the economic implications.

**DATUK SERI IR. DR. WEE KA SIONG**

**MALAYSIAN MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**

**28 APRIL 2020**

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