

MEDIA STATEMENT

For Immediate Release

CRITICAL CONSTRUCTION WORK CAN CONTINUE THROUGHOUT MCO

KUALA LUMPUR – The Ministry of Works would like to refer to the Special Message by YAB the Prime Minister of Malaysia on 11 January 2021 on the Implementation of the Movement Control Order (MCO) in six states namely Johor, Melaka, Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur, Putrajaya and Labuan, Selangor, Penang and Sabah.

To control the spread of the COVID-19 virus in the Construction Sector, all construction work in the affected states should cease throughout the MCO period beginning 13 January, 2021. However, to ensure the continuity of the construction sector, exceptions are granted on the following works that are included to the **List of Essential Services**:

I. Critical maintenance and repair work, that is work which if not carried out can cause danger or harm to workers, the public or the environment. Among the works allowed are:

- a) Slope repair
- b) Road repairs
- c) Road repair and maintenance
- d) Repair of buildings / offices
- e) Repair of individual residences
- f) Traffic management control
- g) Scheduled inspections and scheduled repairs of elevators / travelators / escalators as well other critical mechanical and electrical equipment
- h) Repair, maintenance and upgrading of premises of critical services
- i) Traffic light repairs
- j) Construction of Bailey Bridges at the site of collapsed bridges
- k) Tunnel construction works

- I) Emergency work which are included in contract agreements
- m) Maintenance, cleaning and drying of stagnant water, spraying of pesticides at construction sites to prevent the breeding of Aedes mosquitoes and other pests
- n) Other unfinished works which could pose danger.

II. Major Public Infrastructure Construction Works; this is work which uses mainly machinery or does not involve many workers gathered in one place, or is located far from the general public, or construction sites at remote areas. Among the works permitted are;

- a) Highways and roads
- b) Bridges and viaducts
- c) Light Rail Transit (LRT) and Mass Rapid Transit (MRT)
- d) Infrastructure related to electricity
- e) Infrastructure related to telecommunications
- f) Infrastructure related to dams, drainage and sewerage
- g) Infrastructure related to oil and gas.

III. Building Construction Works; allowed for projects which provide fully-equipped accommodation for workers at construction sites; or for workers who are placed in Centralised Labour Quarters (CLQ), and employers need to provide transportation for workers from the CLQ to the construction site and back. Both accommodations at the construction site and the CLQ must comply with Act 446 (Workers' Minimum Standards of Housing and Amenities 1990).

IV. Professional / Consultancy Services can only be implemented for works which are allowed to operate, as listed in Items I - III. Professionals / Consultants are responsible to fully comply with the prescribed Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). Professional / Consultancy Services must ensure that there is a minimal number of staff and only to perform tasks deemed critical at construction sites.

V. Other services in the supply chain such as the supply of building materials, delivery of materials and others are allowed but limited to construction sites which are approved to operate based on the works listed in Item I - III. All parties involved in the

supply chain are fully responsible to comply with the prescribed SOPs such as ensuring the transportation used and the materials delivered are sanitised, recording temperatures when entering construction sites, and recording the movements into and out of the sites.

Details of the types of work will be clearly defined under the **Construction Sector Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).**

APPLYING FOR PERMISSION TO OPERATE

Permission to operate for all categories of construction companies involved in a project must be obtained from MITI, through the CIMS MITI portal (COVID-19 Intelligent Management System) at <u>https://notification.miti.gov.my/</u>.

CONSTRUCTION WORKERS' MOVEMENT CONTROL

To ensure that there is no transmission of COVID-19 from construction sites to the local community, emphasis must be placed on controlling the movement of workers in and out of the construction site and employee accommodations (CLQ). Contractors must also provide controlled transportation to bring workers from the CLQ to the construction site and back to CLQ without stopping at other places. Therefore, contractors must ensure that all the daily needs of workers at the construction site, including food and personal hygiene necessities are fully provided to prevent their employees from having to go to grocery stores or food stalls which will cause them to mix with local residents.

To prevent the spread of the virus from one construction site to another, all construction workers are not allowed to move from one construction site to another during the MCO period.

The Project Supervising Officer is responsible for ensuring full compliance of SOPs when construction work is being carried out throughout the MCO period.

Any enquiries regarding construction sector operations throughout the MCO can be directed to the **CIDB Careline at 03-5567 3300** (operating hours from Monday to Friday, 8.00 am to 5.30 pm)

YB DATO' SRI HAJI FADILLAH HAJI YUSOF SENIOR MINISTER OF WORKS (INFRASTRUCTURE) 12 JANUARY 2021