



MEDIA STATEMENT

SOCSO CALLS FOR SUPPORT FROM ALL PARTIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FOREIGN WORKERS COVID-19 SCREENING

KUALA LUMPUR – Following the implementation of mandatory COVID-19 screening for foreign workers on 1 December 2020, the Social Security Organisation (SOCSO) has received various enquiries regarding the screening process as well as concerns with its execution.

The screening programme is targeted at **high-risk states namely Selangor, Negeri Sembilan, Pulau Pinang, Sabah, FT Kuala Lumpur and FT Labuan**. In view of the **high volume of COVID-19 tests**, the mandatory requirement for the tests is implemented on **staggered basis**, according to the districts. This will make room for the capacity of testing and the management of cases post-screening.

The information on the screening programme had been announced in the print and electronic media as well as social media. Employers can obtain **the screening schedule and the list of participating clinics and hospitals from the portal psp.perkeso.gov.my**

Employers in the affected areas are required to make an appointment with the participating healthcare facilities to arrange for the screening of their foreign workers. No pre-registration in the web portal is required.

As announced by the Senior Minister for Security, Dato' Sri Ismail Sabri Yaakob, on 27 November 2020, the allocation by SOCSO for the programme is for the **purchase of the test kits**. In lieu of the resources allocated for the supply of RTK Antigen kits, **SOCSO does not provide claims for subsidy under the programme**.

To reduce the cost of screening, SOCSO acquires the test kits directly from suppliers and provides the kits to the participating private healthcare facilities. By working together with the healthcare facilities, SOCSO hopes that the cost of screening to be paid by the employers will be lower.

The service fee is determined by the respective private healthcare facilities. However, SOCSO hopes that the private healthcare facilities will charge **minimal fees** as this is their social responsibility in controlling the spread of COVID-19.

SOCSO welcomes **all private healthcare facilities interested to take part in the programme**. A dedicated site for the healthcare facilities to register is available at **sihat.perkeso.gov.my**. Once they are registered, SOCSO will supply the test kits and monitor the screening process. Participating private healthcare facilities must adhere to the requirement set by the Ministry of Health to conduct the RTK-ag test.

The mandatory screening for foreign workers is a national effort to prevent the control the spread of COVID-19 infection in the country. It is a joint effort of various government agencies, employers and private healthcare facilities to rapidly deploy a mass screening programme for at-risk populations. SOCSO is mandated by the Government to organise the screening process as efficiently as possible. SOCSO, therefore, calls upon all parties to lend support and assistance to ensure the success of this initiative.

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