



MEDIA STATEMENT

SOCSCO ACCELERATES THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ENHANCED ASSISTANCE TO EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES UNDER THE PERMAI ASSISTANCE PACKAGE

KUALA LUMPUR - The Social Security Organisation (SOCSCO) is committed to swift implementation of improved assistance for employers and employees in the **Wage Subsidy Programme 3.0 (PSU 3.0)**, **SIP Prihatin**, **SPS Lindung** and **Foreign Workers COVID-19 Screening** as contained in the Perindungan Ekonomi dan Rakyat Malaysia (PERMAI) assistance package.

This is in line with the call by YAB Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin for faster delivery of all government assistance and benefits to those affected from the Movement Control Order (MCO) when he announced PERMAI yesterday.

After taking into consideration the feedback on PSU, the Government has relaxed the economic sector target conditions for employers operating during MCO. Through **PSU 3.0**, all sectors excluding tourism and retail sectors are eligible to receive a **wage subsidy of RM600 for each employee earning less than RM4,000 for a period of one month**. For tourism and retail sectors, they are eligible to receive wage subsidy at a rate of RM600 per month for a period of up to 6 months. With an additional allocation of RM1 billion, the Government has also **raised the limit of 200 employees per application to 500 employees**, of which 250,000 employers employing more than 2.6 million employees are expected to benefit from this initiative.

For those who lost their employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic, SOCSCO would like to remind that the **Job Seeking Allowance (JSA)** has been improved and extended through the **SIP Prihatin Programme** under the 2021 Budget. The conditions for JSA under SIP Prihatin have been relaxed where employees who do not meet the minimum qualifying contribution, or whose contract was not extended after having been renewed for at least 3 times previously, are

now eligible to apply for the SIP Prihatin assistance. They are eligible to receive JSA of **30 percent of their monthly salary for a period of 3 months.**

SOCSO also calls on delivery riders, who are also our frontliners in the delivery of food and goods during the MCO, to come forward and register with the **SPS Lindung** Programme for protection against work-related accidents. Under this programme, the Government provides full contribution for a one-year protection through Plan 2 of the Self-Employment Social Security Scheme.

Finally, the **COVID-19 Screening Programme for registered foreign workers** is ongoing where the cost of the test kits is fully borne by SOCSO in high-risk zones targeted to identify COVID-19 clusters in the workplace. In this regard, SOCSO urges employers who have not sent their foreign workers for COVID-19 screening to immediately make an appointment with the participating clinics. To date, **only about 18% of foreign workers registered with SOCSO have undergone the COVID-19 screening** through this programme.

For further information or inquiries, please contact SOCSO Careline **1-300-22-8000** or visit SOCSO's official website www.perkeso.gov.my

SOCIAL SECURITY ORGANISATION (SOCSO)

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