

10 July 2021

Pejabat Menteri Besar Selangor
Tingkat 21, Bangunan Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah
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Selangor

URGENT

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ATTN: YAB DATO SERI AMIRUDIN SHARI, DATO MENTERI BESAR SELANGOR

YAB Dato Seri

OPEN LETTER TO REVIEW AND ADOPT TARGETED EMCO IN SELANGOR

This is a joint **URGENT APPEAL** by the following associations:

- Persatuan Pengurusan Kompleks Malaysia (PPK) – Malaysia Shopping Malls Association
- Malaysia Retailers Association (MRA)
- Malaysia Retail Chain Association (MRCA)
- Bumiputra Retailers Organisation (BRO)
- Malaysia REIT Managers Association (MRMA)
- Malaysian Association of Theme Park and Family Attractions (MATFA)

We refer to the statement by YAB Menteri Besar of Selangor that under the EMCO imposed in Selangor, only essential economic services are to operate.

We would like to reiterate that EMCO is an appropriate tool to impose on critically infected areas and have to be used judiciously and precisely and to only specific targeted areas instead of a blanket lockdown of the entire district and State. This sledgehammer approach unnecessarily harms and destroys lives and livelihoods in areas where the incidence of the pandemic is within control.

Data analytics and Artificial Intelligence (AI) allow us to intelligently craft responses that are precise and targeted which have been adopted in Kuala Lumpur where the lockdown is confined to buildings instead of districts and not the entire Wilayah. Our call is for Selangor to also adopt this targeted lockdown to minimise and avoid unnecessary and unequivocal damage to the economy. This is especially most detrimental as Selangor is the main economic and manufacturing hub of the entire nation.

The data released by the Ministry Of Health showed that merely 0.8% of covid cases (9 April to 28 May 2021) are attributed to shopping malls including outside standalone shops in shopping areas and none are index cases emanating from the malls. This remarkably low incidences is due to the stringent adherence of SOPs implemented by the malls and shops. There is absolutely no basis for shopping malls and standalone shops to be closed and tantamount to punishing those who diligently abide by the SOPs instead of being encouraged and rewarded.

The concept of essential and non-essential is very arbitrary. All economic activities and services are there because they are essential to different sectors of the population and also are parts of the various supply chain of the entire ecosystem. It is more practical to allow all such economic activities and services to operate so long the requisite SOPs can be adopted and adhered to.

The fact that more sectors in manufacturing which are allowed to re-start in Selangor is indeed a pragmatic approach even though the factories and their antecedent hostels may be considered RED Status. This situation can be managed by imposing EMCO around such RED BUBBLES and as most are asymptomatic, they are able to work and thus the factories are able to be allowed to continue to operate.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has already announced that lockdown does more harm than good and is merely a temporary relief. The ultimate solution is to accept that covid is already endemic in our midst and that vaccination to achieve herd immunity is the solution. We thus call upon the State Government to harness all resources to further enhance acceleration and enable mass vaccinations be carried out immediately and to firmly demand the proportionate supply of vaccines based on population and economic contribution of the State to the National Coffers.

We cannot afford to have the businesses in Selangor's powerhouse to be in such jeopardy as many have already gone bust and many more are already now seriously considering to give up, so we earnestly plea for a fighting chance to help us to help ourselves to survive.

We thus call upon our YAB Menteri Besar to review and abandon the district/Statewide lockdowns and adopt targeted lockdowns based on building by building levels, just like in Kuala Lumpur.

Please do not hesitate to contact PPK Malaysia secretariat at secretariat@ppkm.org.my or Ms Evelyn Lo at 012-2922667 in the event you require further details and/or a discussion with our industry players.

LIFE AND LIVELIHOODS MATTER.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teo Chiang Kok', with a large, sweeping flourish underneath.

TAN SRI DATO TEO CHIANG KOK

Cc

- En Mohd Hidayat bin Mohd Sauffi
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- Persatuan Pengurusan Kompleks Malaysia (PPK)
Attn: Ms Phang Sau Lian, Vice President 1 / Ir YL Lum, Vice President 2
- Malaysia Retailers Association (MRA)
Attn: YBhg Tan Sri Datuk Seri Utama William Cheng, President / Mr BE Law / Ms Evelyn Cheong
- Malaysia Retail Chain Association (MRCA)
Attn: Ms Shirley Tay, President / Mr Simon Wong
- Bumiputra Retailers Organisation (BRO)
Attn: Datuk Wira (Dr.) Haji Ameer Ali Mydin, President
- Malaysia REIT Managers Association (MRMA)
Attn: Dato Hisham Othman, Chairman
- Malaysian Association of Amusement Theme Park and Family Attractions (MAATFA)
Attn : Tan Sri Dato Sri Richard Koh, President