

# MEDIA STATEMENT YB TENGKU DATO' SRI ZAFRUL TENGKU ABDUL AZIZ MINISTER OF FINANCE

#### 11th LAKSANA REPORT

# IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIHATIN RAKYAT ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE (PRIHATIN) AND NATIONAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN (PENJANA) 30 JUNE 2020



#### INTRODUCTION

- 1. Today's 11<sup>th</sup> Laksana report on measures implemented for PRIHATIN and PENJANA will cover 3 areas:
  - a. Updates on PRIHATIN achievements:
  - b. Status of PENJANA; and
  - c. A commentary on selected current issues.

### PRIHATIN OBJECTIVE 1: PROTECTING THE RAKYAT

- 2. First, Bantuan Prihatin Nasional or BPN.
  - a. As at 26 June, **10.215 million recipients** (*cf.* 10.19 million a week ago) **had received the assistance**, which amounted to the total BPN payment of **RM10.90 billion** (*cf.* RM10.88 billion recorded last week) representing a **97.32% implementation rate** (up from 97% recorded last week).
  - b. Between 19 to 26 June, **RM20 million in cash had been disbursed to 25,000 BPN recipients through** BSN branches nationwide.



- c. Payments for successful appellants had been made on 24 29 June 2020, which amounted to **RM139 million.**
- 3. **Second**, good news for *Bantuan Sara Hidup* or BSH recipients. For those in Peninsular Malaysia, Sabah and Sarawak (non-rural areas) payments for Phase 3 will be made by end-July, benefitting 5 million recipients, comprising 3.8 million households and 1.2 million individuals. The Government has allocated RM3 billion for Phase 3.
  - a. As a reminder, the BSH aid is given based on income levels as follows:

Category	Income	Total BSH (RM)	
Household	Less than RM2,000	RM600	
Household	RM2,000 - RM3,000	RM350	
Household	RM3,000 - RM4,000	RM250	
Single Individual (40 years old and above)	Less than RM2,000	RM400	

- b. Recipients for the household category will also receive an **additional assistance of RM120 per child (under 18 years old) for up to 4 children**. For example: households earning less than RM2,000 with 4 children will receive RM1,080.
- c. As previously announced, the BPN cash payments as well as second and third phases of BSH 2020 for rural areas of Sabah and Sarawak (without bank accounts) will commence from 1 to 31 July 2020. This will be facilitated by the Sabah Treasury (PMSabah) and the Sarawak Treasury (PMSarawak). The initiative will benefit 53,325 recipients with a total financial payout of RM28.7 million. PMSabah and PMSarawak will visit designated locations in the rural areas of Sabah and Sarawak to facilitate the delivery of this aid recipients. The breakdown of recipients by state is as follows:

Sarawak	41,995	
Sabah	11,330	
Total	53,325	

- 4. **Third, the EPF i-Lestari programme**. As of 26 June, **4.34 million** applications had been approved with a value of **RM2.17 billion** a month.
  - a. While the Government has extended various assistance in the form of BPN, BSH, SOCSO, EIS, *zakat*, etc., there is still a segment of the population considered as hard-core poor.



b. The Rakyat's social security will not be taken lightly. The PRIHATIN and PENJANA measures are meant to help the *Rakyat* in the short term. The Government will closely monitor the current situation and formulate more sustainable solutions for the medium and longer term.

i-Lestari	Total Approved* (RM billion))	Applications Approved* (million)
26 June	2.17	4.34
19 June	2.01	4.30
12 June	1.98	4.22
5 June	1.94	4.1
31 May	1.90	4.0
17 May	1.83	3.9
10 May	1.76	3.7
3 May	1.66	3.5
26 April	1.57	3.3
19 April	0.70	1.5
12 April	0.57	1.17

<sup>\*</sup>Cumulative Figure

#### PRIHATIN OBJECTIVE 2: SUPPORTING BUSINESSES

- 5. First, Prihatin Special Grant (GKP) for micro SMEs:
  - a. As at 26 June, the total GKP disbursed was **RM1.63 billion**, benefitting **544,500 micro SMEs**.
  - b. For micro SMEs who were approved upon further review and found to be eligible, payments had been made beginning 29 June 2020.
  - c. Disbursements for **21,983 micro SMEs** that had successfully appealed for the GKP will involve an allocation of **RM65.95 million** and will be made on **2 July 2020**.
  - d. For micro SMEs who provided inaccurate bank account details or had not provided a bank account number, they are required to update their bank account details at <a href="https://gkp.hasil.gov.my">https://gkp.hasil.gov.my</a>.
- 6. Second, the Wage Subsidy Programme,
  - a. As of 26 June, **RM7.07 billion** had been approved for **307,518** employers benefiting more than **2.46 million employees.**



Wage Subsidy Allocation RM13.8 billon	Approved amount* (RM billion)	No of employers*	No of employees* (million)
26 June	7.07	307,518	2.46
19 June	4.89	303,596	2.40
12 June	4.08	295,265	2.31
5 June	4.00	293,033	2.30
31 May	3.22	286,338	2.20
17 May	2.24	267,752	2.00
10 May	2.10	258,165	1.90
3 May	1.90	235,000	1.70
26 April	1.35	195,000	1.50
19 April	1.20	159,000	1.00

<sup>\*</sup>Cumulative Figure

- b. The Government would like to express its gratitude to SOCSO for its cooperation in channeling the wage subsidy assistance to employers and workers affected by COVID-19.
- 7. Third, the EPF's Covid-19 Assistance Program (e-CAP) for Employers. Up to 26 June, 36,107 applications had been received and 9,542 applications were approved, amounting to RM63.9 million in terms of employers' contribution. The Government would like to stress that the EPF will be closely monitoring this to ensure that restructured contributions will be paid in the future. Legal action can be taken against employers who do not fulfill their obligations by honouring their (statutory) contributions towards their employees' retirement fund.

EPF's Covid-19 Assistance Program (e-CAP) for Employers	No of applications received*	No of applications approved *	Amount approved* (RM million)
26 Jun	36,107	9,542	63.9
19 Jun	34,246	8,489	56.8
12 Jun	31,400	7,194	47.9
5 Jun	29,601	6,457	42.9
31 Mei	26,509	5,245	34.8
17 Mei	20,771	3,168	20.6
10 Mei	13,690	2,032	13.4

<sup>\*</sup>Cumulative Figure

8. **Fourth, the SME Soft Loan Funds** administered by Bank Negara Malaysia. As at **26 June 2020,** total financing amounting to **RM8.4 billion** had been approved by local banks and officially accepted by **19,539 SMEs**. This amount includes



funds from the Special Relief Facility, Automation & Digitalisation Facility, All-Economic Sector Facility and Agrofood facility.

SME Soft Loans Fund	Amount approved and accepted* (RM billion)	No of SMEs*
26 June	8.4	19,539
19 June	8.2	19,253
12 June	7.8	18,449
5 June	7.5	18,227
31 May	6.9	16,833
17 May	5.8	14,075
10 May	4.7	11,975
3 May	3.0	6,840
26 April	1.5	3,636

<sup>\*</sup>Cumulative Figure

# 9. Fifth, on the BSN and TEKUN National Micro Credit Schemes. As at 26 June:

- a. Under the BSN micro credit scheme, **7,577** applications were approved, valued at **RM260.6** million
- b. For the TEKUN programme, **25,071** applications were approved, amounting to **RM191.50** million.

Micro Credit Scheme Allocation: RM700 million	BSN Micro Credit		Tel	kun
	No of approved SMEs*	Amount* (RM million)	No of approved SMEs *	Amount* (RM million)
26 June	7,577	260.6	25,071	191.50
19 June	6,742	236.4	22,843	174.63
12 June	6,074	216.7	21,674	166.14
5 June	5,222	191	19,382	151
31 May	4,587	175	15,949	128
17 May	3,537	145	12,104	101
10 May	2,626	114	8,562	72
3 May	2,026	90	4,981	42
26 April	1,703 76		1,769	15

<sup>\*</sup>Cumulative Figure



#### **OBJECTIVE 3: STIMULATING THE ECONOMY**

- 10. On the Moratorium on Loan Repayment by financial institutions which took effect on 1 April 2020, as at 26 June, the estimated value of the moratorium is RM47.5 billion. Out of this figure, a total of RM16.6 billion was utilised by the business sector while RM30.9 billion was utilised by the Rakyat via financing facilities that qualified for the moratorium.
- 11. Borrowers are reminded that the moratorium period will end on 30 September 2020. For borrowers who may need to restructure and reschedule their facilities beyond 30 September, they are advised to consult their respective financial institutions as soon as possible.

# NATIONAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN (PENJANA)

- 12. For the National Economic Recovery Plan or PENJANA, several initiatives have begun this June, with others are still in the early stages of implementation.
- 13. **Firstly, under the MY30 programme**, the Government has allocated RM200 million for unlimited rides at only RM1 per day for 30 days for MRT, LRT, monorail, BRT, RapidKL Bus and MRT Feeder Buses. **As of 28 June 2020, 66,692 passes had been sold,** and the Government's subsidy for these passes is valued at **RM11.3 million.**
- 14. **Secondly**, for the **enhanced Wage Subsidy Programme** with an allocation of **RM5.3 billion**: With the consolidation of the Wage Subsidy Programme under PENJANA, employers can start applying for the enhanced Wage Subsidy program from 15 June 2020. Under the enhanced Wage Subsidy Programme, workers in the tourism and prohibited sectors during the CMCO who have been put on unpaid leave are eligible to receive wage subsidies, provided these workers receive these wage subsidies directly. For more information, please visit https://www.perkeso.gov.my/index.php/en/program-subsidi-upah.
- 15. Thirdly, PenjanaKerja which is the hiring incentive and training assistance programme, with a Government allocation of RM1.5 billion.
  - a. PenjanaKerja was launched under PENJANA to help businesses and the Rakyat affected by the COVID-19 crisis. The programme aims to create jobs and help jobseekers from specific groups (such as the unemployed, the retrenched, differently abled, graduates, etc.) to find employment opportunities.



- b. Since PenjanaKerja was launched on 15 June 2020, there has been a positive growth in job creation and the number of job seekers signing up for job opportunities. The daily average registrations under MYFutureJobs the National Employment Services Portal have been increasing and as of 28 June 2020, SOCSO had registrations for 2,926 job seekers and 2,185 job vacancies per day. As of 28 June 2020, PERKESO has registered a total of 107,971 job seekers and 85,578 jobs.
- c. The Government would like to invite other employers and job-seekers to register at <a href="https://www.myfuturejobs.gov.my">www.myfuturejobs.gov.my</a> to find the right job or workers.
- 16. Fourth, social assistance for vulnerable groups under the Ministry for Women, Family and Community Development (KPWKM), for which RM108 million has been allocated. As of 25 June, over 28,000 new single mother registrations have been accepted. These registrations are being reviewed and the date of the one-off payment will be announced soon. As a reminder, the registration period is open until 31 October 31 2020.
- **17. Fifth, extension of public service hours** at the Urban Transformation Center (UTC) started on **15 June 2020**.
- 18. Sixth, the *Dana Penjana Nasional*, a RM600-million technology investment fund for the venture capital and start-up sectors in Malaysia. This amount will be matched on a 1:1 basis by foreign investment institutions to attract investment into Malaysia.
  - a. The objective of this fund is to help accelerate economic recovery through the digitalisation of Malaysian businesses in high-impact technology sectors by tapping on strategic foreign capital investment through a fund-matching programme. Foreign participation will also help to develop domestic venture capital talent through cooperation with local partners and venture capital funds.
  - b. The Government will be accepting proposals from international venture capital funds to participate in several pilot categories under *Dana Penjana Nasional*, from 1 14 July 2020. The pilot funds cover the whole life cycle of venture capital including the following stages: Seed/Co-Creation, Early Stage Series A/B, Growth Stage and Venture Debt. More information on this fund can be found at penjana.treasury.gov.my. Interested parties can also send an email to <a href="mailto:danapenjana@treasury.gov.my">danapenjana@treasury.gov.my</a>.
- 19. The LAKSANA team together with the Ministries and implementing agencies are currently ensuring the FAQs, application process and initiatives' terms and conditions are well-communicated to effectively facilitate recipients' access to



these PENJANA measures. The status updates will be shared as and when these measures are implemented in the near future

#### **COMMENTARY ON CURRENT ISSUES:**

- 20. The Government highly encourages the public to plan and take control of their finances, and consult with licensed professionals for insights on actions that can be taken to improve one's cash flow and resolve financial constraints arising from the effects of COVID-19. For those who may not be aware, Bank Negara Malaysia has established Agensi Kaunseling dan Pengurusan Kewangan (AKPK) to help individuals on financial literacy, financial counseling and debt management programmes. The service is free of charge and the Rakyat may contact AKPK (https://www.akpk.org.my/my) on 03 2616 7766. AKPK has 11 branches throughout Malaysia (https://www.akpk.org.my/my/hubungi-kami#akpk).
- 21. The Government is also aware of unscrupulous syndicates who have been deceiving the public on access to financing disguised as PRIHATIN and PENJANA measures. Financial institutions do not appoint or engage third parties or agents to secure financing or effect withdrawal of savings as the public can deal directly with the authorised agencies.
- 22. There have been numerous media reports on how scammers have tricked victims into surrendering their NRIC and bank account details on the pretext of assisting them to process loans or withdrawals from their EPF accounts, among others. The Rakyat can find out more about scam tactics and ways to protect themselves through Bank Negara Malaysia's Facebook page entitled "Amaran Scam" (https://www.facebook.com/amaranpenipuan). For those who think they may have become victims of scams or fraud, please contact BNMTELELINK at 1300-88-5465.
- 23. The Rakyat should exercise caution and remain vigilant against scams disguised as economic stimulus packages and relief measures under the name PRIHATIN and PENJANA. The Rakyat are strongly encouraged to contact the Ministry of Finance or implementing agencies directly for clarifications on accessing the PRIHATIN and PENJANA measures or benefits that have been announced.

YB Tengku Dato' Sri Zafrul Aziz

Minister of Finance Ministry of Finance Malaysia 30 June 2020

