



MEDIA STATEMENT

YB TENGKU DATO' SRI ZAFRUL TENGKU ABDUL AZIZ
MINISTER OF FINANCE

26TH LAKSANA REPORT

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PRIHATIN RAKYAT ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE (PRIHATIN) AND NATIONAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY PLAN (PENJANA)

21 October 2020



INTRODUCTION

1. Assalamu'alaikum WBT and greetings. I hope that all Malaysians are healthy and are complying with the SOP when performing daily activities, especially during the Conditional Movement Control Order (CMCO) that was announced for several states / districts this week.
2. **The 26th LAKSANA Report** will begin with the implementation status of PENJANA, followed by the review of current issues. Meanwhile, the implementation status of the PRIHATIN initiatives can be found in Appendix 1.

PENJANA (National Economic Recovery Plan)

3. Under PENJANA, the initiatives are focused on three main objectives, namely:
 - a. Empowering the People;
 - b. Propelling Businesses; and
 - c. Stimulating the Economy.

PENJANA OBJECTIVE 1: EMPOWERING THE PEOPLE

4. **First, the PEKA B40 Health Care Scheme (PEKA B40)** which is managed by the Ministry of Health (MOH). Through this scheme, emphasis is given to meet health needs such as the **early detection for non-communicable diseases**. Eligible recipients of the Bantuan Sara Hidup (BSH) and their registered spouses, aged 40 years and above, will be fully funded by the Government for health screenings at clinics registered with PEKA B40. Between 1 July and 9 October 2020, a total of **116,647 claims** worth **RM9.27 million** were received. Registration is still open, and I would like to encourage those who are eligible to take this opportunity and register through MOH's official link, www.pekab40.com.my.

Period 1 July 2020 up to	Number of Claims*	Value of Assistance* (RM million)
9 October 2020	116,647	9.27
2 October 2020	107,717	8.45
25 September	99,251	6.64
31 August	66,380	3.70

*Cumulative Amount

5. **Second, the Wage Subsidy Programme (PSU).** Assistance for PSU under PRIHATIN is given to employers for a period of 3 months from April to June. Under the PENJANA Plan, this assistance has been extended for another 3 months, starting from July until September 2020. Recently, PSU has been extended again for 3 to 6 months under the KITA PRIHATIN package announced on 23 September 2020. As of 9 October 2020, a total of **RM11.996 billion in wage subsidies** has been approved to benefit more than 322,134 employers, as well as more than **2.6 million employees**.

Report Date	Amount Approved* (RM billion)	Number of Workers* (million)	Number of Employers*
9 October	11.996	2.638	322,134
2 October	11.967	2.636	322,022
25 September	11.930	2.633	321,633
28 August	10.383	2.620	320,440
31 July	8.995	2.582	318,258
26 June	7.074	2.455	307,518
29 May	4.018	2.197	286,338
24 April	1.606	1.452	207,237

*Cumulative Amount

6. **Third, the Hiring Incentive Programme and Training Assistance.** In total, as of 9 October 2020, a total of **52,851 employees** (an increase from **48,617** last week) have managed to get jobs through this programme. This number includes **41,808 people under the age of 40**; **6,530 people within the age group of 40 to 60 years old**, as well as **309 PWD** and **4,204 apprentices**.

Date As Of	Category of People Who Get Jobs				Amount*
	< 40 years	40 – 60 years	PWD	Apprentices	
9 October	41,808	6,530	309	4,204	52,851
2 October	38,189	5,966	293	4,169	48,617
25 September	34,476	5,456	284	3,782	43,998
28 August	18,354	3,266	178**	2,818	24,616
21 August	15,113	2,856	220	2,385	20,574

*Cumulative Amount

** The decrease compared with the previous week was because after further coordination and analysis, a number of applicants were found not to be PWD.

7. **Fourth, Reskilling and Upskilling Programme.** Several ministries and agencies have coordinated reskilling and upskilling programmes across the relevant ministries and agencies, in order to provide a workforce that meets the needs of the industry. As of 9 October 2020, a total of **94,462 individuals** have been approved to participate in the programmes provided.
8. For those who are still looking for job opportunities and are interested in improving their knowledge and skills to meet the latest demands of the industry, please visit the website of the ministries and agencies involved via the following links:

No.	Ministry/Agency	Link
1.	Ministry of Youth and Sport (KBS)	http://ebelia.iyres.gov.my/
2.	Ministry of Entrepreneur Development and Cooperation (MEDAC)	https://www.insken.gov.my/pendaftaran/
3.	Ministry of Higher Education (MOHE)	great.mohe.gov.my
4.	Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA)	penjana.mara.gov.my
5.	East Coast Economic Region Development Council (ECERDC)	https://www.ecerdc.com.my/penjana/WBSITE/index.html
6.	Pembangunan Sumber Manusia Berhad (PSMB)	penjanahrdf.com.my
7.	Northern Corridor Implementation Authority (NCIA)	https://www.ncer.com.my/jomkerja_jomniaga/

PENJANA OBJECTIVE 2: PROPELLING BUSINESSES

9. **First, PENJANA SME Financing to continue assisting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).** The Government has allocated RM2 billion, with a priority given to SMEs that have never received a loan from a bank before. As of 9 October 2020, a total of **3,964 SME applications have been approved with a loan value of RM899.58 million.**

Date	Number of Approved Applications*	Value* (RM million)
9 October	3,964	899.6
2 October	3,617	833.6
25 September	3,351	795.3
28 August	1,615	426.2
21 August	1,172	329.5

*Cumulative Amount

10. **Second,** the Government provides assistance and encourages SMEs and Mid-Tier Companies (MTCs) towards the digitisation of operations and trade channels. This includes an allocation of **RM100 million** for the **SME Digitalisation Matching Grant** in collaboration with telecommunication companies; **RM500 million** financing through **SME Technology Transformation Fund (STFF)**; and **Smart Automation Grant** amounting to RM100 million. As of 9 October 2020, a total of **RM26.5 million has been approved to benefit 1,701 SMEs and MTCs.** The breakdown of grant by type is as follows:
- SME Digitisation Matching Grant.** As of 9 October 2020, a total of **RM5.4 million has been approved for 1,667 SMEs;**
 - SME Technology Transformation Fund.** As of 9 October 2020, a total of 26 SMEs have applied for this assistance and **a total of RM18.5 million has been approved and will benefit 9 SMEs;** and
 - Smart Automation Grant.** As of 9 October 2020, a total of **145 SMEs** have applied for this assistance and **a total of RM2.6 million has been approved and will benefit 25 SMEs.**
11. **Third, TEKUN Business Recovery Scheme (TBRS).** This scheme is one of two schemes to support Micro SMEs. As of 9 October 2020, a total of **RM76.6 million** has been channelled under TBRS to benefit **11,546 Micro SMEs.** Among the businesses developed through TBRS include automobile workshops, sundry stores and handicraft manufacturers.

Date	Number of Approved Applications*	Amount Disbursed* (RM million)
9 October	11,546	76.6
2 October	11,481	76.1
25 September	11,383	75.5
28 August	6,908	47.7
31 July	909	6.8

*Cumulative Amount

12. **Fourth, PENJANA Credit Micro Financing under Bank Simpanan Nasional (BSN).** As of 9 October 2020, a total of **RM119.4 million** has been channelled and will benefit **3,266 SMEs and Micro SMEs** in the retail and services sector.

Date	Number of Approved Applications*	Amount Disbursed* (RM million)
9 October	3,266	119.4
2 October	2,692	98.7
25 September	2,007	73.7
28 August	399	15.2

*Cumulative Amount

PENJANA OBJECTIVE 3: STIMULATING THE ECONOMY

13. **First**, the RM50 eWallet credit programme which ended on 30 September 2020. In total, **11.36 million people have successfully received RM50 in their eWallets, amounting to RM567.9 million.** The eWallet providers such as Boost, GrabPay and Touch n Go eWallet have also contributed benefits in the form of credit matching and various other incentives, amounting to RM433.8 million in an effort to boost the Malaysian economy.
14. **Second, Support for the Arts, Culture and Entertainment Sector.** Among the allocations provided are **a total of RM100 million in the form of loans and RM40 million grants for the creative industry, events and exhibitions under MyCreative Ventures; and RM10 million grants under CENDANA.** As of 9 October 2020, a total of **269 applications** have been received for **MyCreative Ventures worth RM46.7 million** and for CENDANA initiatives, a total of **193 applications** have been approved worth **RM3.5 million – benefiting several sectors of arts, culture and entertainment; such as digital content creation, creative entrepreneurs as well as writing and publishing.**

15. **Third, to support the Agriculture and Food Industry.** This initiative was introduced to stimulate economic growth in the agriculture and food sector with the aim **to provide financing as well as provide revolving capital for farmers, ranchers and fishermen to resume activities post-Movement Control Order (MCO).** Out of the total allocation of RM400 million, RM350 million represents an allocation under the Agrobank Fund. As of 9 October 2020, a total of **RM18.8 million** has been channelled, benefitting **2,335 entrepreneurs.** In addition to the microcredit financing scheme, the initiative also includes incentives to facilitate the mobility of agricultural work to pilot companies, and contributions in-kind to support urban farming.

REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

16. A few days ago, the Ministry of Finance shared that the **Government has allocated RM1.7 billion to combat the spread of COVID-19,** channelled via 14 Ministries and State Governments. The Government, through MOH, has also channelled an **additional allocation of RM44 million to strengthen Sabah's healthcare frontliners.** Apart from that, the Government, through the National Security Council (MKN), recently approved an **additional allocation of RM50 million to NADMA.** Both of these **additional provisions are in line with the commitment to ensure preparedness in the face of increasing COVID-19 infections nationwide.** The Government is constantly monitoring current developments of the situation and is always ready to increase allocations, as and when needed.
17. The Ministry of Finance is in the process of drafting Budget 2021. A joint session between Ministries will be held to discuss on proposals and the operational and development needs. As shared before this, Budget 2021 has three main goals aimed at protecting, restoring and ensuring (i) Rakyat's Prosperity, (ii) Business Continuity, and (iii) Economic Resilience; and will be tabled on 6 November 2020. Economic continuity will be given priority to ensure the maintenance of the momentum of economic recovery. Therefore, the Government calls on the people to work together in combating the COVID-19 pandemic by always practicing the new norms and physical distancing, maintaining hygiene and health, as well as be disciplined in complying with the SOPs issued by the Government.

YB Tengku Dato' Sri Zafrul Aziz
Minister of Finance
Ministry of Finance Malaysia
21 October 2020

APPENDIX 1 – PRIHATIN ACHIEVEMENTS

OBJECTIVE 1: PROTECTING THE RAKYAT		
1.	i-Lestari Withdrawal Scheme under the Employees Provident Fund (EPF)	As of 9 October 2020, the cumulative withdrawal is RM10.47 billion (an increase from RM9.55 billion last week), involving 4.66 million recipients . Retirement planning is crucial, and the people are encouraged to utilise the free Retirement Advisory Service (RAS) provided by EPF. Information on this free service can be found at: https://www.kwsp.gov.my/ms/member/retirement-advisory-service .
2.	Frontliners Allowance	a. As of 9 October 2020, a total of RM313.74 million has been channelled based on 957,996 claims comprising of doctors, nurses and other medical personnel who have been directly involved in the management and containment of the COVID-19 pandemic. b. This special allowance is also extended to members of the military, police, customs, immigration, fire brigade, members of the Malaysia Civil Defence Force as well as RELA members who are directly involved in implementing the Movement Control Order (MCO).
3.	Taxi Drivers	As of 9 October 2020, the Government has channelled one-off cash assistance to 33,851 taxi drivers (an increase from 33,839 taxi drivers last week), amounting to RM20.31 million .
4.	Tourist Guides	As of 9 October 2020, a total of 7,642 tourist guides (an increase from 7,638 tourist guides) have received one-off cash assistance amounting to RM4.6 million .
5.	Tour Bus Drivers	One-off cash assistance to tour bus drivers has been made, starting 22 July 2020. As of 9 October 2020, a total of 2,998 tour bus drivers have received aid amounting to RM1.8 million. The difference in the number of recipients this week compared to last week's is due to cases of credit failures. Applicants with credit failures will update their account numbers to receive the cash assistance.

OBJECTIVE 2: SUPPORTING BUSINESSES					
6.	EPF's COVID-19 Assistance Programme (e-CAP) for Employers	As of 9 October 2020, a total of 69,864 applications have been received and from that, 13,090 applications have been approved worth RM85 million (no increment) for the employers' EPF contribution.			
		EPF's COVID-19 Assistance Programme (e-CAP) for Employers	Number of Applications Received*	Number of Approved Applications*	Approved Amount* (RM million)
		9 October	69,864	13,090	85.0
		2 October	69,864	13,090	85.0
		25 September	69,864	13,090	84.9
		28 August	68,532	12,904	84.2
		31 July	65,986	12,425	82.1
		26 June	36,107	9,542	63.9
		31 May	26,509	5,245	34.8
		*Cumulative Amount			
7.	BSN Micro Credit Scheme	As of 9 October 2020, payments have been made to 11,367 SMEs (an increase from 11,352 last week), involving a total of RM378.26 million (an increase from RM378.0 million last week).			
8.	TEKUN Programme	As of 9 October 2020, payments have been made to 26,222 SMEs (an increase from 26,205 SMEs last week) involving a total of RM199.31 million (an increase from RM195.15 mil last week).			

9.	SME Soft Loans Funds Administered by Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM)	As of 9 October 2020, the total approved applications by local banks and accepted by SMEs is RM10.77 billion (an increase from RM10.73 billion last week) which will benefit 23,196 SMEs (an increase from 23,078 SMEs last week). This amount includes the Special Relief Facility (SRF), Automation & Digitalisation Facility (ADF), All-Economic Sector Facility (AES) and Agrofood Facility (AF) funds. <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SME Soft Loans Funds</th><th>Approved and Accepted Amount* (RM billion)</th><th>Number of SMEs*</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>9 October</td><td>10.77</td><td>23,196</td></tr> <tr> <td>2 October</td><td>10.73</td><td>23,078</td></tr> <tr> <td>25 September</td><td>10.67</td><td>22,984</td></tr> <tr> <td>28 August</td><td>10.3</td><td>22,440</td></tr> <tr> <td>July</td><td>9.6</td><td>21,410</td></tr> <tr> <td>June</td><td>8.4</td><td>19,539</td></tr> <tr> <td>May</td><td>6.9</td><td>16,833</td></tr> <tr> <td>April</td><td>1.5</td><td>3,636</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <i>*Cumulative Amount</i> Although the SRF funds have been fully utilised, SMEs can still apply for available funding schemes under the BNM Funds such as ADF, AES and AF. SMEs can also acquire other funding via the imSME platform in the link https://imsme.com.my/portal/en/ that will help match the required funding by SMEs with multiple financial institutions.	SME Soft Loans Funds	Approved and Accepted Amount* (RM billion)	Number of SMEs*	9 October	10.77	23,196	2 October	10.73	23,078	25 September	10.67	22,984	28 August	10.3	22,440	July	9.6	21,410	June	8.4	19,539	May	6.9	16,833	April	1.5	3,636
SME Soft Loans Funds	Approved and Accepted Amount* (RM billion)	Number of SMEs*																											
9 October	10.77	23,196																											
2 October	10.73	23,078																											
25 September	10.67	22,984																											
28 August	10.3	22,440																											
July	9.6	21,410																											
June	8.4	19,539																											
May	6.9	16,833																											
April	1.5	3,636																											