

CIRCULAR NO. 25

# peMulih

Pakej Perlindungan Rakyat Dan Pemulihan Ekonomi

## PEMULIH PACKAGE

**D**ear IEM Members,

After weeks of nationwide lockdown, we have yet to succeed in lowering the number of new cases to less than 4,000 daily. As such, MCO (now renamed “Phase 1 of the National Recovery Plan”) is extended until further notice.

Since most of the economic sector are not allowed to operate, the Government has announced on 28<sup>th</sup> June 2021 a new round of Financial Assistance named **Pakej Perlindungan Rakyat dan Pemulihan Ekonomi (PEMULIH)**, with the aim of helping the general public and the business community to overcome the difficulty posed by the prolonged economic shutdown. The three main focus of PEMULIH are:



The RM150 billion package focusses mainly on People's Wellbeing, Business Support and Vaccination. It is hoped that initiatives such as loan moratorium, EPF withdrawal, cash handouts and food baskets may more or less help the more vulnerable segments of the society to survive the onslaught of this global pandemic.

This economic package is aimed at directly benefitting people and businesses that have been seriously impacted by the lockdown. Through the Special Covid Aid (BKC) programme, direct financial aid will be given not only to the B40 households but also to the M40 households. All individual borrowers and business owners will be able to receive a six-month moratorium from

banks without having to fulfill any conditions such as loss of income or employment due to the pandemic. However, a blanket moratorium will be more welcomed to avoid the hassle of applying for the loan moratorium. For businesses, more funds will be channeled into the Prihatin Special Grant (GKP) while improvement is made to the previous wage subsidy programmes to remove the salary limits. Special cash aid will also be provided for businesses in the creative industry, childcare operators, registered canteen operators, operators of sports arenas and the disabled who have lost their jobs.

Overall, this aid package has addressed the needs of most Malaysians affected economically by the pandemic and the prolonged lockdown. It is hoped that the daily cases will dip below 4,000 and the lockdown curbs can be gradually loosened in the second phase.

As citizens, each of us has a role to play too. If you see anyone in the vicinity raising a white flag, please check out what kind of assistance is needed. You may also encourage those who have not registered for vaccination to do so as soon as possible.

In a war like this, we are duty-bound to help one another. After all, without herd immunity, there will be no economic recovery.

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS AT A GLANCE



**B40 Group**  
B40 households and B40 singles will be given a one-off cash assistance of RM800 and RM200 respectively.



**Hardcore Poor**  
The hardcore poor households and singles will be given a one-off cash assistance of RM1,300 and RM500 respectively.



**M40 Group**  
The M40 households and M40 singles will be given a one-off cash assistance of RM250 and RM100 respectively.



**Electricity Bill Discounts**  
10% electricity bill discounts will be provided to affected economic sectors from October 2021 to December 2021.



**Prihatin Special Grant (GKP)**  
An additional assistance of RM1,000 will be given under the GKP 4.0 programme.



**Wage Subsidy Programme**  
Employers can now apply for the Wage Subsidy Programme 4.0 even if their employees earn more than RM4,000 a month, at a rate of RM600 per employee and limited to 500 employees per application.



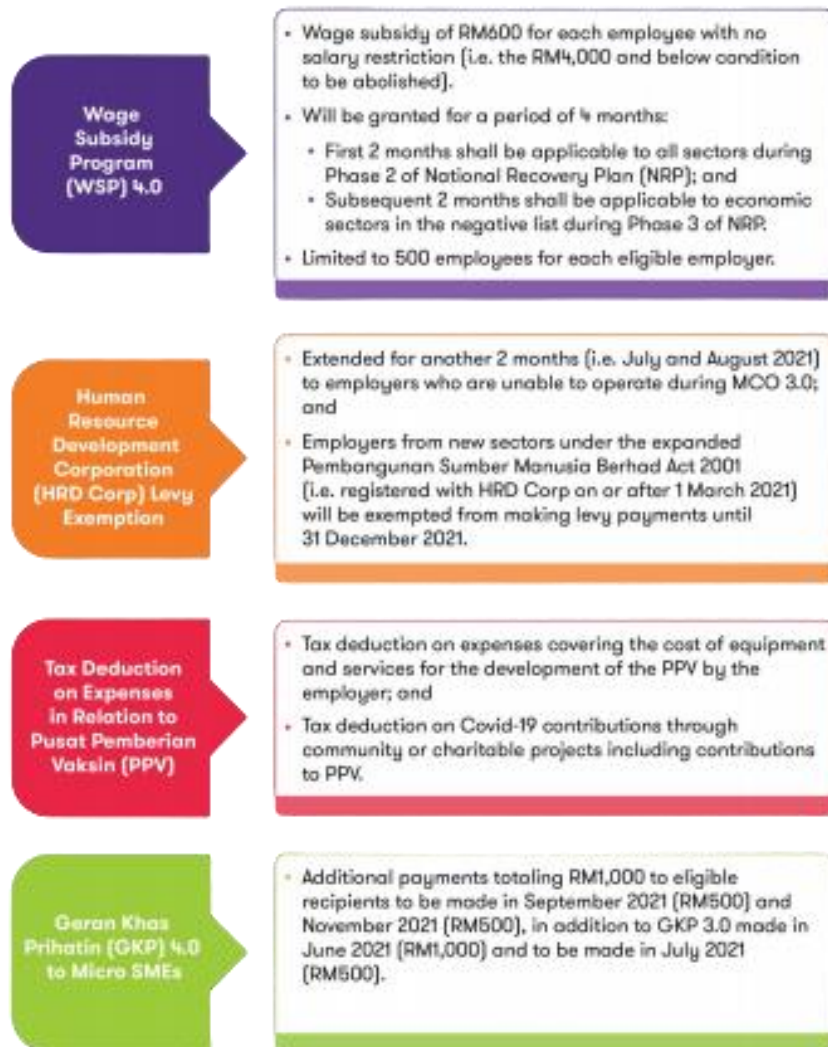
**Rental Discount**  
An extension of the special deduction on rental discount of at least 30% will be given by landlords of private business premises until 31 December 2021.



**Loan Moratorium**  
All individual borrowers can get a 6-month moratorium on their bank loans, with no conditions attached. SMEs will also be eligible but subject to the financial institutions' approval.

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## HIGHLIGHTS- EMPLOYERS & BUSINESSES



**Human Resource Development Fund (HRDF) levy**  
A 2-month exemption of HRDF will be given to companies which are unable to operate during the Movement Control Order (MCO).



**Local Arts and Creative Industries**  
RM100 million will be allocated to support the local arts and creative industries.



**School Canteen Operators**  
RM1,000 aid will be given to school canteen operators.



**Nurseries and Kindergarten Operators**  
A one-off special assistance of RM3,000 will be given to nurseries and private kindergarten operators.



**Public-Private Partnership COVID-19 Industry Immunisation Programme (PIKAS)**  
RM150 million will be allocated to companies which implement the PIKAS.



**Sports Industry Operators**  
A one-off financial assistance amounting to RM3,000 will be given to sports industry operators.



**Majlis Amanah Rakyat (MARA) Loans**  
Entrepreneurs with loans from MARA will enjoy a three (3) month moratorium or extend their loan period of up to 36 months.



**MARA Premises**  
The 30% discount for tenants at Mara premises will be extended for another five (5) months until December 2021.



**Travel Agencies**  
A one-off assistance of RM3,000 will be given to travel agencies during the Phase 3 of National Recovery Plan.



**Purchase of COVID-19 Vaccine**  
Employers registered under the Human Resources Development Corporation (HRD Corp) will be eligible to use the remaining current levy of up to 10% for the cost of management and purchase of COVID-19 vaccine.



**Vaccination Centres (PPVs)**  
RM200 million will be allocated to increase the number of PPVs, upgrade existing PPVs, implement drive-through PPVs, mobile PPVs and outreach home-to-home programmes.



**Allocation for Vaccines**  
RM400 million will be allocated to increase the supply of vaccines to cover 130% of population.



**Program Pemerkasaan Pendigitalan Usahawan Kecil (PUPUK)**  
RM300 million will be allocated to SMEs and Micro SMEs for the implementation of PUPUK.



**Tourism Sector**  
Deferment of monthly income tax instalment payments will be granted. Exemptions of tourism tax and service tax will be given to hotel operators until 31 December 2021.



**Penjana Kerjaya 3.0**  
The salary eligibility limit will be relaxed from RM1,500 to RM1,200 for the Malaysiansisation programme and the contract period will be relaxed from 12 months to 6 months for employment of disabled, ex-convicts and those aged 50 and above.



**Tax Deduction on Vaccination Facilities**  
A tax deduction will be given to the employers for expenditure incurred on the cost of equipment and the cost for setting up PPVs.



**SMEs and Micro Enterprises**  
An additional RM2 billion fund will be provided by Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM) to SMEs and micro enterprises.



**SME Digitalisation Grant**  
SME Digitalisation Grant of up to RM5,000 for the purchase of systems and subscription of digital platforms.



**Microcredit Financing Programme**  
Additional funds of up to RM1.1 billion will be provided by AgroBank, Bank Simpanan Nasional and TEKUN under the microcredit financing program.

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## HIGHLIGHTS- PEOPLE



### EPF Withdrawals

EPF contributors will be allowed to withdraw funds up to RM5,000 at a rate of RM1,000 a month for the next five (5) months under the i-Citra programme.



### JPA Education Loan

Deferment of repayment for Federal Education Loans under JPA and payment of compensation claims for Federal Scholarship recipients for up to 6 months.



### MARA Education Loan

Deferment of repayment for MARA Education Loan will be given for a period of 3 months or reschedule of loan repayment amount with a monthly instalment as low as RM100 for 12 months.



### National Higher Education Fund Corporation (PTPTN) loans and Skills Development Fund Corporation (PTPK) Loan

Moratorium on PTPTN loans and PTPK loan for a period of three (3) months.



### Insurance Premiums and Takaful

Deferment of payment for insurance premiums and takaful contributions (opt-in) will be extended until 31 December 2021.



### Allowance for Healthcare Volunteers

Healthcare volunteers who are working at vaccination centres and quarantine centres for more than twelve (12) hours daily will be given an allowance of RM100 per day starting from June 2021.



### Allowance for Healthcare Frontliners

Healthcare frontliners will be given an allowance of RM600 per month for a period of six (6) months.



### Subsidy on Taxi Fares and e-hailing Services

OKUs and elder citizens will be given a one-off cash assistance of RM30 to subsidise taxi fares and e-hailing services incurred by them to the vaccination appointments.

- Aid for Loss of Employment**  
 RM500 will be given to the employees who lost their source of income based on the database of EPF or SOCSO in year 2021.
- Job Seeker Allowance**  
 A Job Seeker Allowance of RM300 will be given to non-SOCSO contributors such as new graduates, school leavers and informal sector workers.
- Food Basket**  
 RM300,000 will be allocated to each Member of Parliament as food basket assistance to help affected groups in their respective constituencies, with RM10 million to be allocated specifically for the Orang Asli community.
- Internet Facilities**  
 Telecommunication service providers will also be extending the provision of free internet data of 1 Gigabyte until 31 December 2021.
- Subsidies for Cooking Oil**  
 RM1 billion will be allocated as subsidy to control the price hike of cooking oil.
- Mental Wellbeing**  
 RM15 million will be allocated to non-government organisations to address social issues such as mental health and other social problems at the community level.
- Electricity Bill Discounts**  
 A 5% to 40% discount on electricity bills will be given for domestic users from July 2021 to September 2021.
- Aid for the Disabled**  
 A financial assistance of RM500 per person for a period of 3 months will be given to the disabled who have lost their jobs or are unemployed and are not recipients of the existing Disabled Workers Allowance.
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[MyIEM HQ Official](https://www.t.me/MyIEMHQOfficial)

IEM had also launched our very own mobile app IEMGo on 15 April 2021 to improve communication with members. You may download IEMGo from the following platforms:



We hope that all our members would remain safe and healthy during this challenging time. If you need any assistance or information, please do not hesitate to contact IEM Secretariat at [sec@iem.org.my](mailto:sec@iem.org.my) or call our main telephone line 03-79684001. The IEM Secretariat are **working from home** as per the conditions set by MKN but they will respond to you promptly. You may also contact the respective departments as follows:

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Thank you.

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**Special Committee on COVID-19**  
**The Institution of Engineers, Malaysia**  
**20th July 2021**

**##END##**