



**KEMENTERIAN PENGANGKUTAN
MALAYSIA**

**Tuesday, 28 April 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**PRESS RELEASE
MINISTER OF TRANSPORT**

**TOPIC: PORTS TO RESUME NORMAL OPERATIONS
DURING MCO PHASE 29 APRIL TO 12 MAY 2020**

The Ministry of Transport has instructed all ports under its jurisdiction to allow all import and export activities, effective 29 April 2020, for companies granted approval by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry to operate within policies of the National Security Council.

This decision follows the Government's decision on 28 April to restart and revive the economic supply chain, and begin to recover from the Covid-19 pandemic crisis based on recommendations by the National Economic Action Council, to save jobs, ensure incomes, and inspire investors' confidence. This decision allows companies with the necessary approvals to resume full operations according to the needs of their respective industries.

Nonetheless, approved companies must still operate by adhering to strict guidelines for workers' health and safety, including practicing social distancing and good hygiene. This also applies to those conducting import and export activities at container ports, which will be allowed to operate 24 hours per day, both for essential and non-essential goods.

The Government will continue to monitor the Covid-19 pandemic's situation to determine when to allow the resumption of all other economic sectors and sub-sectors within the National Security Council's guidelines.

Most recently, the Ministry had allowed certain ports to let freight forwarding, hauliers and other relevant companies clear their goods from ports between 20 and 23 April 2020.

During the recently concluded port clearing exercises, participating ports in Port Klang, Johor, Penang, Kuantan, Melaka, Bintulu and Labuan and other state-owned ports in Sabah and Sarawak had expeditiously cleared containers congesting those ports according to standard operating procedures (SOPs) and health guidelines mandated under the movement control order.

On import-side, congestion in container yards of ports in Penang, Tanjung Pelepas, Kuantan, Bintulu, Labuan, Sibul, Kuching, Miri and Sandakan were reduced to between 20 and 50 percent of their respective total capacities. For Pasir Gudang, Northport, and Tawau ports, congestion is recorded at 50-60 percent.

Due to relatively high container traffic, Westports and Tanjung Bruas continue to record higher congestion above 70 percent.

In export container yards, Pasir Gudang, Kuantan, Labuan, Sibul and Sandakan ports recorded congestion below 50 percent. Westports stood at between 50 and 60 percent, while Tanjung Bruas and Miri ports were at 70 percent capacity.

The difference in capacities recorded between the import and export-side container yards is believed to be due to lower production output for export by factories that are not operating at their full capacities during the MCO.

The Ministry continues to monitor the logistics and transportation situation affecting companies during the MCO and will recommend policies that will reduce impedance to economic activities as much as possible.

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MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
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