



THE TECH SECTOR MUST REMAIN AN ESSENTIAL SERVICE DURING A LOCKDOWN

KUALA LUMPUR, 20 May 2021: PIKOM today reiterated that I.T. must remain as an essential service during the MCO as talks of possible tighter MCO conditions persist.

PIKOM Chairman Danny Lee said, “We constantly engage with our members and often remind them on the importance of SOP compliance. In fact, many of our members have instituted work rotation and Work-From-Home (WFH) arrangements with their employees.”

PIKOM emphasised that I.T. is an important enabler in ensuring that Work-From-Home and online learning proceed with minimal disruptions. This calls for I.T. support and services to be made available during any lockdown.

In the event that daily Covid-19 cases continue to rise and the Government would need to take more drastic measures and implementing full lockdown, essential services that include I.T. should be allowed to operate.

“During MCO1.0, there were delays in providing support for I.T. network, infrastructure and applications that require regular maintenance. This resulted in downtime for some I.T. systems and affecting the Work-From-Home and online learning. This should not be the case for any future lockdowns,” says Lee.

“We welcome tightening the SOPs and to allow businesses to continue to operate. However, should a full lockdown happen, the Government must step in to support businesses, especially micro businesses and SMEs to stay afloat and the rakyat to be gainfully employed. This includes loan moratorium and wage support scheme,” Lee continues.

In addition, PIKOM is advocating expedited vaccination for the entire country as soon as practicable as this will help the country get back to some semblance of normalcy.

“The vaccine supply and vaccination schedule need to proceed with utmost urgency so that businesses can continue, the public can get back to their daily routine and the economy can move forward again,” concluded Lee.

PIKOM currently serves over 1000 members commanding over 80% of the total tech business in the country.

ABOUT PIKOM:

PIKOM, THE NATIONAL TECH ASSOCIATION OF MALAYSIA, is the association representing the technology (TECH) industry in Malaysia. Its membership currently stands at more than 1,000 active companies involved in a whole spectrum of TECH products and services, and which command 80% of the total TECH business in Malaysia.

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The 5 Chapters under PIKOM cover: OM; CIO; Cybersecurity; E-Commerce: Venture Investment. These chapters help improve and drive the business climate for all member companies, together with promoting industry growth in line with different national aspirations, along the following approaches:

As the Voice of the Tech Industry, PIKOM embraces the task of growing the size and capabilities of the TECH industry in Malaysia by creating opportunities for its members as well as all Malaysians to capture the benefits offered by advances in TECH by focusing on the following:

- Spearhead, promote & encourage development of resources, professional skills and programmes in Malaysia's TECH industry.
- Represent the local TECH industry to the Government and private sector both local and overseas.
- Provide a platform for TECH players and users to meet, network, learn and share ideas in order to grow the industry and improved applications.
- Foster high standards of conduct, service and performance throughout the TECH industry.
- Promote and market local TECH services to the region and overseas.

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