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**MITI Deputy Minister urges businesses to share regulatory concerns through #MyMudah to escalate economic recovery**

Petaling Jaya – *MalaysiaMudah* or #MyMudah initiative by Malaysia Productivity Corporation (MPC), a programme which enables feedback on unnecessary regulations on businesses, has so far received 408 issues through the Unified Public Consultation (UPC) portal.

Y.B. Senator Datuk Lim Ban Hong, Deputy Minister, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said, “I urge businesses, either local enterprises or international firms operating in Malaysia, to register their concerns on regulatory barriers hindering business revival and growth, especially during this phase of economic recovery.”

“A conducive business climate is one of the key drivers for industries to hasten recovery, increase productivity, and improve performance. By eliminating the unnecessary regulatory burdens imposed on businesses, firms operate in a more encouraging business environment. Compliance costs and use of resources can be optimised.”

“#MyMudah is the platform for industries to voice their predicaments. I hope businesses will take this opportunity to be heard and help the government to help businesses better.”, added Senator Datuk Lim Ban Hong.

#MyMudah was launched on 20 July 2020 as one of the measures to alleviate the economic impact by COVID-19 pandemic. The decision to implement #MyMudah was made at Economic Action Council (EAC) meeting chaired by Prime Minister YAB Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin. Both EAC and MPC have been tasked with leading #MyMudah which aims to propose regulatory relief measures to support nation’s economic recovery. In implementing #MyMudah, MPC is working very closely with PEMUDAH or the Special Task Force to Facilitate Business, a public-private collaboration which addresses business-related issues and provides recommendations of solutions and interventions to the government.

Dato’ Abdul Latif Haji Abu Seman, MPC Director General said, “MPC acknowledges the impact regulations have on firms, that efficient and effective regulatory delivery is crucial for business continuity and expansion. Since 2020, MPC and PEMUDAH have been working with relevant stakeholders to address legislative issues from the industry players.”

“At firm level, #MyMudah enhances efficiency, reduces cost of doing businesses, and improves confidence, while at a larger country level, the programme increases productivity and competitiveness, creates job opportunities, and stimulate economic growth.”

From 408 issues registered through UPC, 69.5% of the issues was from the service sector, 14% from construction, 9.4% from agriculture, 5.8% from manufacturing and 1.3% from mining and quarrying.

In responding to the issues registered through UPC, MITI and MPC have been collaborating very closely with the relevant ministries and government agencies to formulate the best mitigating solutions. Series of engagements with relevant authorities were conducted before any recommendations can be finalised. MPC has been facilitating a number of sessions across the federal, state, and local authorities in analysing the feedback received.

Working closely with the Energy Commission (EC), an issue related to machinery inspections and relay calibration with reference to the requirements in Electricity Regulations 1994 and Factories and Machinery Act 1967 was analysed. MPC's cooperation with the EC escalated a proposal to harmonise the requirements in both Acts to eliminate high voltage relay calibration and remove redundancy of inspections.

Under #MyMudah initiative as well, MPC collaborated with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (KPKT) and relevant private sector to address concerns from the construction sector on the inconsistent requirements for Temporary Labour Quarters (TLQ). As a result of the collaboration, KPKT has relaxed some requirements in obtaining the temporary permit for TLQ.

Another effort in cooperation with KPKT has impacted speedier approval for the Certificate of Completion and Compliance (CCC). MPC facilitated the introduction of "Silent implies consent after 28 days" to clear regulatory backlog due to Movement Control Order (MCO). The solution enables businesses to start operation faster. At the national level, the solution may create 65,000 new job opportunities across sectors, and 100,000 new employments in the construction sector.

The tourism industry players, who are among the hardest hit group due to the pandemic, have benefitted from #MyMudah when the collaboration with the Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture (MoTAC) led the Ministry to relax several requirements for new applications and renewal of Tour Operating Business and Travel Agency Business (TOBTAB) license. Since October last year, tour operators have been exempted from submitting audited financial report for license renewal, and tour agencies can co-share office space. The revised requirements help the tourism industry players to manage operating costs.

Businesses may visit MPC's Unified Public Consultation (UPC) Portal at <https://upc.mpc.gov.my/> to give feedback on regulatory concerns affecting their businesses.

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