

MEDIA STATEMENT BY CM CHOW KON YEOW
MAY 3, 2020 COMPANY, GEORGE TOWN

My dear people of Penang. Hello.

Today is the 47th day of the Movement Control Command (CPP). Generally, the Penang State Government is aware of the announcement by the Prime Minister on May 1, 2020 of the Conditional Movement Control (PKPB) Order from May 4, 2020.

According to the Penang State Department of Health (JKNPP), all districts in Penang will remain green zone for 14 days from April 19, 2020 until May 2, 2020, except the Seberang Perai Utara (SPU) district which has TWO (2) cases identified within 14 days today.

Since March 5, 2020, the State Government has taken preliminary action based on a strategic plan in the pursuit of the COVID-19 outbreak in Penang.

3P Strategies for Disease Control; Public Description; and Impact Management through cooperation between the State and Federal Governments has shown that Penang consistently ranks the second lowest COVID-19 per capita case nationwide.

The early action of the State Government in dealing with the affairs of foreign workers and the people in Penang has ensured that no COVID-19 cases have been involved in the community so far.

Since the beginning of Phase 3 of the CPP, the State Government has also introduced the 'Next Normal Strategy of Penang' to enable our state to be prepared to face new norms as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. The three main missions of 'Penang's Next Normal Strategy' are: to strengthen the ecosystem in Penang; aligning the ecosystem to the changing 21st century; and build Penang's resilience to face any possible crisis in the future.

The state government's think tank, Penang Institute has also published various crisis assessment reports as a guide to policymakers, policymakers and the general public.

A month ago, the State Government asked the Federal Government to implement three things at the state level of Penang, namely, 1) increase the COVID-19 screening test rate; 2) implementing movement control at the state border; and 3) implement the EHS COVID-19 protocol.

With the introduction of the State Security Council (MKN) standard operating procedures (SOP) and state border controls, the Penang State Government has requested the Federal Government through the Ministry of Health Malaysia (MOH) to increase the COVID-19 screening test rate in the state.

The recovery of Penang must be a priority for the health and safety of the people

As an industrial state with over 67,000 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in various sectors, the State Government recognizes that Penang must take steps to restore the state's economy.

According to a statement from the Director General of Health, Dato 'Dr. Noor Hisham Abdullah on May 2, the first week, beginning May 4, 2020, should be used to formulate strategies, plan and implement new SOPs issued by MKN, and not necessarily for every sector to start operations.

At the special meeting of the National Security Council: Management of COVID-19 chaired by the Prime Minister on April 28, on Tuesday, members of the meeting were informed that the Federal Government would receive feedback from each state based on the SOP to be distributed in the near future, but this is not the case and the challenge is the implementation of the Conditional Movement Control Order (PKPB) tomorrow, May 4, 2020.

Accordingly, following the instructions of the MKN and the MOH guidelines, as well as the decisions made by the members of the State Security Committee (JKKN) meeting this morning, the Penang Government decided to implement the 'Stage Recovery Strategy' based on the necessary adjustments made to the ensuring the health and safety of the people of Penang and the well-being of the state's economic sector.

This means that tomorrow, on May 4, 2020, the existing CPP will still be in force in Penang. In other words, only those / parties / companies allowed to operate and work during Phase 1, Phase 2 and Phase 3 of the CPP are allowed to continue their respective operations as in previous phases of the CPP without any changes including public transport companies.

To those not listed in the CPP Phase 1, 2 and 3, the enforcement and operation of the 'Penang Staged Recovery Strategy' is due on May 8, 2020, on Friday. The State Government will make further announcements on this matter.

Why May 8, 2020? This is not only to enable the State Government to provide more comprehensive guidelines especially in terms of enforcement, but this four (4) day period is also to enable companies / employers / employees / parents and others to plan their operations and movements, respectively. This includes the provision of equipment such as hand warmers, social distancing, face-to-face rules and so on for mutual safety at supervised premises.

Penang Staged Recovery Strategy

The strategy will be divided into three phases:

Phase	Duration	Explanation
1	4-7 May 2020	The preparation phase. All sectors are encouraged to use this period to plan, prepare and implement SOP for implementation in their respective areas. All other activities are not permitted, unless explicitly stated in the Stage Recovery Strategy Schedule to be announced.
2	8-12 May 2020	The phase of practice. Authorized sectors need to implement SOP strictly. All other activities are not permitted, unless explicitly stated in the Stage Recovery Strategy Schedule to be announced.
3	Get started 13 May 2020	Opening phase. All sectors are allowed to operate but must adhere to the SOP.

The three goals of the Penang Stage Recovery Strategy are:

1. Prevention of crowds (crowding).

2. SOP compliance practices introduced by the National Security Council (MKN).
3. Opening and recovery of economic sectors in phases.

General Regulations of the Staged Recovery Strategy of Penang

The General Rules below must be complied with by all residents of Penang including the business community operating in the state.

1. The National Security Council (SOP) SOP needs to be strictly adhered to.
2. List of prohibited activities issued by MKN should be strictly adhered to.
3. The operating hours in Penang for all sectors tomorrow, May 4, 2020 remain the same. The May 8, 2020 operating period will be announced by local authorities (local authorities) including the types of security measures and measures to be followed.
4. Employers are encouraged to continue working from Home and Elapsed during the 'Stage Recovery Strategy' period.
5. The people of Penang are reminded that the CPP has not expired until May 12, 2020. Therefore, all outside activities other than authorized occupations are prohibited.
6. Unless explicitly stated in the upcoming 'Stage Recovery Strategy' table, all sectors are only allowed to perform SOP-compliant preparations in Phase 1, and full operations under SOP MKN can only be carried out in Phase 2 of May 8, 2020.
7. All sectors are allowed to operate fully in Phase 3 (from May 13, 2020), but will still need to adhere to the SOP.
8. Improvements to the 'Penang Staged Recovery Strategy' will be announced over time.

In addition, the list of sectors authorized to operate **from May 8, 2020** based on the JKKN meeting results is as follows:

- Transportation (air, land)
- Food (for food packaging only)
- Review and professional services
- Manufacturing
- Financial
- Gas
- Mine and quarry
- Electricity
- Agriculture (rice and rice)
- Fisheries
- Farming
- Communication
- Information technology
- e-commerce
- Environment
- IWK water supply and sewerage
- Construction
- Lawsuits
- Security
- Cleaning
- Strata management
- Finance (community credit and mortgage taxes)
- Hotel
- Retail
- State Government Agencies / Local Authorities / Statutory Bodies / State GLCs

The list of sectors authorized to operate **from May 13, 2020** is as follows:

- Sports
- Unions
- Neighborhood Associations
- Cooperatives
- Agriculture
- Forest research
- Debt management
- Creative industry
- Culture and arts

The two sectors that are still under consideration are: -

- Education
 - Social care sector (clothing)
- and further decisions will be made later.

All of the information that I announced earlier will be posted on the COVID-19 Penang website.

Based on this decision, I hope that all of the people of Penang will continue to obey all the instructions set out for us to break the COVID-19 outbreak chain completely.

Penang Lawan COVID-19!

CHOW KON YEOW