

**GOVERNMENT INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT SESSION ON MALAYSIA'S COVID-19
IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME**

4 March 2021

AMCHAM participated in an engagement session today with industry and business leaders, hosted by the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI). **YB Khairy Jamaludin, Minister of Science, Technology and Innovation** gave a special and comprehensive briefing on the **National COVID-19 Immunisation Programme**.

Highlights of the discussion:

1. As of 3 March 2021, 80,000 have been vaccinated.
2. The faster Malaysians are vaccinated, the faster our economic recovery. The vaccines selected by Malaysia are safe, and businesses are asked to strongly encourage their employees to register for vaccination.
3. All those living in Malaysia will be eligible, according to the phases which can run concurrently. This includes undocumented migrants with the help of NGOs.
 - a. Phase 1 Frontliner 2-4 months (Feb-May)
 - b. Phase 2 High Risk Group 3-5 months (Apr - Aug)
 - c. Phase 3 Adults 6-10 months (May - Feb 2022)
 - d. Phase 4 Outbreak Management (Feb 2021--- Ongoing)
4. There are 18,000 government staff and volunteers on hand to support the rollout. While the government is able to dispense 300,000 doses a day it estimates that around 150,000 will be more realistic as it will be subject to supply with the vaccines being delivered in batches. The government is pushing to receive supplies faster and to try and complete the program by the end of 2021.
5. Malaysia has procured vaccines for 110% of its population to mitigate manufacturing risk, approval considerations and to provide a buffer in case a booster shot is required.
6. There is a long-term solution and plan in addressing future pandemics, by establishing strategic collaborations and developing the nation's own vaccine manufacturing capabilities.
7. Funding has been obtained from the Ministry of Finance to set up mass vaccination centres, utilising buildings such as stadiums in large urban areas and other public facilities.

8. The government recognizes that there is a need to outsource to private healthcare practitioners and General Practitioners will be included soon to assist.
9. Malaysia and Singapore have had a discussion to ease travel between the two countries with no need for quarantine for those who have been vaccinated.
10. Real live data from other countries with vaccination programs have been obtained, and they show that there is a marked reduction in cases, hospitalization and deaths.
11. The government will be in talks with IATA to ensure that Malaysia's vaccine digital certification will be recognized.
12. The Ministry of Health is preparing a proposal for a financial assistance program, in the unlikely event there is an adverse reaction to vaccination by any individual.
13. In-house doctors and medical staff of companies as well as sales, technical and delivery personnel within the medical and pharmaceutical industry will be considered for prioritisation by the government. As for other sectors like E&E manufacturing, the government is trying to balance economic recovery vs. equitable access.
14. It is anticipated that a private market will be allowed in Q3 2021; the Ministry will work to cap prices. However, global supply is currently limited and any vaccine would have to be vetted by the NPRA which is currently prioritising government-purchased vaccines.
15. The government is considering on-site or grouped factory vaccinations but will need logistical assistance from industry while they provide the vaccines and vaccinators.
16. A new feature on the MySejahtera app will be introduced to allow registration of dependents e.g. spouse, domestic helpers. Updates will be launched to accommodate these groups.

AMCHAM supports and encourages its members and their staff to register as soon as possible using one of the channels that will be available. The immediate two are: MySejahtera, the official website www.vaksincovid.gov.my starting **05 March 2021**.

“Vaccines don't save lives, vaccinations do”

For further details, please visit this link: <https://www.vaksincovid.gov.my/en/>