

## **EMCO at Top Glove's workers' dormitory in Klang extended**

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The enhanced movement control order (EMCO) in the workers' dormitory of rubber glove manufacturer Top Glove in Klang has been extended for another two weeks until Dec 14, Senior Minister (Security Cluster) Ismail Sabri Yaakob announced.

This came as Covid-19 cases among the workers were still high and there were positive cases being detected in the second tests, he told a press conference today.

A total of 3,406 Covid-19 positive cases were recorded out of 5,805 tests at Top Glove factories, he said.

As such, he said, the National Security Council decided at a special meeting today to extend the lockdown for another two weeks, from Dec 1 to 14.

The minister also denied allegations by some critics that the Health Ministry was

"cooperating" with Top Glove in allowing workers who were under quarantine to continue working.

This is because, after their first Covid-19 test the Top Glove workers were placed under a 14-day quarantine, with non-citizen workers sent to a quarantine centre while Malaysian workers would have to undergo quarantine at home, Ismail Sabri added.

"(The allegations are) not true because they are not allowed to work and they will be made to wear a quarantine wristband.

"People who stay nearby the factories need not worry as (the workers) will not be released into the community as they are placed at quarantine centres," he said.

He added that the workers are only allowed to return to work after completing their 14-day quarantine order.

The government's decision to lock down Top Glove's hostels and the surrounding area for two weeks from Nov 17, while allowing its factories in Klang to continue operating, had raised many eyebrows.

On Nov 23, the government ordered the company to close all its 28 factories in Klang in stages to facilitate the quarantine of workers and the Covid-19 test process. But in allowing the staggered closing of these factories, they could still partially carry out operations.

Elaborating further, Ismail Sabri said the migrant workers who tested negative in their first tests will be segregated at a quarantine station while local workers will be quarantined at home under a home surveillance order (HSO) for two weeks.

A second test for the workers will be carried out on the 13th day of quarantine, he added.

Ismail Sabri said infected migrant and local workers will be sent to the Covid-19 quarantine and low-risk treatment centre (PKRC), a gazetted hostel that is prepared by Top Glove and public health facilities respectively.

Workers who are discharged from the hospital will also be placed under quarantine, he said.

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