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**REMEDIES TO LOSS AND EXPENSE DURING
COVID-19 MOVEMENT CONTROL ORDER
(MCO) FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF QS**

Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for
the award of Bachelor of Quantity Surveying (Honours)

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ABSTRACT

Due to Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) pandemic which happened worldwide, as virus has no boundaries, a lot of activities including construction projects must be postponed or delayed effective from 18th March 2020 until 12th May 2020 following the Movement Control Order (MCO) announced by the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin. Delay in construction project is common in construction industry as many unexpected things could happen while managing the project. Parties involved such as client, consultants, contractors, and others will be facing the risk and impacts as cost might increase throughout the delays. Thus, this research aims to identify the remedies to loss and expense suffered by construction parties throughout MCO due to COVID-19 pandemic. Briefly, this research was conducted throughout Malaysia and the data collection was based on structured online questionnaire via Google Form which was then distributed to Quantity Surveyors. The data was then analysed by using IBM SPSS software. A few analyses had been done to get the quantified data such as frequency, descriptive analysis, multiple response frequencies, as well as crosstabulation. It can be concluded that majority of the respondents agreed that negotiation with the client is one of the best remedies to loss and expense suffered by construction parties throughout the MCO. Some recommendation that can be done for the future research is to study the effectiveness of negotiation as remedy to loss and expense.

Keywords: COVID-19 Pandemic, construction contract, loss and expense.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

On 30th January 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus had declared the novel coronavirus outbreak (2019-nCoV) a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) after being advised by the Emergency Committee (EC) that the outbreak constituted a PHEIC (World Health Organisation, 2020).

Later, on 16th March 2020, the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin had announced MCO to be effectively commenced from 18th March 2020 until 31st March 2020 (Tang, 2020). This MCO was an initiative taken by the government to curb the spread of COVID-19 in this country. The MCO was then extended further until 14th April as the number of cases including deaths were increasing day by day (Yusof, 2020). However, on Thursday, 23rd April 2020, Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin once again announced that the MCO will be extended until 12th May 2020 for the third time (Tan, 2020).

Due to this COVID-19 pandemic and the announcement of the MCO, preventive measures such as postponing any activities that might lead to a great crowd and allowing temporary holidays to Malaysians were implemented to help flatten the rising curve of COVID-19 cases in Malaysia (FMT News, 2020). The announcement of the MCO was made pursuant to the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases Act 1988 ("PCIDA") and Police Act 1967 (Rahmat Lim & Partners, 2020). In this case, construction projects were no exception except "critical works" such as maintenance and repair work (The Star Online, 2020).