



## THE SINGAPORE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION LTD (SCAL)

### ADVISORY ON MEASURES CONNECTED WITH THE KNOWN CASE OF NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (2019-nCoV)

**11 February 2020**

In the wake of reports that a Bangladeshi worker had been infected with the novel coronavirus (2019-nCoV), SCAL has met with the Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Ministry of Health (MOH) and the Dormitory Association of Singapore Ltd (DASL) on 10 Feb 2020 to seek clarification over concerns of the construction workers residing at the dormitory affecting the other workers at their jobsites.

The 39-year-old work pass holder was Singapore's 42<sup>nd</sup> case of the coronavirus. He is a resident at The Leo dormitory in Kaki Bukit.

#### **1. Measures taken**

MOM and MOH clarified that upon confirmation of the infected worker on 7 Feb 2020, the affected room in the dormitory was immediately sealed and all common areas such as toilets, turnstiles and surfaces commonly touched have been cleaned and disinfected.

MOH immediately commenced contact tracing and all close contacts have been quarantined.

#### **2. Clarification on other workers in The Leo dormitory**

MOH explained that the risk level of a casual contact contracting the 2019-nCoV is considered low. The risk level of casual contact transmitting the 2019-nCoV is even lower. Therefore, MOM advised that workers staying in The Leo should be permitted to work. (Please also see <https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/wuhan-virus-coronavirus-leo-dorm-bangladesh-worker-12418738?cid=FBcna>.)

Where the client or developer of projects have imposed restrictions on these workers from their worksites, MOM will be reaching out to them to provide a similar clarification.

Nevertheless, construction firms should continue to maintain the necessary precautionary measures such as temperature taking and close observation of physical symptoms of workers. The workers should also be reminded to maintain good personal hygiene at all times. Any worker who feel unwell should don a mask and seek treatment from a General Practitioner. If the worker is in a serious condition, he should be immediately sent to the hospital.

#### **3. Updates on coronavirus**

As the situation with the coronavirus is still evolving, construction firms should continually monitor updates by MOM <https://www.mom.gov.sg/2019-ncov> and MOH <https://www.moh.gov.sg/2019-ncov-wuhan> for the latest advisories.