



Supporting Migrant Workers during COVID-19

On Sunday 24 May 2020, the newly appointed Vice-Chairmen of SICCI joined Senior Minister Tharman

Shanmugaratnam to interact with migrant workers currently housed at a dormitory in Taman Jurong. In lieu of the Muslim month of Ramadan, many migrants broke their fast that evening. Special Hari Raya Dinner dishes in bento sets (Halal/Indian/Chinese) were distributed to 1,000 migrant workers. Each of them also received an enhanced toiletries gift pack. The dormitory houses a group of healthy employees, hailing from Bangladesh and India and mainly in essential services, who will continue to go to work but be housed separately from their original dormitories. SICCI will continue to collaborate with its partners, organisations and government agencies in its joint effort to curb the spread of COVID-19 in Singapore.



SICCI Vice-Chairmen Mr. Chandra Mohan Rethnam and Mr. Maneesh Tripathi speaking with Senior Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam.



LEFT: Senior Minister Tharman Shanmugaratnam distributing bento sets to migrant workers.

**RIGHT:
Migrant
workers
with their
bento sets.**





The SICCI COVID-19 Task Force has been set up to assist members tide through these unprecedented times and to gradually upscale their business. SICCI Vice-Chairman Mr. Chandra Mohan Rethnam heads the Task Force with Board Directors Mr. Parthiban Murugaiyan and Mr J K Saravana assisting him. In April and the first half of May this year, SICCI had received over 700 calls, mostly requesting help to navigate the various government schemes. SICCI has reached out to the banks and requested a dedicated contact person or team it can refer cases to, so that the SMEs know who to go to. The task force has also put together a list of secondary financing options, including some Indian organisations that are able to provide funding. These will likely charge higher interest rates, but SICCI is working to obtain waivers of processing fees or preferential rates for SICCI members. The Task Force has a dedicated e-mail address and telephone number to receive queries where a response will be provided within 24 hours and follow-up within three to four days.

New Logo for SME Centre@SICCI

All 11 SME Centres in Singapore went live on 1 June 2020 with the unveiling of a new logo, bearing the distinct colours of red and black, from the previous blue and green. The logo has been refined to reflect the overall look and feel of Enterprise Singapore's corporate identity. This change reaffirms the strong partnership between Enterprise Singapore and the trade associations and chambers in Singapore.



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