Health Sector Licenses Continue to Soar During COVID-19 Pandemic

Jakarta, 17 April 2020 – According to BKPM, applications for the Ministry of Health’s Operational/Commercial License (IOK) increased very significantly in the first two weeks of April 2020. A total of 4,042 Ministry of Health’s IOKs has been issued through the Online Single Submission (OSS) system during 1-14 April 2020.

BKPM spokesperson Tina Talisa said that the ever-increasing Ministry of Health's IOK reflects the interest of businesses facing the COVID-19 pandemic and a positive response to the ease of licensing provided by the government. “The Ministry of Health’s IOK has reached four thousand for the first two weeks in April. It is about 70 percent of the total IOK of March which amounts to 5,862. This indicates high interest and the licensing acceleration for medical sector went well,” said Tina.

In the early April period, IOK related to the health sector is at the two top positions of license applicants. The first rank is occupied by the Ministry of Health’s IOK as many as 4,042 requests, followed by Food and Drug Supervisory Agency (BPOM) with a total of 2,478. Both overtook Ministry of Trade's IOK which fell to third place with 2,334 requests.

Overall, the number of the Ministry of Health’s IOK has indeed jumped sharply starting in March 2020. Especially when compared to February 2020 (2,406 IOK) and in January 2020 (1,431 IOK).

In addition to providing ease of licensing to medical equipment provider companies, BKPM Chairman Bahlil Lahadalia conducts hands-on operations to ensure the production readiness of companies that have applied for IOK. As previously reported, after the visit of BKPM Chairman to a number of South Korean Personal Protective Equipment (APD) manufacturers in the first week of April 2020, BKPM received good news that as of April 14, 927,500 APD from a consortium consisting of six South Korean garment companies in West Java have been sent to the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB).

PT Daedong Internasional, which was visited by the BKPM Chairman in early April, they appreciated the readiness of BKPM to handle requests for health licenses, especially when it was conveyed the constraints of importing raw materials. “There were some obstacles but BKPM worked through the problems, they helped us with a solution immediately,” explained Ki Tae Jo, Director of PT Daedong International.

BKPM is committed to providing support to businesses to optimize the availability of medical equipments through the licensing acceleration service. Through the PUSAT KOPI (Investment Control and Operational Command Center), BKPM continues to monitor and facilitate these companies in order to not experience any problems, especially related to licensing. (*)

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