



**ADVISORY NO. 35
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**SINGAPORE URGED FOREIGN DOMESTIC WORKERS
TO STAY HOME ON REST DAYS**

The government of Singapore has announced on 20 Mar 2020 that Singapore will implement stricter safe distancing measures to reduce the risk of further local transmission of COVID-19. These measures serve to limit close contact and large gatherings of people in close proximity over a prolonged duration. Foreign domestic workers (FDWs), including Filipino domestic workers are similarly expected to adhere to safe distancing practices during their rest days. The Ministry of Manpower (MOM), Centre for Domestic Employees (CDE) and Foreign Domestic Worker Association for Social Support and Training (FAST) share the following recommended social distancing measures with FDWs and employers:

1. Advisory on rest days

- FDWs are advised to spend their rest day at home during this period. FDWs who have errands to attend to are encouraged to take their rest day on a weekday, when public spaces are less crowded. If FDWs agree to spend their rest day at home, employers should not assign work to them on their rest day.
- For FDWs who come to a mutual agreement with their employers to forgo their rest day, employers must provide compensation in lieu of the rest day.

2. Social distancing on rest days

Should FDWs wish to spend their rest day outside, they should:

- Avoid gathering in large groups or minimize time spent at places such as Lucky Plaza, City Plaza, Peninsula Plaza;
- Observe good personal hygiene, minimize physical contact by not shaking hands and maintaining a safe distance from one another; and
- Avoid sharing food, drinks and other personal items.

3. Monitoring of Personal Health

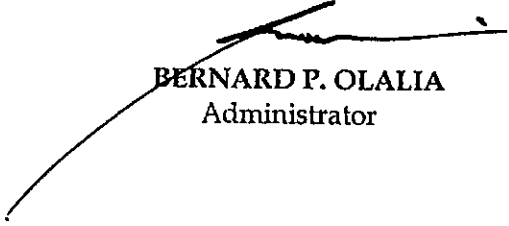
Foreign Domestic Workers (FDWS) should:

- Practice social responsibility by monitoring their own health condition;
- See the doctor if they are feeling unwell; and
- Not go out to prevent spreading the illness to others.

4. Maintaining Open Communication between the Employer and FDWs

- Employers should remind their FDWs of the above measures before they leave for their rest days;
- Employers and FDWs are encouraged to maintain open communication with each other especially during this period; and
- Visit MOH's website at www.moh.gov.sg regularly to keep updated on latest developments.

For the information and guidance of all concerned.


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Administrator

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Source: POLO, Singapore
Singapore's Ministry of Health

Arnel/lmdb

