

**Press Release**  
**Department of Labor and Employment**  
**Bureau of Working Conditions**  
**28 August 2021**

**DOLE, DTI discussed Safety Seal updates**



Following the implementation of the Safety Seal Certification program (Safety Seal), the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) conveyed various updates on their respective accomplishments on 24 August 2021, via Facebook Kapihan Session, hosted by the Department of Health (DOH).

DOLE Assistant Secretary and Bureau of Working Conditions Concurrent Director, Dr. Ma. Teresita “Tes” Cucuenco discussed that there were a total of 853 Safety Seal applications received nationwide, where 261 of these establishments were approved, while 294 applications were denied. Moreover, 27 establishments are pending for issuance, and 269 are pending for inspection. On the other hand, DTI Undersecretary Ireneo “Boy” Vizmonte reported that there were 3,169 approved applications while 1,055 were denied.

Common reasons for denial of Safety Seal were either because of lacking documents, non-compliance, or application outside the Issuing Authority’s jurisdiction. In the case of the latter, Usec. Boy said that these establishments were referred to the appropriate Issuing Authority. For DOLE, there were a total of 20 applications that were found to be outside the Department’s jurisdiction.

Although voluntary, establishments are still encouraged to apply for and obtain their own Safety Seal, to continue boosting consumers’ and workers’ trust, and eventually business confidence. In addition, Asec. Tes stated that inspected establishments that were compliant and eligible but were unaware of the Safety Seal were encouraged to apply. On the other hand, citizen participation is also encouraged to monitor and report the establishments violating the Minimum Public Health Standards.

In the topic of making the Safety Seal a mandatory requirement, Usec. Boy and Asec. Tes stated that it would not be pursued.

In addition to the Safety Seal initiative of the government, the application of ventilation and vaccination strategies for lowering the risk of COVID-19 transmission is still emphasized.

“We really have to be responsible for all our actions, in all the matters, from following protocols to doing the vaccination, because, at the end of the day, no one is safe until everyone is safe.” Asec. Tes highlighted.

For more information on the application requirements and establishments granted with Safety Seal within the DOLE and DTI’s jurisdiction, citizens may visit their respective microsites at <https://bwc.dole.gov.ph/safetyseal> and <https://www.dti.gov.ph/safetyseal/>.