



**Tuesday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**GENERAL NEWS AND HEADLINES**

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**Amnesty dubs new Omnibus Law 'catastrophic', petition urges no confidence motion**

*The Jakarta Post* (<https://tinyurl.com/y5o3pfp7>)

Amnesty International Indonesia has lambasted the newly passed Omnibus Law on Job Creation, calling it a threat to human rights that could harm labor rights and exploit workers in the country.

Amnesty International Indonesia executive director Usman Hamid called the law "catastrophic".

He said that the new law might also breach the prohibition of retrogression principle in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), especially because the law's unclear provisions on minimum wage and working hours did not meet ICESCR requirements.

An online petition to "Reject the omnibus law on job creation and [lodge] a motion of no confidence in President [Joko Widodo] and the House" has been launched on [change.org](https://change.org) to demand the resignation of the President and House Speaker Puan Maharani for failing the aspirations of the Indonesian people. The petition had garnered more than 24,000 signatures out of its 25,000 targets at the time of publishing.

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**Democratic Party reasserts opposition to newly passed Omnibus Law**

*Tempo* (<https://tinyurl.com/y4psbb8h>)

People's Consultative Assembly Deputy Speaker Syarif Hasan of the Democratic Party has questioned the House of Representatives leaders' decision to reschedule their plenary session to Monday, during which they passed the

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controversial omnibus bill on job creation into law, from its initial schedule on Thursday.

Syarief said that the House's decision to expedite its plenary session could set a bad precedent for the legislative body itself, especially considering the mounting resistance from labor unions, environmentalists as well as the general public.

Syarief also reasserted the party's opposing stance against the law, which is expected to bring radical changes to the country's labor system and natural resources management.

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### **Luhut asks Terawan to closely monitor COVID-19 drug producers**

*Tempo* (<https://tinyurl.com/y4hyhf3f>)

Coordinating Maritime Affairs and Investment Minister Luhut Pandjaitan has asked Health Minister Terawan Agus Putranto to closely monitor domestic COVID-19 drug manufacturers in setting their selling prices.

Luhut, who also serves as COVID-19 Response and National Economic Recovery Committee deputy chairman, said that the government had collected the data on COVID-19 drug prices based on the Free on Board (FoB) system from exporting countries such as India, China and Germany. "I ask *Pak* Terawan to monitor this matter closely," said Luhut.

Furthermore, Luhut also asked the Health Ministry to ensure the availability of COVID-19 drugs at least until the end of this year.

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## **BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS NEWS AND HEADLINES**

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### **BI: Consumer confidence weakens in September**

*Bisnis Indonesia* (<https://tinyurl.com/y4jmaxnq>); *Kontan* (<https://tinyurl.com/y36rf5hv>)

Bank Indonesia has announced that consumer confidence has weakened in the last month. According to BI's survey, Indonesia's consumer confidence index (IKK) fell to 83.4 points in September, from 86.9 in August. An IKK reading below 100 signifies consumer pessimism, while above 100 reflects general hopefulness. Consumers are still upbeat on the economic prospects of the next six months, but

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their optimism declined as indicated by falling consumer expectation index (IEK) from 118.2 to 112.6.

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## **Non-bank financing drops 12.86 percent in August**

*Kontan* (<https://tinyurl.com/y4qls7jv>)

Financial Services Authority (OJK) chairman Wimboh Santoso has announced that non-bank financing, specifically from multi-finance companies, dropped 12.86 percent year-on-year (yoy) to Rp 391.96 trillion (US\$26.5 billion) in August. Meanwhile, non-performing financing was reported at 5.2 percent. BCA Finance executive director Roni Haslim said his company recorded a 53.6 percent yoy drop in new financing to Rp 10.24 trillion.

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## **Waskita pays Rp 1.43t matured bond**

*Bisnis Indonesia* (<https://tinyurl.com/yxp539p5>); *Kompas* (<https://tinyurl.com/yykq56nn>)

State-owned construction company PT Waskita Karya has paid the principal and interest of its Phase I Sustainable III bond due yesterday. The bond was issued in 2017, and the total principal and interest payments were Rp 1.43 trillion (US\$96.8 million). Waskita still has another bond that will mature on Oct. 16, namely Phase II Sustainable I bond, totaling Rp 1.15 trillion. Previously, Waskita had prepared cash worth Rp 2.5 trillion to pay the matured bonds.

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## **Govt develops web-based app to assess businesses' risks related to human rights**

*The Jakarta Post* (<https://tinyurl.com/y2jjmb1a>)

The Law and Human Rights Ministry is developing a web-based application called PRISMA to assess companies' operational risks related to human rights abuses, from land affairs to deforestation and forced eviction to labor rights. PRISMA will be a voluntary self-assessment that cover 11 indicators, namely a company's profile, human rights policy, grievance mechanism, supply chains, manpower, labor condition, labor union, discrimination, privacy, environment and social responsibility. The app is issued in partnership with the Institute for Policy Research and Advocacy (ELSAM) and business groups. The app development is taking place at a time when labor unions and advocacy groups are worried about the omnibus bill on job creation's impact on labor rights.

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