

Ensure whole-of-society approach by engaging with stakeholders on white paper

LETTERS

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The Health Ministry must ensure a whole of society approach in its planned reforms for the nation's healthcare by engaging with stakeholders before it drafts its white paper on healthcare reforms.

The Malaysian Medical Association (MMA) is glad to hear that the Health Minister is in the midst of preparing the White Paper on healthcare reforms to be tabled in Parliament soon. We are eagerly awaiting for the stakeholders' engagement on this as there has been no engagements done as yet.

The Health Minister has mentioned that the Paper will include improvements in service terms to the customers, who are the people of this country. This is important as after all, healthcare is for the people and the health services do need to be people-oriented.

The Minister has gone on to say that he is looking at the welfare of the Ministry's staff which is another crucial matter. In the past two and a half years, many government healthcare workers had gone way beyond what is expected of them in terms of their duties.

The Ministry's staff do indeed deserve the accolades accorded to them. They have truly served this country of ours and deserve the Ministry's outstanding service awards.

We hope that apart from government healthcare workers, the Minister will also recognise the contributions that have been made by the private sector as well, without whom it would have been nigh impossible to make it through the early phases of the pandemic.

Many in the private sector had taken it upon themselves to volunteer their services to assist in the management of the pandemic. There have been good public private partnerships forged to provide good healthcare services and such partnerships should be part of the white paper as well.

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