

DATE: 29 JANUARY 2014 (WEDNESDAY)

MEDIA: NEW STRAITS TIMES – ‘CRACKDOWN ON ILLEGALS TO CONTINUE’- PG. 3

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# ‘Crackdown on illegals to continue’

**JOHOR BARU:** The Home Ministry will continue rounding up illegal immigrants despite calls for postponement to allow a review of its standard operating procedures (SOP).

Its minister, Datuk Seri Dr Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, said it was to show that the government was serious in tackling the issue of illegal immigrants.

“We will not postpone the operation or review our SOP because these workers and their employers have been given enough time to apply for the necessary documents,” he said, referring to the 6P programme to ensure all foreign workers in the country were legal.

The three-month programme, which ended on Jan 20, allowed foreign workers cheated by employ-

ment agencies to apply for legal work permits.

Zahid said the latest round of the operation saw the authorities checking 8,000 immigrants nationwide, with 2,200 now detained at Immigration depots.

“A total of 14,200 illegal immigrants were detained in the first two phases, with 3,000 deported. Our detention depots have a capacity of 20,000, but we are taking measures to not detain them for too long.

“They will be deported once their biometric details have been taken to ensure that they do not return without proper documents,” he said after joining personnel from agencies under the ministry in an operation around the city yesterday morning.

Present were Johor police chief

Datuk Mohd Mokhtar Mohd Shariff and state Immigration director Ro-haizi Bahari. Zahid said Malaysians should change their mindset and be more involved in blue-collar sectors like construction and plantation to reduce the country’s reliance on foreign workers.

“Foreign workers send RM24 billion to their home countries every year. If more Malaysians were involved in blue-collar jobs, most of the money would stay in the country and it would help the economy.”

In **Putrajaya**, Zahid said the government was in the process of gazetting the Prevention of Crime Act (Amendment and Extension) 2013, widely known as the PCA.

The bill, he said, was passed in Parliament on Oct 2 last year and

received the consent of the Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu’adzam Shah on Oct 25.

“The PCA will give police more power to tackle crime and take stern action against those who threaten public security, aside from protecting the people,” he said yesterday after launching the Putrajaya Security Dialogue and Journal of Public Security and Safety events, organised by the Institute of Public Security of Malaysia.

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DATE: **29 JANUARY 2014 (WEDNESDAY)**

MEDIA: **UTUSAN MALAYSIA – PKPP TIDAK AKAN DITANGGUHKAN- PG. 6**

## Program Khas Penyelarasan PATI diteruskan seperti dirancang **PKPP tidak akan ditangguhkan**

Oleh **MOHAMAD FAIZAL HASHIM**  
pengarang@utusan.com.my

**JOHOR BAHRU** 28 Jan. - Kementerian Dalam Negeri (KDN) tidak akan berkompromi dengan mana-mana pihak yang meminta prosedur operasi standard (SOP) Program Khas Penyelarasan PATI (PKPP) dikaji semula, termasuk ditangguhkan pelaksanaannya.

Menterinya, Datuk Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi berkata, pihaknya sudah memberi tempoh dan ruang yang secukupnya kepada para majikan dan pekerja untuk membuat permohonan bagi mendapatkan dokumen sah di negara ini.

Beliau berkata, sejak PKPP dilancarkan serentak di seluruh negara mulai 20 Januari lalu, seramai 8,000 pendatang asing tanpa izin (PATI) telah menjalani proses penyarangan dan daripada jumlah itu, 2,200 ditahan menjadikan jumlah keseluruhan tahanan memabatkan operasi tahap satu dan dua, seramai 14,200 orang.

"Ada pihak meminta kementerian mengkaji semula SOP selain meminta operasi ini ditangguhkan serta dilanjutkan ke tempoh tertentu, tetapi saya ingin ingatkan bahawa KDN tidak akan berkompromi dan akan terus mengatur gerak operasi.

"Saya sendiri menyertai operasi ini bagi memberi semangat kepada anggota dan pegawai yang bekerja keras. Saya tidak mahu mana-mana pihak merendahkan kemampuan KDN dan kementerian akan bertegas bagi memastikan operasi ini tetap berjalan seperti biasa," katanya ketika menyampaikan taklimat kepada anggota penguat kuasa sempena operasi PKPP secara besar-besaran di Dewan Auditorium Kompleks KDN, Setia Tropika di sini malam tadi.

Ahmad Zahid kemudian menyertai operasi PKPP Jabatan Imigresen Johor yang dilakukan di tapak pembinaan sebuah kawasan perumahan berhampiran Adda Height di sini awal pagi ini.

Operasi yang memabatkan lebih 500 anggota penguat kuasa pelbagai agensi KDN itu turut disertai Ketua Setiausaha kementerian, Datuk Mohamad Khalid Shariif, Pengarah imigresen Johor, Rohaizi Bahari dan Ketua Polis Johor, Datuk Mohd. Mokhtar Mohd. Shariif.

Dalam pada itu, Ahmad Zahid turut menyuarakan kebimbangan terhadap budaya memilih kerjaya dalam kalangan rakyat yang tidak gemar terhadap pekerjaan kolar biru sehingga mampu memberi kesan negatif kepada ekonomi negara.

"Rakyat harus sedar bahawa negara ini menyediakan peluang pekerjaan yang amat luas dan dilihat sebagai lubang emas oleh pendatang asing sehingga menarik mereka datang ke negara ini. Sebaliknya, rakyat tempatan yang terlalu memilih pekerjaan dan tidak mahu bekerja dalam pekerjaan kolar biru menyebabkan pemain industri membawa masuk pekerja asing," katanya.



**AHMAD Zahid Hamidi** memeriksa dokumen perjalanan salah seorang pekerja asing yang Choh, Nusajaya, Johor Bahru, malam semalam. - UTUSAN/RAJA JAAFAR ALI