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MEDIA: **THE SUN – MYEG APPOINTMENT NOT GOOD FOR BUSINESS – PG.20**

# MyEG appointment not good for business

> It goes against the Competition Act by making company the sole private entity for the service, says ACCCIM

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The implementation of the mandatory online renewal of foreign workers work permits (PLKS) and the appointment of MyEG Services Bhd (MyEG) as the sole provider for the service is a bad precedence and against the Competition Act 2010, said the Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (ACCCIM).

"The business community is extremely concerned that the government is setting up a bad precedence by compelling all employers into having to deal with a sole private entity on a mandatory

basis, and having to pay exorbitant service charges, without the option of an alternative system," its secretary-general Datuk Low Kian Chuan (pix) told reporters at a press conference yesterday.

He said the Competition Act prohibits anti-competition agreements and the abuse of a dominant position in the market.

"The spirit of the Competition

Act is to provide a level playing field for all players in the market. The current PLKS situation makes MyEG more than

dominant, it is in fact a monopoly," he added.

ACCCIM also noted that other government electronic services provided by MyEG such as MyKad replacement, renewal of driving licence and payment of summons, are not mandatory with over-the-counter options still available to the public.

Low said most of the service charges imposed by MyEG on the government's electronic services are also priced at a nominal rate while the RM38 service charge per foreign worker for the renewal of the foreign workers permit is "extremely exorbitant".

"With the estimated number of 2.5 million legal foreign workers in Malaysia, MyEG would be collecting a total of RM95 million of service fees per year. This amount, on an annual basis, is far in excess of what is required to set up and operate an online system, even if it is to include collecting the database of foreign workers (which should already exist in the Home Ministry

records given that each worker is individually approved by the authorities), or to undertake biometric verification," he said.

The RM38 is on top of the RM125 processing fee per worker payable to the ministry for the renewal of foreign workers work permit. The processing fee was increased in October last year, from RM50 per worker previously.

According to Low, this adds on to the rising cost of labour due to the spike in costs arising from the imposition of several policies and regulations by the authorities such as the minimum wage policy, increase in foreign workers' levy and imposition of hospitalisation insurance.

Although business communities welcome the online renewal system, Low said it should not be made mandatory.

"The counter service and online service must co-exist together to provide employers with the requisite options depending on the circumstances of the applicants, as well as to have a backup system," he said.

ACCCIM has proposed for the re-opening of public counter services as an option and a revision of the online service charge. It is expected to submit a memorandum of understanding to the ministry today.

MyEG's share price fell 2.62% to close at RM2.60 yesterday, with a total of 8.17 million shares

## Mah Sing signs agreement for rights issue

**PETALING JAYA:** Mah Sing Group Bhd has entered into an underwriting agreement with CIMB Investment Bank Bhd, Maybank Investment Bank Bhd (Maybank IB) and Affin-Hwang Investment Bank Bhd (Affin-Hwang IB) for its RM630 million



Pembaharuan permit pekerja asing dalam talian

# Kurangkan kos majikan, kerenah birokrasi



**Mungkin cara itu juga boleh mengurangkan kos mengambil pekerja asing kerana selama ini agensi pekerja asing banyak mengambil komisyen**

**MOHD. IRWAN RIZAL**  
**Presiden CMIND**

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■ **KUALA LUMPUR 12 JAN.**

**L**ANGKAH Kementerian Dalam Negeri (KDN) menyediakan khidmat memperbaharui permit pekerja asing dan pas lawatan kerja sementara yang diperkenalkan Jabatan Imigresen melalui dalam talian dilihat mampu mengurangkan kos majikan dan kerenah birokrasi.

Pertubuhan bukan kerajaan (NGO), Pertubuhan Industri Komunikasi Malaysia (CMIND) melihat perkhidmatan yang selama ini disediakan di kaunter jabatan itu secara tidak langsung juga akan mempercepatkan lagi proses pengambilan pekerja asing di negara ini.

Menurut Presiden CMIND, Mohd. Irwan Rizal, dengan ada-

nya perkhidmatan itu di Jabatan Imigresen, beliau berharap tiada lagi masalah berkaitan kelewatan pengambilan pekerja asing dan ia juga mampu mengurangkan kebergantungan majikan kepada agensi pekerja asing.

“Cara ini dilihat lebih cepat dan telus kerana majikan berurusan terus dalam talian. Mereka tidak perlu mengambil nombor dan menunggu lama. Malah proses untuk membuat permohonan itu juga dapat dibuat cepat iaitu satu atau dua hari berbanding sehingga dua minggu sebelum ini.

“Mungkin cara itu juga boleh mengurangkan kos mengambil pekerja asing kerana selama ini agensi pekerja asing banyak mengambil komisyen sehingga bayaran untuk menyediakan seorang pekerja asing mencecah sehingga RM7,000,” katanya sewaktu dihubungi *Utusan Malaysia* hari ini.

Beliau pada masa sama tidak menafikan agensi pekerja asing mungkin sedikit terjejas tetapi mereka masih boleh meneruskan perniagaan dalam bidang sama tetapi dengan cara menyediakan perkhidmatan lain seperti khidmat latihan kepada bakal pekerja asing.

Malah, katanya dengan kos bayaran RM38 di talian itu, pekerja asing juga boleh diambil lebih cepat untuk bekerja selain memberi peluang kepada mereka untuk memilih majikan yang sesuai serta menawarkan gaji serta kemudahan yang lebih baik kepada mereka.

“Selama ini agensi pekerja asing cuma membekalkan pekerja asing tetapi apabila adanya khidmat dalam talian ini mereka boleh melatih pekerja asing seperti orang gaji setiap setahun sekali misalnya, supaya mutu perkhidmatan dapat ditingkatkan lagi,” katanya.