

DATE: **23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2015 (FRIDAY)**

MEDIA: **THE STAR – NCCIM JOINS OUTCRY AGAINST MYEG USE – PG.06**

**THE STAR – MYEG DEFENDS MAKING CLIENTS PAY – PG.08**

6 **NATION** The Star, FRIDAY 23 JANUARY 2015

> Reports by BEH YUEN HUI, ZAZALI MUSA, NEVILLE SPYKERMAN, LOSHANA K SHAGAR, DAVID TAN and STEPHANIE LEE

# NCCIM joins outcry against MyEG use

## Wee to refer problem to the Cabinet

**KUALA LUMPUR:** Businessmen and employers have continued to raise objections to the mandatory use of MyEG to renew work permits for foreign workers.

The latest criticism came from the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia (NCCIM), which has objected to the monopoly of the MyEG portal to renew the work permits for foreign workers.

NCCIM vice-president Tan Sri K.K. Eswaran said the members would rather go to the Immigration Department to process the permits instead of going online and paying RM38 for the service.

"We do not need MyEG. This is a monopoly and must be stopped," he told a press conference yesterday.

MyEG Services Berhad had earlier said the company would help employers save time and more money, compared to using the services of maid agencies.

The NCCIM has also conveyed its concerns

to Minister in the Prime Minister's Department Datuk Dr Wee Ka Siong during the "Promoting and Empowering Malaysian Entrepreneurs" roundtable session here yesterday.

Dr Wee promised to bring their problems, including the objection against MyEG, to the Cabinet.

He also said the four-hour roundtable was aimed at gathering feedback on the revised Budget 2015, announced by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak on Tuesday.

Other issues discussed were ways to expand businesses overseas, increase the demands on local products and to remove the visa requirement for tourists from China.

Separately, Dr Wee has urged the people to change their perception that imported goods were of better quality.

"Malaysian products are cheaper, have international quality and are among the best in the world," he said, adding that the country produced the best hospital beds for export markets.



**In appreciation:** Dr Wee receiving a token from Eswaran. Looking on are NCCIM secretary-general Datuk Seri Syed Hussien Al Habshee, (right) and Associated Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Malaysia secretary-general Datuk Low Kian Chuan.

## Govt urged to review move making online service the sole agent

**PETALING JAYA:** Coffeeshop owners and vegetable farmers are urging the Government to reconsider its decision to appoint MyEG as the sole agent for renewal of foreign workers' temporary permits.

Malaysia-Singapore Coffeeshop Proprietors' General Association

president Ho Su Mong said the appointment was not in line with the spirit of the Competition Act 2010.

"The Act exists to ensure fair competition, but appointing MyEG as the sole agent gives it monopoly over the renewal of foreign work-

ers' permits.

"If MyEG is not the sole agent, there would be competition for lower fees, but if that is our only option, we have to fork out whatever extra charges it imposes on us," he said.

Cameron Highlands Vegetable

Growers Association secretary Chay Ee Mong questioned the need to pay the Immigration Department's processing fee of RM125.

"I understand why we have to pay MyEG because it is now in charge of processing the applications, but we don't understand why we still

have to pay the RM125, since the Immigration Department is no longer directly involved," he said.



**For more stories:  
See Page 8**

# MyEg defends making clients pay

## Company: Online services akin to utilities which have fixed fees charged by Govt

**PETALING JAYA:** MyEG Services Berhad is defending its online services as being akin to utilities which have fixed fees determined by the Government.

"It is similar to a utility service, which is a standard product at a fixed fee," a company spokesman said while explaining why it is now mandatory for employers to renew foreign workers' work permits online via MyEG.

She said the move involved the

creation and administration of a centralised database along with an end-to-end verification system.

"One party has to be fully responsible for it," she said in a statement.

MECA Employers Consulting Agency director Dharmen Sivalingam said Malaysia relied heavily on foreign workers and using MyEG (which charges RM38 per worker) would add significant cost for companies.

Dharmen said employers were

already having problems with some policies including minimum wage and higher retirement age.

He said investors might decide to look to other countries which were more business friendly and where employment laws were more favourable to employers.

"It might be the straw that breaks the camel's back," he said.

The Malaysian Rubber Glove Manufacturers Association (MARGMA) is also objecting to what it describes

as MyEG's monopoly on online renewals for foreign workers.

MARGMA noted that a MyEG RM38 fee per worker is being imposed in addition to the existing RM125 processing fee paid to the Immigration Department.

"The Immigration Department should maintain its over-the-counter service as a competitor to MyEG while MyEG should find ways to reduce its costs to attract employers with a high number of for-

eign workers requiring renewal," said MARGMA in a statement on Tuesday.

MARGMA said it supports the Government move to improve efficiency and productivity with the introduction of online services.

However, it urged the Government to organise consultation sessions at the planning stage and allow for competition in providing services.

## Firm claims permits not renewed in two days

**GEORGE TOWN:** A senior manager of a manufacturing company here claimed that MyEG Services Bhd has failed to deliver on its promise of renewing permits for foreign workers in two working days.

Chin Well Holdings Bhd senior manager Richard Yeap said it had submitted an application to renew its workers' permit on Jan 7 but had yet to receive feedback.

"The two-day delivery schedule was stated in the brochures distributed by the company but we have been waiting since Jan 7 to get the permits renewed.

**If the permits are renewed in Kuala Lumpur, you can get it done on the same day.**

— RICHARD YEAP

"The Immigration Department handled the renewal of foreign workers' permits more efficiently.

"If the permits were renewed in Kuala Lumpur, you could get it

done on the same day.

"In Penang, the longest you had to wait was a week," he said, adding that the company, which manufactures fasteners like bolts and screws, has some 200 foreign workers.

Kulim-based SLP Resources Dhd managing director Kelvin Khaw questioned why companies had to pay an additional RM38 for each worker on top of the RM125 fee imposed by the department.

"We could go straight to the department in Penang and get the permits renewed in an hour," he

said. SLP, which manufactures plastic packaging materials, has 120 foreign workers.

It was reported that Immigration deputy director-general (operations) Datuk Sakib Kusmi had called for a meeting for all concerned parties to resolve the issue over the online renewal of foreign work permits.

He had said officials from the department, the Home Ministry, MyEG and representatives from foreign workers unions and employer associations would attend the meeting.

## Sabah to wait and see

**KOTA KINABALU:** Sabah will not implement the newly introduced online renewal for foreign worker permits via MyEG yet.

State Immigration Department director Noor Alam Khan said the MyEG system being implemented in the peninsula would only be applied here if it proved efficient.

"We are studying the outcome of this new system and if we find that Sabah can benefit from it, we'll apply it here," he said.

DATE: **23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY 2015 (FRIDAY)**

MEDIA: **UTUSAN MALAYSIA – BAHARUI PLKS DI KAUNTER JABATAN  
IMIGRESEN HINGGA AKHIR FEBRUARI – PG.13**

## DALAM NEGERI 13

# Baharui PLKS di kaunter Jabatan Imigresen hingga akhir Februari

**PUTRAJAYA 22 Jan.** - Majikan boleh memperbaharui Pas Lawatan Kerja Sementara (PLKS) pekerja asing di kaunter Jabatan Imigresen sehingga akhir bulan depan untuk membolehkan mereka membiasakan diri dengan kaedah permohonan secara dalam talian.

Menteri Dalam Negeri, Datuk Seri Dr. Ahmad Zahid Hamidi berkata, keadaan itu bermakna majikan boleh memilih melakukan pembaharuan secara dalam talian melalui sistem MyEG atau menggunakan perkhidmatan kaunter dalam tempoh tersebut.

Ahmad Zahid menjelaskan, pembaharuan PLKS secara dalam talian diperkenalkan kerana terdapat majikan mengeluh dikenakan caj perkhidmatan RM100 malah ada yang sehingga RM500 oleh ejen.

"Pembaharuan secara dalam talian bukan sahaja dapat mengelakkan peranan ejen, malah mengelakkan kesesakan di kaunter Imigresen," katanya kepada pemberita selepas melawat pejabat Imigresen di sini hari ini.

Majikan sebelum ini dilaporkan



wajib memperbaharui PLKS secara dalam talian mulai 5 Januari lalu yang mana keadaan itu menimbulkan rungutan sesetengah majikan kerana perlu membayar RM38 untuk urusan tersebut.

Sementara itu, Ahmad Zahid berkata, pemansuhan pasport antarabangsa bagi tempoh dua tahun dapat mengurangkan kos pengeluaran dokumen perjalanan



**Pembaharuan secara dalam talian bukan sahaja dapat mengelakkan peranan ejen, malah mengelakkan kesesakan di kaunter Imigresen."**

**AHMAD ZAHID HAMIDI**  
Menteri Dalam Negeri

itu kerana kos untuk pasport dua tahun dan lima tahun adalah sama.

"Beban kerja Jabatan Imigresen juga dikurangkan apabila kekerapan orang menukar pasport telah berkurangan apabila pasport dua tahun dimansuhkan," katanya.

Imigresen sebelum ini mengumumkan pemansuhan pasport dua tahun sementara harga untuk pasport lima tahun diturunkan daripada RM300 kepada RM200.