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Parliament-Immigrants

EIGHTY ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS DIED AT DETENTION DEPOTS: PM

KUALA LUMPUR, July 16 (Bernama) -- Eighty illegal immigrants had died in detention centres throughout the country as of June 15, the Dewan Rakyat was told today.

Prime Minister and Home Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said the dead were 38 Bangladeshis, 31 Indonesians, five Indians, four Myanmarese, one Nepalese and one Pakistani.

Three of the deaths took place at the Juru centre in Pulau Pinang, five in Langkap (Perak), 43 in Semenyih (Selangor), eight in Lenggeng (Negeri Sembilan), four in Macap Umboo (Melaka), 12 in Pekan Nenas (Johor), four in Kemayan (Pahang) and one in Tanah Merah (Kelantan), he said in a written reply to a question from Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Tanjung).

According to Dr Mahathir, all the illegal immigrants who died at the detention centres were sent to the nearest hospitals for the post mortem.

He said the illegals died from diseases like beri-beri, viral fever, broncho pneumonia, acute pulmonary oedema, septicaemia, acute renal failure, pericardial effusion, pneumoeytic carini, staphyloccal aureaus endocarditis and AIDS.

On the Independent Board of Visitors, he said so far the members had visited seven of the 10 centres.

The board would submit a detailed report on its visit containing recommendations to the government after it had visited all the centres, he said.

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