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Parliament-Immigrants

A TOTAL OF 98 ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS DIED AT DETENTION CENTRES

KUALA LUMPUR, April 23 (Bernama) -- A total of 98 illegal immigrants died in Immigration Department detention centres throughout the country from the time they were set up until last month, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today.

Dr Mahathir, who is also the Home Minister, said there were various causes for the deaths including beri-beri, infection, Aids, heart disease, emergency surgery, accident, kidney failure, stomachache, breathing difficulty and cancer.

In a written reply to a question from Lim Kit Siang (DAP-Tanjung) at the Dewan Rakyat, he said 43 of the deaths were reported at the detention centre in Semenyih, Selangor.

Another 15 deaths were reported at the centre in Pekan Nenas (Johor), eight in Lenggeng (Negeri Sembilan) and seven each in Juru (Pulau Pinang), Langkap (Perak), Macap Umboo (Melaka) and Kemayan (Pahang).

The centre in Kelapa Sawit (Johor) reported two deaths while there was one death each in Tanah Merah (Kelantan) and Sandakan (Sabah).

Dr Mahathir said 45 of the illegal immigrants who died were Indonesians, and 40 others were Bangladeshis. Of the rest, six came from Myanmar, five from India and one each from Pakistan and Nepal.

-- BERNAMA

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