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Parliament-EPF

FOREIGN WORKERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO EPF FROM AUG 1

KUALA LUMPUR, July 23 (Bernama) -- Foreign workers in Malaysia except housemaids will be required to contribute 11 per cent of their income to the Employees Provident Fund (EPF) from Aug 1, the Dewan Rakyat was told today.

Employers would contribute RM5 for each of their foreign workers, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Wong See Wah told the Dewan during Question Time.

Replying to Datuk Lim Si Cheng (BN-Senai), said the foreign workers would be allowed to withdraw all their EPF contributions once they decided to return to their country.

To a question from Dr Yap Yit Thong (BN-Lumut), Wong said the Malaysian Government did not know the actual amount of savings by Malaysians with the Central Provident Fund (CPF) of Singapore.

He said the problem faced by Malaysians from Peninsular Malaysia wishing to withdraw their CPF contributions had been raised by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad during the visit of Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong to Kuala Lumpur in February this year.

"The Singapore Prime Minister had agreed to consider Malaysia's request that its citizens from Peninsular Malaysia be allowed to withdraw their CPF contributions on leaving the republic even before they reached the age of 55," he said.

However recently the Singapore authorities linked the issue of CPF withdrawals to the supply of raw water from Malaysia to that country.

"The Malaysian Government will continue talks with Singapore on resolving the issue of CPF withdrawals," he added.

-- BERNAMA

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