

CPF case referred to the ILO

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MTUC seeks release of monies to former workers in Singapore

By B. Suresh Ram

PUTRAJAYA. Tues: The Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) has filed a case at the International Labour Organisation (ILO) over the Singapore Central Provident Fund's (CPF) non-release of monies owed to former Malaysian workers in the republic.

MTUC president Zainal Rampak said today the ILO is reviewing details of the report, which he filed last October.

"The MTUC is of the opinion that it is a serious issue and should be resolved," he told reporters after meeting with Prime

Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad at Putrajaya.

The ILO is also getting feedback from Singapore on the matter.

"It is the right of the workers," he said.

Zainal also said Mahathir had given an assurance that he will look into the MTUC's request to increase the number of workers' representatives on the Employees Provident Fund board.

On the EPF annuity scheme, he said it was not discussed as the board was still waiting for feedback from the consultant hired to look into it.

The MTUC will hold a special meeting to discuss the consultant's decision.

Zainal said the MTUC will also not apologise to the Life Insurance Association of Malaysia over its statement that several EPF officers were sponsored for a trip abroad.

He said the MTUC has the proof and is prepared to be sued over the matter.

On the setting up of a fund to assist retrenched workers, he said the prime minister and the government agreed to the scheme but it is the employers who do not support it.

He said Mahathir had asked the MTUC to come up with details on the number of companies closed and the number of workers retrenched, and the compensation not paid.