

PM: Malaysia needs coast guards to curb influx of illegals

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BANGI, Feb. 1 — Malaysia needs to guard its coastline against the influx of illegal immigrants, especially from Indonesia.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said today the coast guards are especially needed at secluded areas so that illegals can be intercepted before they land here.

“We need to have coast guards, especially at isolated areas, so that we can catch the illegals and deport them,” he said after opening Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia’s career day here.

He was commenting on another rampage by Indonesian workers in Dengkil yesterday, barely a week after a riot at a factory hostel in Nilai.

“We will try to reduce the number of Indonesian workers employed here. We thought they would be grateful to be given jobs, but it looks like they want to create their own laws and reject ours,” he said.

“This, we cannot accept. Our

own people abide by our laws, but these foreigners did not.”

Mahathir said some Indonesians workers were even given permanent resident (PR) status.

“I was told that one of the Indonesians whom we gave PR status to is a Kumpulan Militan Malaysia (KMM) member,” he said.

He said the incidents of riots by Indonesian workers can no longer be taken lightly as Malaysia will face a serious problem should the riots become a massive operation.

On yesterday’s rampage, Mahathir said the country can no longer dismiss it as a light matter.

“One day, I was driving in Putrajaya, and as usual, a police car would follow me from behind,” he said.

“When they (the Indonesians) saw the police car, they ran into I don’t know where. It seems that even those working in Putrajaya are illegals.”