

Big support for action against errant foreigners

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PETALING JAYA: Measures to ensure foreign workers respect the country's laws, including revoking their permanent resident (PR) status, has received wide support.

MTUC president Senator Zainal Rampak said he had previously highlighted the problem of having too many foreign workers in the country.

"MTUC fully supports the Government's idea to revoke the PR status of troublesome foreign

workers. The country can bring in foreign workers from countries other than Indonesia.

"But we feel that it is human nature ... when there are too many foreigners here, this kind of situation might recur.

"Offences involving foreigners are on the rise. Such a trend should be stopped," said Zainal yesterday.

He was commenting on Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad's statement on Tuesday that the Government was studying whether to revoke the PR status of foreigners who caused trouble in

the country.

SMI Association of Malaysia's president Looi Teong Chye also supported the move, saying that the trouble caused by foreign workers may frighten away investors.

"Social problems tend to occur when too many foreign workers are employed in certain industries.

"The Government should send out a strong message that foreign workers should abide by the law when they are employed here," he said.

Looi also urged local industries to be less labour-intensive by using technology in their production process.

Chow Kit Market Traders Association president Lee Chick King said employers could bring in other foreigners to work in the country.

"Many Indonesians are employed in hawker centres because there is not much language problem.

"We can get other foreign workers who are law-abiding and who are willing to work hard."