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Samy-Agency

M'SIA PLEDGES ACTION AGAINST UNLICENSED EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES

KUANTAN, May 31 (Bernama) -- Works Minister Datuk Seri S. Samy Vellu has vowed to crack down on unlicensed employment agencies which have tarnished the country's image by cheating Indian nationals with promises of lucrative jobs.

The agencies also collected a RM2,000 advance from each prospective worker to cover permit fees and air fares, he said.

"But after they have handed over their passports and money, they were left at the airport without any guarantee of jobs," he told reporters here today when asked about his visit to India on May 12.

He said the actions of these illegal agencies not only marred the country's image but also victimised people who were desperate for jobs.

Samy Vellu said he would raise the matter with Human Resources Minister Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn to find a solution to the problem.

He has also brought to the Cabinet seven issues which he discussed with the Indian government during the visit.

Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad had given instructions for the issues to be quickly resolved, he said without elaborating.

He also said the Indian government wanted India and Malaysia to sign an agreement on exchange of workers to facilitate technology transfer.

"Many engineers from Malaysia have been sent to India to monitor construction projects, while workers from India including officers will also come to Malaysia," he said.

-- BERNAMA

LIB YBY