

19 JAN 2004

Fong-Course

INDUCTION COURSE TO VERIFY WORKER'S BACKGROUND

KUALA LUMPUR, Jan 19 (Bernama) -- The Human Resources Ministry would consider making it compulsory for employers to conduct induction courses to verify the background of their workers.

Its minister, Datuk Dr Fong Chan Onn said the course was important to ensure that workers fully understood their job specifications.

It would also give employers the chance to know their workers, he said when asked to comment on the detention of a security guard, one of the three men suspected of having raped and sodomised Nurul Huda Ghani, 10, in Tanjung Kupang, Johor last Saturday.

He said at present, such courses were only compulsory for foreign workers.

"We will discuss with employers to make the course part of their recruitment process," he said after chairing a meeting to organise the MCA Appreciation Dinner for former Prime Minister Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad and wife, Tun Dr Siti Hasmah Mohd Ali here today.

Dr Fong, who is also MCA Vice President, said the party was saddened by the incident which showed that there were still individuals out there who put their lust ahead of everything.

He said the MCA would continue to hold awareness campaigns to address the issue and also to ensure such incidents did not occur again.

On another note, he denied allegations by the Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) that the ministry rejected all of its proposal on workers' issue.

MTUC today submitted a ten-point memorandum to Prime Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi.

"When the ministry receive suggestions, its impact on employers must be looked into. But if MTUC expects us to fully accept their memorandum, they are wrong," he said.

-- BERNAMA

NBB IZI AHH RBZ ABG