

'Less to RCI on illegal immigrants than reported'

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News reports that there will be a royal commission of inquiry on illegal immigrants in Sabah have been laced with sugar, says Plantation Industries and Commodities Minister Bernard Dompok.

Asked to elaborate on several Bernama reports on the matter, the minister said a lot of "presumptions" have been made.

"All I said was that the cabinet had made a decision. Three spoonfuls of sugar has been put in (the reports) when I only put in half a spoon of sugar. We have to leave it to the PM," he said.

Dompok (right), the Upko president, said he was not disappointed by Prime Minister Najib Abdul Razak's recent statement that the RCI is "under consideration".

Instead, he reiterated, the cabinet "has made a decision", but refused to disclose what this was.

"No, I am quite happy with what the cabinet has decided. The PM is to announce the cabinet decision at the time of his picking and I can say nothing further," Dompok added.

The former Sabah chief minister said Najib had been expected to make an announcement in Sabah but "members of the press did not ask" on the matter.

This sparked speculation about a cabinet U-turn, as national news agency Bernama had sent out several reports stating that the government has agreed to a RCI.

Furniture benchmark

Dompok was speaking to reporters after launching the Malaysia Pride furniture benchmark label at Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur, this morning.

According to the Malaysian Furniture Promotion Council (MFPC), companies are assessed on their production and management processes before being awarded the quality mark by an independent panel.

The eight inaugural recipients are Green Continental Furniture (M) Sdn Bhd, Hin Lim Furniture Manufacturer Sdn Bhd, Kian Contract Sdn Bhd, Marcoco Furniture Manufacturers Sdn Bhd, Regent Furniture Export Consortium Sdn Bhd, SJY Furniture (M) Sdn Bhd, SK Furniture Sdn Bhd and Tawei M Sdn Bhd.

Beneficiaries receive subsidised participation in international furniture fairs, priority access to buyers' lists, dedicated marketing and promotional efforts by MFPC, among other perks.

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