

Indonesia welcomes foreign worker registration
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PUTRAJAYA: Jakarta was satisfied with the on-going legalisation and registration exercise for illegal and legal foreign workers as it would help protect the Indonesians here, Indonesian embassy minister and deputy chief of mission Mulya Wirana said.

Mulya, who was invited by the Immigration Department to view for himself the on-going registration process at its headquarters here yesterday, expressed hope that Indonesian workers, whether legal or illegal, would come forward to register themselves before the deadline on Monday.

"This programme will help them to obtain legal status and enable us to have an estimate of how many Indonesians are here in Malaysia."

He also said the exercise would prevent them from being exploited by syndicates or human traffickers.

Home Ministry deputy secretary-general Datuk Alwi Ibrahim said the deadline to register foreign workers would not be extended.

"Do not wait until the last few days to register because this will only cause bottlenecks and long queues."

He said to date, 890,156 Indonesian workers had registered through the legalisation exercise, known as the 6P programme.

Meanwhile, Home Minister Datuk Seri Hishammuddin Hussein said the ministry would sign a memorandum of understanding with China in October to combat human trafficking and transborder crime.

Speaking after meeting Chinese ambassador to Malaysia Chai Xi at his office yesterday, Hishammuddin said the MoU would boost bilateral ties and protect the common interests of both countries.

Chai Xi also said the MoU was crucial for the strategic partnership enjoyed by both nations.

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