

Umno Youth Bureau Suggests Recruitment Of Maids From Cambodia

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PHNOM PENH, Oct 14 (Bernama) -- The Umno Youth's economic and entrepreneur development bureau has suggested that the government consider recruiting maid from Cambodia as an alternative way to tackle the shortage of domestic helpers in Malaysia.

Bureau chairman Datuk Sohaimi Shahadan said the move would minimise dependence for maids from the main supplying country, Indonesia.

"We have seen here that there are many Muslim women who can be employed as maids. Many of them speak Malay and their culture is not very much different from ours," he told reporters here.

He said that the move would also help Cambodian Muslims improve their standard of living.

Meanwhile, Sohaimi who is Malaysian Malay Entrepreneurs and Merchants Association chairman, said the association would collaborate with the Cambodian Muslim Intellectual Alliance (CMIA) to create 10 mini "apam balik" franchise operations as part of the effort to help the Champa Malay community to uplift their standard of living.

Meanwhile, a Malaysia-Cambodia "maahad tahfiz" (Quran memorisation) centre would be set up in Phum Soy, Kampung Champ, next year.

The centre, a collaborative effort between the bureau and CMIA, can accommodate up to 1,000 students and will serve as a Quran learning centre for Muslim students as young as 10 years old.

"Four Cambodian teachers who have studied in Malaysia have offered to become teachers at the centre," he said, adding that the bureau would launch a campaign to raise RM300,000 within the next six months to build the centre.

"We are now looking at the syllabus, modelled after similar centres in Malaysia but to be tailored with the local learning condition," he said.

Sohaimi later handed over 10,000 copies of the Quran and Muqaddam in Kampung Thnal Keing, Kampung PhumbongRo and Kampung Phum Soy in Kampung Champ.

These are donated by Malaysians under the Quran donation programme for the Champa Malay.

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