

**Help us resolve Cambodian maid issue, PM urged**  
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PETALING JAYA: Employment agencies have appealed to the Prime Minister to form an agreement with the Cambodian government over the maids issue as many locals are waiting to hire Cambodian maids again.

“The ban (by the Cambodian government concerning its maids coming to Malaysia) has caused hardship to thousands of Malaysians who depend on maids.

“They are waiting anxiously for the two governments to resolve these issues,” the Malaysian National Association of Employment Agencies (Pikap) president Datuk Raja Zulkepley Dahalan said in a press statement yesterday.

Following the ban on Indonesian maids, the Cambodian government placed a sudden ban in October last year, on sending its maids to work in Malaysia, holding back some 2,500 maids.

Earlier reports stated that employers had already paid agencies the recruitment fee for some of these maids before the ban was suddenly put in place on Oct 14, last year.

Raja Zulkepley said Pikap had received various requests from Malaysian employers, local agencies and their Cambodian counterparts as well as the Cambodian Association of Recruitment Agencies to assist them in appealing to the two governments to come to an agreement to ensure that the ban was lifted.

He said the Cambodian Ministry of Labour had also indicated that it was keen to see the resumption of maids coming over to Malaysia.

He expressed hope that Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak would use the opportunity to meet and discuss the matter with his Cambodian counterpart at the Asean Summit in Phnom Penh this week.

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