

Minimum Wage Can Reduce Country's Dependence On Foreign Workers - Dr Subramaniam
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KUALA LUMPUR, May 3 (Bernama) -- The implementation of the minimum wage in the private sector can reduce the country's dependence on foreign workers, especially in the general workers sector.

Human Resource Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam said the high minimum wage set would mean employers who wished to employ foreign workers would incur a higher cost in employing them because they would have to pay levy and other charges as well to bring in foreign workers.

"Such a situation will indirectly force employers to reduce their employment of foreign workers and open up more opportunities for locals," he said when winding up speech on the royal address by Yang di-Pertuan Agong Tuanku Abdul Halim Mu'adzam Shah, in Dewan Negara here Thursday.

On Monday, the government announced a minimum wage of RM900 a month in peninsula Malaysia and RM800 in Sabah and Sarawak for all sectors.

The scale however, does not apply to domestic maids and gardeners.

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