

**Malaysia, Indonesia Agree On One Channel For Recruiting Indonesian Maids - Najib Bernama**  
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PUTRAJAYA, Feb 6 (Bernama) -- Malaysia and Indonesia have agreed to create only one channel for the Malaysian recruitment of domestic maids from Indonesia, said Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak.

He said this was necessary to safeguard the interests of the Indonesian maids as well as to enable them to undergo adequate training and be accorded the proper protection when working in Malaysia.

"We realise that only just over 4,000 maids entered Malaysia through the official channel, while the remaining 105,000 had come through unofficial channels.

"As such, we agreed that the relevant ministers hold talks on the creation of just one channel," he told a joint news conference attended also by visiting Indonesian President Joko Widodo in conjunction with the latter's three-day state visit to Malaysia beginning yesterday.

Najib said the two countries realised that the official channel agreed to in the memorandum of understanding (MoU) on the Recruitment and Placement of Indonesian Maids signed in Bali had not been completely adhered to.

Meanwhile, Joko, who is popularly known as Jokowi, also expressed the need for one channel for the Malaysian recruitment of Indonesian maids.

"Only one channel will be used for better joint protection (of the maids)," he said.

The issue of domestic maids was among several matters discussed by Najib and Jokowi at their four-eyed meeting and a bilateral delegation meeting.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed in Bali in 2011 saw Indonesia agreeing to the withdrawal of a moratorium on the sending of domestic maids to Malaysia.

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