

**Foreign Minister To Make Announcement On Influx Of Immigrants - Muhyiddin
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LIMBANG (Sarawak), May 14 (Bernama) -- Foreign Minister Datuk Seri Anifah Aman will make an announcement on the influx of illegal immigrants from Bangladesh and Myanmar, Deputy Prime Minister Tan Sri Muhyiddin Yassin said here today.

The announcement would be made after the ministry holds talks with the relevant countries, including Myanmar, Indonesia and Thailand, he said.

Describing the issue as critical, Muhyiddin said the Cabinet, at a recent meeting, decided that the foreign ministry handle the matter.

Hordes of Bangladesh nationals and Rohingya from Myanmar have landed in Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia in recent weeks, having left their countries in boats.

Muhyiddin, who is on a visit to Sarawak, said it was needless for him to state the status of the immigrants.

"This is a matter that is related to the UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) and comes under the responsibility of the Myanmar government," he told a news conference after a meeting with the people at the hall of SMK Limbang here.

Last Sunday, 1,158 Bangladesh nationals and the Rohingya community in Myanmar arrived by boat in Langkawi.

It has been reported that between 5,000 and 6,000 more Bangladesh nationals and Rohingya are waiting for an opportune time to set sail for Malaysia.

Earlier, in addressing the people, Muhyiddin, who is also the education minister, said the government would focus on raising the standard of education under the 11th Malaysia Plan, which Prime Minister Datuk Seri Najib Tun Razak is scheduled to table in Parliament on May 21.

He said the aspirations of the government could only be realised if the country remained stable and that this could be guaranteed only with the continuation of the Barisan Nasional administration.

Muhyiddin went on a walkabout at the Pasar Tamu here.

He said he had approved a RM1-million allocation to upgrade the market.

Sarawak Deputy Chief Minister Tan Sri Alfred Jabu; State Housing and Tourism Minister Datuk Amar Abang Johari Tun Abang Openg and State Public Utilities Minister Datuk Amar Awang Tengah Ali Hasan were also present at the event.

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