

**Bangladeshi workers loyal and trustworthy, says home minister**  
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**By Eileen Ng**

Malaysia prefers foreign workers from Bangladesh as they are more loyal and trustworthy, said Datuk Seri Ahmad Zahid Hamidi, responding to concerns over Putrajaya's proposal to bring in 1.5 million workers from the South Asian country over the next three years.

"Without prejudice, Bangladesh workers have better loyalty than other workers. We find if they are working at cashier counters, or manning the counters at petrol stations, they are more trustworthy," the home minister said.

While winding up the debate on Budget 2016, Zahid also said the 1.5 million workers are not in the country as the deal has yet to be inked.

He said the proposal will see employers applying for the workers through an online system, based on current needs.

He said the workers will be trained first and taught cross cultural communications in Bangladesh before coming to Malaysia so that they know the local customs and lifestyle.

"It's easy to accuse that this is about money or participating in modern slavery but the government is doing its best.

"We are coordinating with the Bangladeshi government, unlike previously when it was done through agents which caused leakages and wastages.

"We are finding ways to ensure this does not happen again," Zahid said. – November 4, 2015.

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