

Indians third largest group of foreign workers in Malaysia

Kuala Lumpur - Indians form the third largest group of foreign workers in Malaysia, government data has said.

There are 139,716 Indians among the 1,850,063 foreign workers in Malaysia. This was disclosed in a written reply that Malaysia's Home Minister Mohamed Radzi Sheikh Ahmad gave to a member's question in the Dewan Rakyat, Malaysia's lower house of parliament, according to a report from the Bernama news agency.

Indonesians top the list with 1,215,036 of them working in this country. Nepalis, totalling 200,220, form the second largest group followed by the Indians.

Other major communities of foreign workers include Myanmarese, Vietnamese, Bangladeshis, Filipinos, Pakistanis, Thais, Sri Lankans and Cambodians.

The minister said till March this year, 362,958 illegal immigrants have been deported and 63 employers who gave employment to such immigrants have been fined.

He said two Indians and six Bangladeshis have been whipped as punishment for not possessing valid travel documents.

Apart from the foreign workers, ethnic Indians or Malaysian Indians as they are known, comprise seven percent of the country's population of over 24 million.

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