

3,700 illegals, 30 employers held in Op 6P raids

KUALA LUMPUR: More than 3,700 illegal migrants and 30 employers have been detained in the second phase of Op 6P Bersepadu, a nationwide integrated crackdown on undocumented migrants.

Immigration Department director-general Aloyah Mamat said as of yesterday, the agency had conducted 438 operations, screened 16,000 foreigners and arrested 3,750 undocumented migrants nationwide.

She said 30 employers were also detained for employing illegals.

"Of the total arrests, Indonesians were the highest number of illegals arrested at 1,400, followed by Myanmar (537), Bangladeshis (451), Filipinos (264) and Nepalese (239)," she said, adding that the rest were of other nationalities.

She said they were arrested for various offences, including not having valid travel documents, overstaying, possessing false permit passes and other offences under the Immigration Act.

"They will be documented and deported to their countries within a week or so to avoid hampering the ongoing operation and overcrowding at deportation centres," Aloyah said at GM Plaza in Chow Kit here yesterday.

In yesterday's operation, some 200 foreigners — 170 women and 30 men — were detained for various offences.

"Among those detained were 80 Indonesians, 50 Pakistanis, 30 Thais and others."

Aloyah said phase two of the integrated operation involved 5,600 members from the Immigration Department, Malaysian Volunteer Corps (Rela), police force, National Registration Department, Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission and local authorities.

It was reported that in the first phase of the operation, 2,278 raids were carried out, 54,000 foreigners across the country were screened, 16,800 undocumented workers held and 219 employers who hired them were detained.