

TWO MAIN COMPONENTS

# ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION RECALIBRATION PLAN

Programmes likely to attract 250,000 applications, says Immigration D-G

PUTRAJAYA

**A** TOTAL of 250,000 applications are expected to be submitted under the Illegal Immigration Recalibration Plan, said Immigration director-general Datuk Khairul Dzamee Daud.

He said up to last Wednesday, the Immigration Department received 478 applications from employers for the programmes involving 1,980 illegal immigrants.

"All applications were received via email and starting Wednesday, employers can submit their applications via the official Immigration portal," he said here yesterday.

There are two main components under the programme, namely Return Recalibration Programme and Labour Recalibration Programme.

The Return Recalibration Programme allows illegal immigrants to return to their country of origin voluntarily, subject to specific stipulated conditions.

The Labour Recalibration Programme regularises illegal immigrants in the country as foreign workers who could be employed by eligible employers.

Home Minister Datuk Seri Hamzah Zainudin said the Ille-



Immigration director-general Datuk Khairul Dzamee Daud at a press conference in Putrajaya yesterday. PIC BY LUGMAN HAKIM ZUBIR

gal Immigrant Recalibration Plan, implemented from Nov 16, would continue until June 30 next year.

The programme will see collaboration between the Immigration Department, Labour Department and other agencies without involving vendor or third party.

Khairul said only employers operating in construction, manufacturing, plantation and agriculture sectors were allowed to

submit applications for the Labour Recalibration Programme.

"Employers will be given a quota for the employment of foreign workers and it is based on the current eligibility ratio," he said, adding that the programme was only for illegal immigrants from 15 countries.

He said 12,400 illegal immigrants were currently being detained at 14 detention depots in

the peninsula with most of them from Myanmar, Pakistan, India, Indonesia and Bangladesh.

As for the Return Recalibration Programme, Khairul said it allowed illegal immigrants who had committed certain offences to voluntarily return to their home countries.

Among the illegal immigrants eligible for the programme are those found to be in the country illegally and those who have overstayed.

"Eligible illegal immigrants need to set an appointment online through the Online Appointment System and come to the Immigration office on the set date.

"They must also bring along certain documents such as flight tickets to their countries of origin and are also required to settle the compound before the Immigration Department can issue a special pass or Check Out Memo to them." **Bernama**