

# 'No tolerance for officers who abuse their power'

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**PUTRAJAYA:** There is zero tolerance for self-driven officers who abuse their position in the Immigration Department, says its director-general Datuk Khairul Dzaimie Daud.

He said that as an officer with a law enforcement agency, immigration officers must uphold a high level of integrity and professionalism, as enshrined in the department's pledge.

Khairul Dzaimie's comments came in the wake of the arrest of five people by the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC). Four of those nabbed are immigration officers.

They have since been remanded to help in the investigation on claims that they had received bribes to speed up the issuance of passes to foreigners who wanted to return to their home country.

When contacted yesterday,

Khairul Dzaimie said: "We'll leave it to the investigators to probe into the alleged corruption. The Immigration Department will fully cooperate with the MACC and we would like to thank them for their swift action."

According to sources, the immigration officers had been offering their "services" since the beginning of the recovery movement control order.

They were believed to have been working with middlemen to manage the issuance of passes for foreigners who overstayed and wanted to return home.

The "service" allowed foreigners applying for the pass to obtain it without having to go through the Immigration Online Appointment System.

It is believed that the officers received between RM300 and RM500 for each pass issued.

Putrajaya MACC director Hasbilah Mohamad Salleh confirmed that the case was being investigated.