

## Malaysia

# Govt mulls allowing export-oriented companies to hire 100pc foreign workers

OCTOBER 10, 2017



Deputy Home Minister Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed said the government was considering allowing export-oriented companies to hire 100 per cent foreign workers for their production lines. — Picture by Yusof Mat Isa

KULAI, Oct 10 — The government is considering allowing export-oriented companies to hire 100 per cent of foreign workers for their production lines to meet current and future production demand.

Deputy Home Minister Datuk Nur Jazlan Mohamed said export-oriented companies would always need to increase their production capacity in order to enhance their competitiveness globally.

"I think these companies should be assisted in upgrading their status not only as champion at the national level but also international level," he told reporters after visiting V.S. Industry Bhd, a leading integrated Electronics Manufacturing Services provider in the region, at the Senai Industrial Area near

here today.

He was commenting on applications from export-oriented companies, including V.S. Industry, who were facing labour shortage, to employ foreign workers in order to meet customer orders and demand.

They should apply to the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) as they came under its ambit, he said, adding that once MITI had evaluated and supported their applications, only then would the Home Ministry endorse them.

However, Nur Jazlan said the export-oriented companies should ensure that local workers' quota in other segments such as in the administrative and technical divisions were filled up.

Meanwhile, V.S. Industry Executive Director Ng Yong Kang said his company needed to double their workforce from its current capacity of 6,000 employees for its production lines in the future.

Currently, the company has a total of 8,000 employees.

He said the company expects to further increase its production by 30 per cent when its newest facility in Senai begins operations in the first quarter of next year.

On another development, Nur Jazlan reminded members law enforcement agencies to serve with honesty and responsibility, while upholding the team image as they were dealing with the public and their actions were being closely scrutinised.

He was commenting on a viral video of seven Muar policemen having fun with an illegal gambling operator at an entertainment outlet and images of a policemen from the Segamat patrol unit flirting with a woman, believed to be prostitute, while on duty in a patrol car. — Bernama

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