MIGRATION IN MALAYSIA: SOCIAL AND FAMILY IMPLICATIONS

International Population Conference on Migration, Urbanisation & Development
8 July 2013
Lecture Hall 3, Faculty of Economics & Administration

Dr. Anjli Doshi-Gandhi
Deputy Director General
National Population & Family Development Board, Malaysia
HISTORY OF MIGRATION: PRE & POST INDEPENDENCE

The tightening of the labour market caused the influx of migrant workers from:

- Indonesia
- Philippines
- Bangladesh
- Myanmar
- Thailand

Colonial / Pre Independence Entry of foreign labour especially from China and India to work mainly in plantations and mining sectors.
Citizens & Non-Citizens

Percentage Distribution of the Citizens and Non-citizens 1991-2010

- **2010**: 8.2 (2.3 million)
- **2000**: 5.9 (1.4 million)
- **1991**: 4.4 (0.8 million)

- Increasing numbers of non-citizens from 1991 to 2010
- Their share of the total population has increased almost double in the 20 year period from 4.4 percent in 1991 to 8.2 percent in 2010.

Source: Department of Statistics, Malaysia
Total Foreign Workers in Malaysia 2000 -2011

Number of foreign workers was high in 2007 and 2008

Source: Visit Pass (Temporary Employment, Immigration Department of Malaysia, Ministry of Home Affairs)
1.6 million (12.8\%)
Number of foreign workers in Malaysia
Source: Economic Report 2012/2013, MOF

There were 0.8 million foreign workers in year 2000. It doubled in 2011 to 1.6 million or 12.8\% of the total 12.6 million workers in Malaysia.

97% Low / Semi Skilled

Foreign workers in Malaysia can be divided into two major categories, the expatriate groups and low / semi-skilled workers.

3% Expatriates

Foreign Workers in Malaysia by Country of Origin, 2000 - 2011

Indonesia accounted for the highest number of registered foreign workers in Malaysia at 49.9% in 2011, followed by:

- Nepal (16.4%)
- Myanmar (9.3%)
- Bangladesh (7.4%)

Source: Visit Pass (Temporary Employment, Immigration Department of Malaysia, Ministry of Home Affairs)
Foreign Workers in Malaysia by Sector, 2000 - 2011

In 2011, the largest group were:

- Manufacturing (36.9%)
- Agricultural (28.7%)
- Construction (14.2%)
- Services (8.4%)

Source: Visit Pass (Temporary Employment, Immigration Department of Malaysia, Ministry of Home Affairs)
Diaspora & Brain Drain of Malaysia

1. HOW MANY?
More than 1 MILLION:
Estimated number of Malaysians living abroad

2. WHO ARE THEY?
ONE THIRD of Malaysian Diaspora are skilled individuals aged 25 years and above with tertiary education

3. DIASPORA : WHERE ARE THEY?
71% CONCENTRATED IN SINGAPORE AS OF 2010

4. BRAIN DRAIN : WHERE ARE THEY?
SINGAPORE ACCOUNTS FOR HALF OF MALAYSIA’S BRAIN DRAIN AS OF 2010
### Employer’s Perception on Foreign Workers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ISSUES</th>
<th>FINDINGS</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presence of Indonesian workers</td>
<td>- To fill job vacancies in specific sectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Low wages of foreign workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employing Indonesian workers</td>
<td>- Local workers are too choosy / difficulty getting local workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Indonesian workers are more hardworking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Employers prefers to engage Indonesians of the Bugis and Javanese descent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wages of workers</td>
<td>- Wages paid to Indonesian workers are lower than the local workers</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
## Social & Family Implications

Findings from Study on Indonesian Migrants in Tawau, Sabah (2010)

### 2. Effects of the presence of foreign workers

<table>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Economy</td>
<td>- Depressed wages&lt;br&gt;- Less job opportunities for locals due to employers’ preference to engage foreign workers&lt;br&gt;- Attract foreign investors to Sabah&lt;br&gt;- Work sectors will be jeopardized without the presence of foreign workers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>- The presence of Indonesian students caused difficulty in the allocation of limited educational resources&lt;br&gt;- The increased number of students in class and the language of the Indonesians hampered the teaching and learning process</td>
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| Health     | - Reoccurrence of diseases which were previously under control  
             - Increased the work load of health personnel and jeopardise health services                                                                                                                   |
| Security   | - Authorities and locals need to beef up security measures  
             - Locals do not feel safe due to the increase in crimes                                                                                                                                        |
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<tr>
<td><strong>Culture</strong></td>
<td>Give rise to cultural diversity and affect the way of life of the local community</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Housing &amp; Neighborhood</strong></td>
<td>- Cause congestion to the neighbourhood and expose to the risk of fires</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Cleanliness is a concern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Infringement of locals’ land/government reserves</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Findings from Implications of Employing Foreign Maids (FDH) on Family Institution in Malaysia Survey (2009) by MWFC

Family needs and dependency on foreign maids

- Rely indefinitely: 35.3%
- Until child is independent: 26.6%
- Until the child reaches adolescence: 12.4%
- Until the children complete secondary school: 8%
- Until retirement: 5%
- Until the children are married: 2.3%
- Others: 10.4%

→ 35.3% of families will completely rely on FDH forever & 27% until the child can be independent

Reasons:

→ 43% of families took FDH to take care of their children, 30% for housework & 15 for childcare and housework
Findings from Implications of Employing Foreign Maids (FDH) on Family Institution in Malaysia Survey (2009) by MWFCF

Social & Family Implications

FDH & Family Relationship

87.8% of families stated that the presence of FDH did not affect their family relationship.
Social & Family Implications:
Others

- Transnational families
- Women’s involvement in labour force
- Empty nest
- Impact on children
- Commuter family
- Satellite parenting
Packed to the rafters

Sungai Way folk uncomfortable with influx of female foreign workers

Stories by PRIYA MENON
priya@thesstar.com.my
Photos by SHAHRUL FAZRY

SUNGAI Way’s name is derived from a river that flows nearby. The settlement has been around since the 1870s when the area was first explored for tin mining and rubber tapping.

Over the years, people were brought in from China, India and Java to work in tin mines and rubber estates. It is said the richest tin mine mogul in Sungai Way was Chan Sun Hei from Hui Zhou, China.

The migration of workers those days led to the development of villages around the fringes of Sungai Way. The Japanese Occupation from 1941 to 1945 affected businesses in the area and by the time the communist insurgency or Emergency set in, Sungai Way was in ruins.

In 1950, the British brought 3,000 residents, mostly Hakka and Hokkiens from the surrounding areas as well as Cheras and placed them in the newly formed Kampung Baru Sungai Way.

The name Sungai Way has been...
Pelajar IPT warga asing antara pelacur ditahan

KUALA LUMPUR 22 Mei — Beberapa orang pelajar institusi pengajian tinggi awan dan sosial warga asing adalah antara 14 pelacur yang ditahan dalam operasi di sebuah hotel bersiaran tinggi bernama "Hillside" di Jalan Alor, Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur.

Dalam serbuan lebih dari 12 tengah malam itu, kementerian pelacur bertanggung jawab, Kementerian Kebudayaan, Penyiaran dan Komunikasi, menjalankan operasi "Sosialisasi Pelacur" yang melibatkan lebih dari 100 pejabat dan 50 pengawas.


Pelajar IPT warga asing antara pelacur ditahan dalam operasi di Kuala Lumpur, semalam.

Pendatang asing buat kecoh

200 tahunan warga Vietnam, Myanmar, cuba menyelesaikan lapan cedera kerana bergaduh

KUALA LUMPUR 22 Mei — Beberapa orang pelacur di sebuah hotel di Kuala Lumpur, yang beroperasi di bawah naungan "Hillside" di Jalan Alor, Bukit Bintang, Kuala Lumpur, ditahan dalam operasi "Sosialisasi Pelacur" yang melibatkan lebih dari 100 pejabat dan 50 pengawas.

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Lagi kes kahwin lari ke Indonesia

KUALA LUMPUR 22 Mei — Gadis 19 tahun tinggalan keluarga ikut kekasih dari Jawa Timur lari ke Indonesia.
Five Indonesians jailed

Foreigners get five years each for human trafficking

By DESIREE TRESA GASPER
desiree@thestar.com.my

PONTIAN: Five Indonesian men were jailed a total of 25 years jail after they were found guilty of human trafficking by a Sessions Court here.

Laurensius, 39, Puka Vinesius, 23, Romanus Roja, 37, Damasus Muga, 21 and Haris, 34, committed the offence at the Desaru Fruit Farm Trading at Bandar Penawar in Kota Tinggi here at around 2am on Dec 3.

The five men were charged with attempting to smuggle out 14 illegal immigrants, also from Indonesia, via an illegal exit point in Kota Tinggi.

State Immigration officials found the group of men hiding at a transit area at the fruit farm.

All five men pleaded guilty to the offence under Section 26A of the Anti-Trafficking of Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Act 2007, which carries a jail term of not more than 15 years, a fine or both.

Sessions Court judge Nuaman Mahmud Zulki sentenced the men to five years' jail each for the
offence and ordered the sentence to run from the date they were arrested.

Deputy Public Prosecutor Siti Noor Aishah prosecuted while all the accused were not represented.

In a separate court in Johor Baru, a policeman was charged with four separate counts of soliciting bribes, agreeing to receive a bribe and accepting a bribe.

Sgt K. Krishna Malay, 47, who was represented by lawyer G.K. Sthirarani, claimed trial to all of the four charges.

In the first charge, he was accused of soliciting a bribe from a motorcyclist to allow him to remove a barrier and enter a house, and he was later accused of accepting a bribe of RM1,500 from a 20-year-old man.

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Social & Family Implications:
Media Coverage

Women from China pay RM10,000 to work as prostitutes

Due to the high demand for sexual services, women from China have been paying an average of RM10,000 to syndicates to help them get jobs as prostitutes, reported Kosmo Ahad.

According to sources, the fee was to pay for flight costs, food and lodging during their stay in Malaysia.

As soon as the women arrive in the country, they will be received by agents from the syndicate, who will look into all necessities including finding customers for the women.

Sources also said there were women who have settled their debt with the syndicate and returned to China first before coming back to Malaysia, but there were some who worked at a restaurant near her house.

Police statistics have revealed that Chinese women were the largest group of illegal foreigners out of the total 11,832 arrested over the past year, with 5,922 being detained.

> A 16-year-old girl has admitted to an odd sexual fetish – she enjoyed having sex during her period and gets turned on when the love bite on her boyfriend's neck draws blood, reported Metro Ahad.

The girl, known as Iza, also got turned on when she ate chicken which had blood oozing out of its flesh, as a result of not being cooked properly.

Iza said her fetish for blood started when she got to know a teenager who worked at a restaurant near her house.

“He liked to be intimate when I was having my period and we used to have sex when I was covered with blood,” she said, adding that the relationship ended when her mother caught them having sex at home.

Iza revealed that she had also offered sexual services through social networking sites in the past but has since repented and joined a welfare home for women and youths.

The Malay language newspaper also reported that the Seberang Prai Tengah Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism Ministry office had seized 3,500kg of cooking oil from a factory processing fried onions in Bukit Mertajam.

Its deputy chief Gurucharan Kaur Dara Singh said investigations revealed the cooking oil, worth RM10,000, was kept at the premises without permission from the authorities.

She said investigations were ongoing to determine whether the cooking oil was subsidised by the government.

She added that the business, operated at the premises for the past two years, was not registered with the Companies Commission of Malaysia.

Female foreign workers attracting unwanted attention

Prostitutes now making house calls to avoid detection

Sex syndicates have recently been delivering prostitutes right at the doorsteps of their customers in the Klang Valley to avoid police detection, Sin Chew Daily reported.

The new move was said to have received good response as the clients need not worry about being detained by the police.

Syndicates would normally send out attractive offers such as speedy delivery and not having to pay in advance via SMS to their clients, it reported.

According to the SMS sent out by the syndicates, the prices ranged between RM18 and 25 from various countries including China, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam and the Philippines.

The newspaper claimed that local college students charged the highest, with their rates ranging from RM220 per hour or RM500 for three hours.

A parent contacted the police number provided by the SMS. He was told that he would be given several positions by Chinese from and he had to pay a RM200 translation fee.

Federal Criminal Investigation Department principal assistant director Tan Khor said the police had received numerous complaints on the SMS offers since last year.

“Most of the SMSs were elaborate con jobs to entice victims to part with their money,” he added.

Most of the SMSs were elaborate con jobs to entice victims to part with their money, in some cases, no one turned up after the customers handed the money through a bank account,” he added.

> China Press reported that many college and university students used the SMSs to buy vouchers to buy stationery.

The students said the daily that their reference books were either too expensive to buy or of not solid quality.

Higher Education Minister Datuk Seri Mohamed Khaled Nathin said that students could decide to buy their own to buy either books or stationery with some RM200 vouchers.
Social & Family Implications: Media Coverage

China dolls on offer via MMS

S’pore Orthopaedic Clinic
Dr Yip Treat Fracture & Dislocation In Knee Pain Injury: Reconstruction
www.orthopaedics.com.sg/Knee

GEORGE TOWN: In a move to evade constant raids by the authorities, sex syndicates here are offering China dolls to customers via the multimedia message service (MMS).

It was learnt that the message contains the image of a scantily clad China doll, her age, sex services menu, working hours and contact numbers of the pimps. The pictures are said to have been taken photo studio.

However, it was also learnt that only selected or frequent customers receive such MMS from the syndicates.

Once a deal was struck between a potential customer and the syndicates, the sources said the women would be sent to a hotel to meet up with the customer, with each customer charged at least RM200 per session.

Even non-Chinese are falling for the charms of China Dolls

Kindemusik Help Your Baby
Program For Newborn Baby - 7Yrs Old Signup for a Trial Class Today!

IPOH: It’s not only Chinese men who are falling for the charms of the so-called China Dolls, the bane of many wives.

Perak Mentri Besar Datuk Seri Dr Zambry Abdul Kadir said even Indian and Malay men are now also looking for these women for company.
No money and nothing to eat at times

PORT KLANG: Manizeh Mazano, from the Philippines, has only one wish - she just wants to be in a place where she can put her miserable experience at a maid agency behind her.

"It was terrible. I had no money and nothing to eat at times as the bosses ordered me to work for the past six months. I have not seen any of my salary as well.

"The worst part is when they (maid agency owners) locked me in a room with other maids after work.

"I don't have much to ask now, I just hope we are placed in a much better place after this," the 22-year-old woman said yesterday at the district immigration office.

Mazano said she paid for her own travel expenses when she came to the country several months ago.

Adinda Tanas, 20, an Indonesian helper, said the agency owner was indifferent to their health.

"I once complained of a swollen leg because I was standing too long but they did not care," she said.

Adinda, who entered Malaysia on a social visit pass in May, also claimed she had not been paid her wages.

When she questioned the agency about this, Adinda said she never got a proper answer.

Another Indonesian woman, Yusnida, who arrived here six months ago, said the agency had been bringing her and other women to different homes to work as maids from 5am to 8pm daily.

"My hands and legs were swollen from the long hours of work every day.

"The agent only provided us with two meals a day. There was not enough food and the workload was heavy," she said.

Yusnida had once asked to go home but was told by the agency that she could only leave once she could settle the cost in agency fees to bring her here.

105 maids held captive

Women made to live like prisoners by agency

KLANG: Immigration Department officers made a shocking find at a maid agency in Bandar Baru Klang - 105 foreign women were found held captive in a four-storey building.

Besides being treated roughly,
New deadline for 6P exercise

Employers have until April 10 to legalise their illegal workers now

BY ZUHRIN AZAM AHMAD
and LEE YEN MIN
newdesk@thestar.com.my

PUTRAJAYA: The deadline for the legalisation process of illegal foreign workers under the 6P amnesty exercise has been extended to April 10, five months after the first deadline was announced.

Following appeals from employers who said the one-month extension was insufficient for them to prepare the necessary documents for their employees, Home Ministry secretary-general Tan Sri Mahood Adan said a mass operation to arrest illegal workers and their employers would be launched after the new deadline.

With the extension, employers who had yet to submit the applications to legalise their illegal workers should do so immediately, he said in a statement yesterday.

The Government had estimated that 1.3 million illegal immigrants would need to register under the program.

Mahood said 94,858 of them had returned to their countries.

The programme involved six phases: registration (Aug 1 to 31, 2011), legalisation, amnesty, supervision, enforcement and deportation.

Meanwhile, Human Resources Minister Datuk Seri Dr S. Subramaniam said the authorities would deal with the potential shortage of foreign workers once the amnesty programme ended.

"Those (migrant workers) who are in the servant industry, we shall provide them with a list," he said.

The Star 17/4/2012

132,000 illegal immigrants sent back to home countries

PETALING JAYA: A total of 132,424 illegal immigrants registered under the 6P programme were granted amnesty and allowed to return to their countries.

Home Ministry secretary-general Tan Sri Mahood Adan said the bulk were Indonesian (32,253) followed by Indians (10,091), Nepalese (9,271), Myanmarese (7,850), Cambodians (7,711), Bangladeshis (4,818), Vietnamese (3,242), Pakistanis (2,767), Filipinos (2,249), Sri Lankans (1,705), Chinese (1,682) and others (2,271).

In a statement yesterday, he said 100,133 were sent home by air, 31,688 by sea and 424 by road.

He added that the action was taken to curb human trafficking.

"The Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur collected the highest number of enforcement seizures," he added.
Way Forward: Measures for Consideration

1. Reducing reliance on foreign labour

2. Strengthening policy coherence

3. Create conditions to attract skilled workers

4. A Diaspora Policy

5. Research
THANK YOU