

# Socso signs MoC for welfare of Indonesian workers

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** The Social Security Organisation (Socso) has signed a memorandum of collaboration (MoC) with Indonesia's Health and Social Security Agency (BPJS) to create a more systematic information-sharing network system to protect the welfare of Indonesian workers in Malaysia.

Under the MoC, the foreign workers will enjoy the same social security benefits as local workers, which includes continuation of payment for healthcare and employment injuries.

The MoC was signed here yesterday by Socso chief executive officer Datuk Seri Dr Mohammed Azman Aziz Mohammed and BPJS director-general Agus Suinto.

"We are strengthening and enlarging the social security benefits for all workers before they go to work in Malaysia.

"We will offer the complete benefits of working in Indonesia while working in Malaysia," said Agus.

He added that there were 350,000 Indonesian workers waiting to come to Malaysia who had registered under Socso.

"The collaboration will ensure that the workers, most of whom will be employed in the construction and agricultural sectors, will enjoy the same protection and benefits as local workers," he added.

The MoC followed the Human Resources Ministry's move to make it mandatory for employers to make Socso contributions to 1.8 million foreign workers effective Jan 1.

Azman said through information gathering and data sharing between both parties, it would simplify the various constraints encountered previously, especially in terms of payment methods and receipts.

He said similar partnerships would be extended to other countries that supply foreign workers, such as Nepal and Bangladesh.