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Translation by PathFinders

The number of pregnant Indonesian Migrant Workers (BMI) continues to increase

By Oleh Razak

The case of dumping a baby by an Indonesian Migrant Worker (referred as 'BMI' in the Bahasa article) from Blitar, East Java, in Yuen Long is just one of hundreds of cases of Indonesian Migrant Workers extramarital pregnancies in Hong Kong. Compared with two years ago, there has been an increase in the number of case which is quite high.

This year, based on data obtained by SUARA from PathFinders, during the 10 months (until October 31, 2011), there were 204 Indonesian Migrant Workers who became clients of this Non-Government Organisation (referred to as 'LSM' in the Bahasa article) who works in the field of women and children services. This number rose sharply from only 99 people in 2009. PathFinders is a Non-Government Organization which provides services to migrant workers who are pregnant out-of-wedlock.

"Generally, our clients are those who are pregnant and have given birth to a baby out-of-wedlock. Most have overstayed their visas" according to Chief Operations Officer of PathFinders, Luna Chan, when met SUARA in her office, Thursday (1/12).

The number of PathFinders clients in the period of January-October 2011, was 278 people. 73 percent PathFinders client comes from Indonesia either Indonesian Migrant Workers or former Indonesian Migrant Workers who overstayed their visas.

"Like a tip of the iceberg, it does not show the real numbers. I suspect, the number of pregnant Indonesian Migrant Workers who give birth in Hong Kong is unknown and the number is much bigger" Luna said.

In providing services, PathFinders collaborates with the Consulate General Republic of Indonesia (referred as 'KJRI' in the Bahasa article). Consul of Consular I Hari Budiarto explained the collaboration between the Consulate General Republic of Indonesia and PathFinders has been running since the year 2009. *"We help each other. Those workers who have returned home as result of the cooperation with PathFinders is a lot"* he said, when met in his office room, Monday (5/12).

He exemplifies, that on October 21, 2011, the Consulate General Republic of Indonesia repatriated an Indonesia citizen (referred to as WNI in the article) who was a former Indonesian Migrant Worker, initials Ng, who was 5 months pregnant. She asked for her baby to be adopted, because she has a husband (in Indonesia).

To bring Ng who has overstayed back to Indonesia, the Consulate General Republic of Indonesia made a repatriation document, coordinated with the Department of Immigration Hong Kong, as well as purchased the airplane ticket. The Consulate General Republic of Indonesia also wrote a covering letter to Sayap Ibu Foundation Jakarta, in order for Ng's child which expected to be born in March 2012 to be adopted.

Last November 2011, the Consulate General Republic of Indonesia also repatriated several overstayed Indonesian Migrant Workers, each with their child which was born in Hong Kong. Among them, ST, ANH and NIS to Jogjakarta, as well as RS to Semarang.

"I ask those who overstayed to go home immediately. If you feel hesitantly to report directly to the Consulate General Republic of Indonesia, please visit the non-government organization PathFinders" Hari said.

"The threat of free lifestyle in HK is worrying" he said.

Jumlah BMI hamil terus meningkat

Oleh **Razak**

KASUS pembuangan bayi yang dilakukan seorang buruh migran Indonesia (BMI) asal Blitar, Jawa Timur di Yuen Long hanya satu dari ratusan kasus kehamilan BMI di luar nikah di Hong Kong. Dibandingkan dua tahun silam, telah terjadi peningkatan jumlah kasus yang cukup tinggi.

Tahun ini, berdasarkan data yang

diperoleh SUARA dari PathFinders, selama 10 bulan (hingga 31 Oktober 2011) saja, terdapat 204 BMI menjadi klien LSM yang bergerak di bidang pelayanan anak dan perempuan itu. Angka tersebut meningkat tajam dari hanya 99 orang di tahun 2009. PathFinders adalah lembaga swadaya masyarakat (LSM) yang antara lain memberi pelayanan kepada buruh migran yang hamil di luar nikah.

"Umumnya, klien yang kami tangani

karena kasus hamil dan melahirkan bayi di luar nikah. Sebagian besar berstatus overstayed," kata Chief Operations Officer PathFinders Luna Chan, saat ditemui SUARA di kantornya, Kamis (1/12).

Jumlah klien PathFinders di periode Januari-Oktober 2011, sebanyak 278 orang. Artinya, 73 persen klien PathFinders berasal dari Indonesia, baik BMI atau mantan BMI yang overstayed.

"Ibarat puncak gunung es, itu tidak menunjukkan angka sesungguhnya. Saya menduga, BMI hamil dan melahirkan di HK yang tidak diketahui jumlahnya jauh lebih besar," kata Luna.

Dalam memberikan pelayanan, PathFinders bekerja sama dengan Konsulat Jenderal Republik Indonesia (KJRI). Konsul Konsuler I Hari Budiarto menjelaskan kerja sama antara KJRI dan PathFinders telah berjalan sejak tahun 2009. "Kami saling bantu. Yang sudah kami pulangkan hasil kerja sama dengan PathFinders sudah banyak sekali," ujarnya, saat ditemui di ruang kerjanya, Senin (5/12).

Ia mencontohkan, pada 21 Oktober 2011, KJRI memulangkan WNI mantan BMI berinisial Ng dalam keadaan hamil 5 bulan. Dia meminta bayinya diadopsi, karena telah bersuami.

Untuk memulangkan Ng yang telah berstatus overstayed, KJRI membuatkan dokumen pemulangan, berkoordinasi dengan Departemen Imigrasi HK, serta membelikan tiket pesawat. KJRI juga membuatkan surat pengantar ke Yayasan-



Luna Chan

an Sayap Ibu Jakarta, agar anak Ng yang diperkirakan lahir pada Maret 2012 dapat diadopsi.

November 2011 lalu, KJRI juga memulangkan beberapa BMI overstayed, masing-masing berikut anak yang dilahirkan mereka di HK. Di antaranya, ST, ANH, dan NIS ke Yogyakarta, serta RS ke Semarang.

"Saya minta, teman-teman yang OS segera pulang. Bila sungkan melapor langsung ke KJRI, silakan melapor ke LSM PathFinders," kata Hari.

"Ancaman kehidupan bebas di HK mengkhawatirkan," ujarnya.



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