FACTSHEET ON REPATRIATION & CASE STUDY

Background on repatriation

According to the Employment of Foreign Manpower (Work Passes) Regulations, upon the expiry, cancellation or revocation of a Work Permit, the employer is expected to repatriate the foreign worker to an international port of entry that provides reasonable access to the worker’s hometown. A Special Pass is issued to the foreign worker to legalise the worker’s stay in Singapore in the absence of a Work Permit.

Employers in Singapore are required to make arrangements and pay for the cost of repatriating their workers, in order to prevent illegal overstayers or relying on taxpayers’ revenue to send the foreign worker back.

Case Study

On 19 Oct 2011, MOM was notified by an NGO of a case involving a PRC worker, Jiang Wei Zhe of Tat Hin Builders Pte Ltd, who alleged that he was held at the premises of repatriation company, 1 Aces Repatriation Pte Ltd. The worker also claimed to have employment and medical issues with his company. MOM attended to the case immediately and requested the employer to bring the worker to MOM to seek a resolution to the case. During MOM’s interview with the worker, he claimed that he was not paid overtime salary amounting to $333. The employer paid for the shortfall and the issue was resolved. For the medical issues, it was established the worker was medically fit.