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Eight Chinese arrested in Bang Tao illegal-workers sweep

PHUKET: Police arrested eight Chinese nationals found working without permits at a construction site in Bang Tao during a three-day immigration sweep carried out last week.

By The Phuket News

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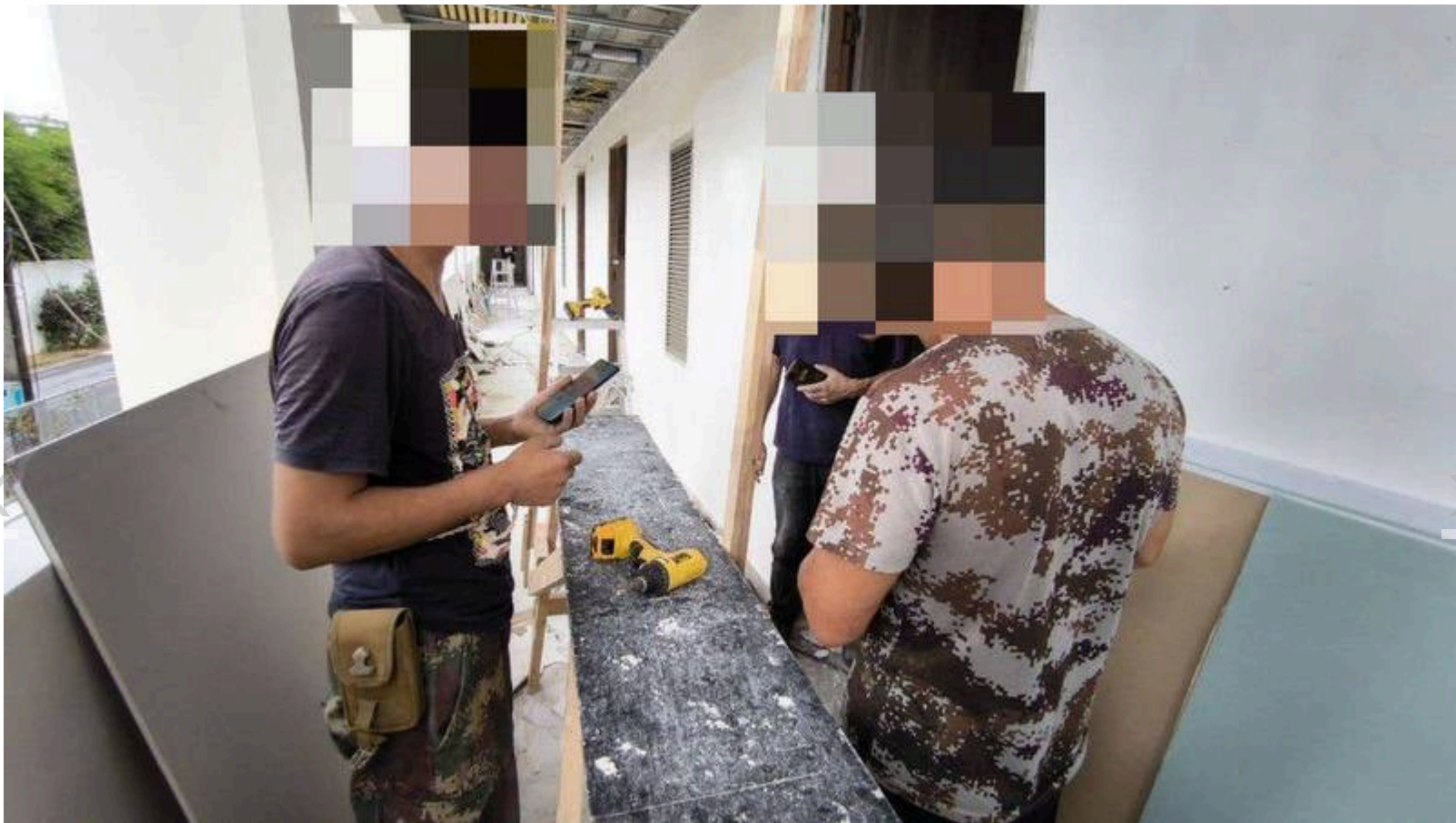


Photo: Cherng Talay Police

The operation, conducted from Nov 19-21 under Cherng Talay Police Station’s crackdown on illegal immigration, was led by Police Lt Col Chanasin Prateep Na Thalang, Deputy Inspector of Investigation, with support from the station’s investigation team.

The sweep was ordered by Cherng Talay Police Superintendent Pol Col Ekkarat Plaiduang, along with Deputy Superintendent of Investigation Pol Lt Col Anurak Klangnarong and Investigation Chief Pol Lt Col Wachira Ammarin.

Officers confirmed that all eight men arrested are Chinese nationals and had no passports or valid documentation. They were named as Zhi Chang, Jin Hong, Xu Feng, Xin Wu, Zhen Ping, Zhao Lai, Pao Yang and Yuan Wang.

Police said the group was detained at a construction project in Moo 6, Cherng Talay, better known among local residents simply as Bang Tao.

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Each of the workers now faces charges of entering and staying in the Kingdom without permission, and working without authorisation, Cherng Talay Police reported.

Officers declined to identify the employer responsible for hiring the men or the development where the arrests took place. Cherng Talay Police Chief Pol Col Ekkarat Plaiduang was “in a meeting” and unavailable to comment, they said.

Cherng Talay Police were willing to report that “business operators were warned” to ensure all foreign workers have the correct visas and work permits, noting that inspections in the area will continue.

There were no other consequences reported for the employer caught illegally hiring workers.

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