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One-third complainants sacked for having HIV

KUALA LUMPUR — Five out of the 15 people who filed workplace complaints for losing their jobs last year was after their employers found they had HIV, according to a finding released by the Malaysian AIDS Council (MAC) yesterday. MAC's HIV and Human Rights Mitigation Report 2015 also showed that termination of HIV-positive workers mostly happened in the tourism and entertainment sector such as hotels, golf resorts and an entertainment venue. One of the cases also occurred in a government-linked public transport company. Eight of the 15 complaints involved some form of workplace discrimination, including demotion due to their HIV-positive status and also forced resignation. However, there were also six complaints of discriminatory service in the public health sector. "We urge businesses and corporations to take appropriate measures to ensure the rights of all their employees are protected," said MAC president Bakhtiar Talha. — Malay Mail Online