



Vietnam TVET Bulletin

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DVET's Party Committee Reviews H1, Outlines H2 Tasks

The Party Committee of DVET, under the MoLISA, on July 23 held a conference in Hanoi to review its performance in the first half (H1) of this year and outline tasks for H2. (DVET Jul 23)

Vietnam Has 15.2M People Joining Social Insurance as of End-July: Agency

The numbers of people in Vietnam joining social insurance service as of end-July is estimated to have reached 15.2 million, down 480,000 y/y, according to the report for July of the state-run Vietnam Social Security (VSS). Besides, the number of people joining healthcare insurance service is estimated to have reached 85.8 million, down 117,000 y/y. This figure represents 89% of the population. In July, the VSS is estimated to have processed 94,847 cases of one-time insurance and leaving the system. The VSS blamed the COVID-19 impacts on the lower numbers of insurance participants and the high number of one-time insurance. It explained that COVID-19 forced businesses to halt operation, hence labourers must quit their jobs. (An Ninh Thu Do Jul 26)

Business Sector and Labour Market

Foreign Cooperation

Dong Nai DoLISA Preparers Skilled Labour Force for Long Thanh International Airport

The DoLISA on southern Dong Nai province on July 17 organised a Conference on "Implementation of training high-quality human resources in Dong Nai province in 2020, contributing to providing human resources for Long Thanh International Airport (Long Thanh Airport)" at LILAMA 2 International Technology College (LILAMA 2). The Conference was attended by delegates of DoLISA Dong Nai, Vietnam Association on Aviation Science and Technology" (VAAST), Vietnam Aviation Scientific Institute (ASI), Bureau for Employers' Activities - Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Ho Chi Minh (VCCI), GIZ Programme Reform of TVET in Viet Nam, District People's Committee, TVET institutes and High Schools across the province together with representatives of LILAMA 2's partner companies. The conference focused on the contents such as: labour demands for construction and operation of Long Thanh Airport, the ability of vocational education and training response of the province, the cooperation ability between DoLISA Dong Nai, TVET institutes and VAAST, as well as the exploitation of economic resources from the airport. "Based on 27 criteria in terms of economy, culture, society, etc., in the project on Planning of Vietnam civil airport network, it was very surprised that Long Thanh Airport was chosen for 5 times as number 1 in playing extremely important role for the economy of the South, of the whole country and the South East Asia as well. This has resulted in the urgent need for human resources to build up and develop the airport," stated Mr. Tran Quang Chau, Chairman of VAAST. Mr. Do Hong Truong, Deputy





Director of ASI explained that when put into operation, Long Thanh Airport will have a capacity of 25 million passengers per year for Phase 1. The total labour force working at the airport in this period is expected to be about 16.5 thousand people, the loss of labour force during and after the training process is about 15%. He also added, "Therefore, if the labour resource for Long Thanh Airport in this stage is assumed to be 100% newly recruited, the number of input trainees required for training is over 18,000." To meet the demand of skilled workers for the airport, LILAMA 2 has already cooperated with ASI to integrate aviation related contents into the existing training programmes for 09 occupations, including ones oriented to German Standards: Metal Cutting, Mechatronics and Industrial Electronics. Mr. Nguyen Khanh Cuong, LILAMA 2's Rector said, "LILAMA 2 and ASI have cooperated in 3 stages. First stage has finished with identifying the suitable occupations, programmes for joint training. The second is related to collaborating with Long Thanh authority in identifying human resources for each occupation field. The third stage is about further training for teaching staff and initial training for trainees. Stage 2 and stage 3 details will be discussed further after the conference." Presenting at the conference, Mr. Bach Hung Truong, Team leader of Component "Support of Centres of Excellence for TVET", summarised the achievements, current and upcoming activities supported by GIZ at LILAMA 2 and Vocational College of Machinery and Irrigation (VCMI). He also proposed "DoLISA Dong Nai should closely cooperate with LILAMA 2 and VCMI in disseminating the developed cooperative training approach and training programmes oriented on German standards to other TVET institutes in Dong Nai as well as support these TVET institutes to provide skilled workforce for Long Thanh airport." Mr. Huynh Van Tinh, Director of DoLISA Dong Nai emphasised "The Department of Vocational Education should give advice to set up a professional team to connect ASI, VAAST, LILAMA 2 as well as other TVET institutes, GIZ, and units who exploit workers for Long Thanh Airport determine the suitable occupations, occupational skills required at each job position and other issues relevant to certification. Thereby, TVET institutes shall adjust and update the training programmes and modules to meet practical needs". (TVET Vietnam Jul 22)

Vietnam Tightens Rules on Entry of Foreign Experts from Aug 5

Foreign experts, who seek to enter Vietnam, must provide COVID-19 test results and must have international healthcare insurance, from August 5, partly due to the increasing number of foreign experts with COVID-19 entering the country. The COVID-19 test results must be done at labs in the World Health Organization's list or the government's approved list. Besides, the test must have been done three-seven days prior to entry into Vietnam and must be done by Real time-PCR method. Foreign experts or their employers must pay for COVID-19 treatments in Vietnam, if any. Their working places must also ensure COVID-19 prevention during work. Such rules do not apply on foreign experts having tickets and schedules of entering Vietnam before August 5. (VietnamBiz, Nhan Dan, Bao Hiem Xa Hoi Jul 24)

Vietnam, New Zealand Lift Ties to Strategic Partnership on Jul 22

Vietnam's Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc and his New Zealand counterpart Jacinda Ardern on July 22 chaired an online meeting to elevate the relations between the two countries to the







strategic partnership. They issued a joint statement, hailing the recent signing of a cooperation agreement in vocational education and training and skills development. (Bao Quoc Te Jul 22)

226 Vietnamese Labourers in Uzbekistan to be Flown Home Soon

Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) on July 24 held a meeting to discuss ways to bring home 226 Vietnamese workers, who remain stranded in Uzbekistan. Earlier, the Vietnamese Embassy in Russia received a letter from representatives for 226 Vietnamese employees, who are working for China Petroleum Jili Chemical Engineering and Construction Co., Ltd (JCC) in Karshi city, Uzbekistan. In its response, the MoFA-run Consular Department coordinated with the embassy and the company to clarify the case to meet the request of the citizens as soon as possible. (Bao Chinh Phu, Bao Chinh Phu, VOV, Tien Phong Jul 23)

Japan Embassy in Vietnam to Partly Reopen Visa Applications from end-Jul

The Japanese Embassy in Vietnam will reopen its visa applications process for some Vietnamese people from end-July, state media quoted the embassy as saying on July 22. Requirements are applicants having Vietnamese citizenships, living in Vietnam, and flying on direct routes between Vietnam and Japan. Visa applications are viable to (i) people with short-term trips with business purpose (one-time visa) and (ii) people having long-term trips, such as managers, internal transfer within firms, engineers, international operators, caregivers, high-skill workers, labourers with specified skills. The embassy also reopened application of re-entry paper for some specific cases. Besides, the embassy reopened at limited scale applications of residence for some cases. Japan stopped issuing visa for Vietnamese interns and labourers from March 28 due to COVID-19 pandemic. (Thanh Nien, vn.emb-japan.go.jp Jul 22)

Vietnam Hails Japan's Travel Restrictions Relaxation

Regarding Japan's announcement on relaxing its travel restrictions for Vietnamese citizens, Spokesperson for Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) Le Thi Thu Hang said the Southeast Asian country welcomed the move. Travel limitations will be lifted for entrants who are businesspeople, diplomatic officials, high-skilled labourers, and other special cases. (CAND, BNews, VOV, Bao Chinh Phu, VietnamBiz, Tuoi Tre, VietnamNet, Bao Dan Sinh, en. Vietnam Plus Jul 24)

South Korea Continues to Extend Expired Visas for Stuck Vietnamese Labourers

South Korea has been extending expired visas for foreign labourers, including Vietnamese, who got stranded there due to the COVID-19 pandemic, to have another 30-day residency, said the Centre of Overseas Labour, under Vietnam's MoLISA. This is the third time that South Korea has extended stay for oversea workers, and the visa extension will be done until the end of July 31. Currently, there are 48,000 contracted Vietnamese labourers in South Korea, and about 11,000 other workers illegally stay in this country. (Thanh Nien, Vietnam Plus Jul 23)







Khanh Hoa to Receive 300 S. Korea Entrepreneurs on Aug 17

Central province of Khanh Hoa is expected to receive 300 South Korean businesspeople on August 17 per the request of the Consulate General of South Korea in southern Ho Chi Minh City, said the provincial Department of Health. Khanh Hoa currently has 450 charged rooms to serve 14-day mandatory quarantine of these South Koreans, said head of the department. Recently, South Korea planned to send 570 businesspeople from 240 companies on chartered flights to Vietnam from July 22. In August, South Korea plans to send 1,500 workers to the Southeast Asian nation. (VietnamBiz Jul 27)

HCMC Seeks to Allow Entry of 4K Foreign Experts

HCMC has received applications of nearly 4,000 foreign experts and skilled labourers for entry to the city, said Director the municipal DoLISA Le Minh Tan. The city sent the petition to the Immigration Department, under the Ministry of Public Security, Mr. Tan added. The entrants will take mandatory 14-day quarantine at either working places or hotels, he noted. In 2018-2019, HCMC received close to 29,000 overseas experts, executives, skilled labourers each year, of whom 70% were specialists and managers from 11 countries and two territories. (VOV Jul 23)

Bamboo Airways to Bring European Experts to Vietnam on Jul 30

Bamboo Airways, operated by Vietnam's conglomerate FLC Group JSC (HOSE: FLC), is set to perform a special flight to carry European diplomatic officials, experts, businesspeople, and their relatives to Vietnam on July 30. The flight is arranged by the German Embassy in Vietnam, the EU Delegation to Vietnam, and the German Industry and Commerce in the Southeast Asian country. The number of passengers has yet to be revealed. (BizLive, Cong Ly Jul 24)

Vietnam Launches Training Courses for Trainers of Air Conditioning Jobs

Daikin Vietnam on July 20 initiated the first training courses for trainers of air conditioning jobs. The course is for eight trainers from eight technical colleges in the northern region. The one-week training course is taking place in northern Hung Yen province. The course is within the cooperation between Daikin Vietnam and the DVET, under the MoLISA, for the 2020-2024 period. The first phase of this collaboration aims to train 18 people. The next training course is scheduled in central Danang City and southern Ho Chi Minh City in September and October, respectively. (DVET, Giao Duc Thoi Dai Jul 23)

Japan Retailer AEON Motivates Vietnamese Products to Join Its Global System

Japanese retail and financial services corporation AEON attempted to add Vietnamese products into its global system and expected to open a brand-new commercial centre in Vietnam's northern city of Haiphong in late 2020, also the sixth one in the country. The information was disclosed at a seminar on "orienting export products and supporting programs for Vietnamese businesses through AEON supermarket system - AEON TOPVALU brand during COVID-19."





The event was held on July 22 by the Ho Chi Minh City Investment and Trade Promotion Centre (ITPC) and AEON Vietnam Co., Ltd. With all eight operating companies, AEON Vietnam created jobs for more than 4,000 employees and cooperates with more than 2,500 organizations and businesses in the country. (Vietnam Finance Jul 22)

Haiphong Approves Electronics Manufacturing Facility of USI Vietnam

The Universal Scientific Industrial Vietnam Company Ltd., a unit of global electronics designer and assembler Universal Scientific Industrial (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. (USI, SSE: 601231), was granted the Investment Registration Certificate for its electronics manufacturing facility in Haiphong Economic Zone Authority, in Vietnam's northern city of Haiphong. In the mass production stage, USI will provide wearable electronic device boards to overseas markets, create thousands of local jobs, leverage technology and drive the city's digital transformation. (english.Saigon Times, VIR, Tien Phongnews, Biz Hub, ANHP Jul 23)

CoAsia Semi Vietnam, University Ink MoU on Training IC Design Experts

CoAsia Semi Vietnam, under South Korea's CoAisa, and the School of Electronics and Telecommunications (SET), under the Hanoi University of Technology (HUST), on July 20 inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on training experts in the course "Timing in Digital Integrated Circuit (IC) design." Under the agreement, CoAsia Semi Vietnam will take responsibility for training such profession and recruiting labour force form the HUST. The course will be supported by Synopsys, a world's leading electronic design automation (EDA) provider. CoAsia Vietnam is expected to hold similar courses monthly from July to December, attracting 30 employees in each course with a total combined 180 people are expected to attend the training program in 2020. The company is also planning to sign more agreements with other prestigious universities in Hanoi. CoAsiaVietnam is planning to recruit 100 engineers in 2020 for its office in Hanoi and 200 engineers serving its operation in 2021. (CafeF Jul 22)

12 Students of Electronics Graduate from Bosch Technical Industrial Apprenticeship

Twelve students of electronics have recently graduated from Bosch Technical Industrial Apprenticeship (Bosch TGA), for the 2016-2020 term in the Long Thanh facility, southern Dong Nai province. Bosch TGA aims to boost career chances for students via vocational training per German standards. Annually, the program enrolls 24 students. As of April 20, 168 students have registered to join Bosch TGA, 24% of them females. 88% of all students have graduated. Bosch TGA was established in 2013 for the field of mechanic manufacturing, with an initial investment of \$1 million. In 2016, Bosch TGA brought electronics to the vocational training program in Vietnam. (Dau Tu Jul 24)

An Giang Sends 1,886 Labourers overseas in 2016-2020







The southern province of An Giang is estimated to have sent 1,886 labourers to work overseas under contracts in the 2016-2020 period, mostly in Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan, according to information from a conference on July 23. (Bao An Giang July 23)

Domestic News

Vietnam Vocational Training System to Focus on Training, Re-training Labourers

Vietnam's vocational training system will focus on training, re-training, and implementation of an open system towards 55 million labourers, said General Director Truong Anh Dung of the DVET, under the MoLISA. Mr. Dung made the statement at a workshop in northern Quang Ninh province on July 24 on viewpoints, objectives, and solutions for vocational training in 2021-2030. Mr. Dung added that the system's training qualities have improved quickly but there is a long gap to reach the ASEAN-4 standards. He also listed the sector's other problems, including limited recruitment, school-based training, restricted financial mechanism, and outdated management mechanism. Besides, he urged sociopolitical organizations, professional associations, among others, should join deeper in vocational training. Speaking at the event, Dr. Jurgen Harwigt, director of the Vietnamese - German "Program Reform of TVET in Vietnam," suggested the system should focus more on data, development of trainers and managers, training within businesses, and improvements of labour skill boards. (DVET Jul 25)

Connection between TVET Units, Firms Remains Weak

The link between TVET units and businesses remains weak and depends on personal relations between people, such as TVET units' faculties and firms' executive, participants complained at a conference on experiences and suggestions to boost such links. THE event was hosted by Ho Chi Minh City College of Economics on July 21. (Thanh Nien, Dan Tri Jul 21)

Vietnam Should Help Labour Sector by Boosting Domestic Consumption: RMIT

The COVID-19 pandemic has negatively impacted Vietnam's labour sector and Vietnam should help the sector by boosting the domestic consumption, said Dr. John Walsh from RMIT University Vietnam Hanoi. He explained that Vietnam's economy has high openness and this leads to lower exports of products, which are rarely used inside Vietnam, and lesser imports of goods, which cannot be fully produced inside Vietnam. He suggested Vietnam should promote Vietnamese goods towards Vietnamese people. He also recommended that Vietnam should enhance agricultural labourers, in terms of knowledge and good values and brandings, in order to distribute more products to foreign markets. Dr. Walsh also noted that COVID-19 impacts are worse on people with lower skills. He explained that they are more vulnerable to limitations of social distancing rules and the lack of management, which could guide them to other jobs. (Bao Xay Dung, CafeF Jul 23)

Vietnam's Aluminium Output Falls by 40% to 280K Tons in H1 due to COVID-19

Vietnam's aluminium output reached 280,000 tons in the first half (H1) of this year, which







dropped by 40% compared to the average output before the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). At the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, most of aluminium firms have operated moderately. They have laid off about 40% of labourers, equivalent to 13,000 ones. (<u>Tin Nhanh Chung Khoan</u> Jul 25)

Army's Coal Biz Seek to Become Top Firm in Vietnam, Ensure Energy Security

Dong Bac Corporation, under Vietnam's Ministry of National Defence, seeks to become the country's top coal firm and help ensure the national energy security, requested Senior Lieutenant General-Deputy Minister of National Defence Tran Don. Mr. Don made the request at the sixth Party Congress of Dong Bac Corporation in northern Quang Ninh Province on July 27-28. He also asked Dong Bac Corporation to take care more of the workforce, especially in training, recruitment, vocational training, benefits and cash, among others. (QDND Jul 27)

Vietnam Seafood Association Seeks Easier Labour Rules

The Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers (VASEP) has proposed easier rules within the MoLISA's draft circulars on teen labourers and harsh jobs. The VASEP proposed removal of terms on reports in forms of documents to the DoLISAs on first employments of teenagers. The VASEP suggested fewer numbers of reports in order to reduce administrative costs. Besides, the VASEP suggested the MoLISA reconsider the inclusion of "processing frozen seafood" within the list of harsh jobs. Such terms prevent teenagers from doing simple tasks, such as washing shrimp, removing shrimp shells, and filtering shrimp on basis of sizes. (Cong Thuong, VASEP Jul 27)

Vietnam's Fisheries Sector Facing Severe Shortage of Labourers: Agency

Vietnam's fisheries sector has been facing a serious shortage of labourers, both in quantity and quality, according to the Directorate of Fisheries, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD). Mr. Nguyen Van Trung, head of the Department of Fisheries Capture and Resources Protection under the Directorate of Fisheries, noted that the country has recorded an upward trend in offshore fishing. On average, each offshore fishing ship needs eight labourers, and each near-shore ship needs two-three workers, he estimated. Mr. Trung proposed localities make plans to train/retrain ship crews while boosting technology and mechanization application, thus replacing manual work with automation. As of end-2019, 28 coastal localities had 552,000 labourers in the fisheries harvesting sector, up 30% y/y. Over 90% of them were between 18 and 50 years old. Besides, up to 91% of all labourers had yet to finish high school. The southern province of Kien Giang ranked first with nearly 70,000 labourers, followed by central Binh Dinh province with 45,000, and Ba Ria-Vung Tau, Binh Thuan, and Khanh Hoa with 30,000 each. (Dan Tri Jul 22)

Vietnam Hanoi Seeks to Merge, Dissolve Vocational Intermediate Schools, Colleges

Hanoi capital city plans to dissolve and merge 21 vocational intermediate-level schools and





colleges into ten ones, according to a discussion on July 22 between Hanoi People's Committee and the DVET, under MoLISA. Currently, Hanoi has ten intermediate-level schools in fields of culinary arts, tourism, fashionable apparel, economics, construction, and 11 colleges in sectors of engineering, electricity, electronics, information technology, agriculture, construction, economics, and economics-finance. Vietnam currently has over 1,900 vocational training establishments, including 399 colleges, 462 intermediate-level schools, and many centres. Since 2017, annual recruitment has exceeded two million. The sector targets to increase recruitment to 4.5 million annually from 2025. (DVET, Giao Duc Thoi Dai Jul 22)

Thai Binh to Recruit 15,300 Grade-10 Students

Thai Binh began the high school entrance exam on July 25, featuring 18,777 students. Thai Binh targets to recruit 15,300 students into grade 10 of public high schools. (Giao Duc Thoi Dai Jul 25)

Quang Binh Creates Jobs for 12,800 Labourers in Year to Early July

The central province of Quang Binh generated jobs for 12,845 labourers in the year to early July, including 8,659 working in the province, 3,711 working in other localities, and 475 working abroad, mostly in Laos, Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. (Bao Xay Dung Jul 23)

Dong Nai Begins Grade-10 Entrance Exam on Jul 22

Dong Nai province on July 22 began its grade 10 entrance exam, featuring 21,000 contestants. Dong Nai DoET lets 22 public high school recruit 9,506 students, while others would recruit 20,000 via profile checks, instead of entrance exam. (Giao Duc Thoi Dai Jul 22)

MoLISA Upgrades HCMC's Bach Khoa Intermediate School to College

The MoLISA has issued a decision on founding Bach Khoa College (BKC) in HCMC, on the foundation of Bach Khoa Technology intermediate-level school. BKC is now in charge of three levels of training, namely college, intermediate, and beginner. In 2020, BKC would recruit 1,000 students for 4 courses. (Phap Luat Plus Jul 23)

Nearly 2,000 People Get Jobs from HCMC's Jul Career Fair

As many as 1,982 people have got jobs from the July career fair of Ho Chi Minh City, the municipal employment service centre said on July 26. The fields with the highest recruitment demand are sales, apparel-footwear, HR management, business administration, marketing, client services, finance-accounting, electronics, safeguard, and manual work. The fair attracted 52 firms and 3,986 applicants. (Dai Doan Ket Jul 27)







HCMC Facing Shortage of Trained Labourers

Ho Chi Minh City annually recruits 75,873 people into vocational training; however, this figure cannot fulfil the massive yearly labour demand of 65,100-69,300 for industrial sectors and 170,500-181,500 for economic-service sectors, state media reported. The FALMI suggested a solution of boosting cooperation between vocational training units and businesses. HCMC currently has 544 vocational training colleges, intermediate-level schools, centres, and other units. The number of operating firms is 203,674. The demand for trained labourers is 83%, including 19.5% at the university level or above, 17.21% at the college level, 21.58% at the intermediate level, and 24.71% at the beginner level. (Bao Dan Sinh Jul 23)

Dong Thap's Sixth Career Fair Attracts 500 Participants

The employment service centre in southern Dong Thap province on July 25 held the sixth career fair so far in 2020, with the participation of 17 firms and over 500 labourers and students. (Bao Dong Thap Jul 25)