





Vietnam TVET Bulletin

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• Policies •

MoLISA Demands Safety for Vocational Training Schools

Amid the new outbreak of COVID-19 in Vietnam, the DVET, under the MoLISA, has ordered local authorities and vocational training schools to ensure safety and follow anti-COVID-19 rules. The DVET particularly asked relevant agencies to follow the rules on wearing facemask and restraining from mass gathering. Notably, the Vietnam-Canada Vocational Training School has recently become a quarantine facility for 1,000 workers of COVID-19 hotspot in Hai Duong epicentre. Hai Duong province is building this school into a field hospital. (VietnamBiz, Thanh Nien, Bao Dan Sinh Jan 30)

DVET

28 Localities Let Learners Stay Home to Prevent COVID-19 from Feb 1

As of February 2, the municipal/provincial People's Committees and Departments of Education and Training in 28 out of 63 localities in Vietnam have let learners take days-off from today without ending dates or until new announcements, to prevent COVID-19. The breaks are for all levels (from kindergartens to high schools and vocational training units) and all types (private and public ones, curricular and extra-curricular activities). (Lao Dong Feb 2)

Vietnam Set to Improve Labour Market in Post-COVID-19 Period: Minister

Minister of MoLISA Dao Ngoc Dung listed four methods for Vietnam to overcome problems and utilize chances during and after COVID-19 pandemic. First, Vietnam must update the legal framework, especially terms to further facilitate jobs centre, headhunters, job exchanges, social insurance, unemployment insurance, and others. Second, Vietnam has to boost labour management, particularly market information and predictions and transformation of informal labourers into formal labourers. Third, Vietnam should improve the labour market geographically, such as boosting the labour market in weak areas, enhancing the connection with foreign labour market, and others. Fourth, Vietnam must reform education and training, especially vocational training. Vietnam should reform secondary schools and direct more learners to advance to vocational training, grant more autonomy for the labour market, switch the focus to helping needy people, and pushing the cooperation between state management agencies and relevant organizations. Previewing 2020, Mr. Dung said that the society may soon return to normal status as COVID-19 vaccines are now available; COVID-19 highlighted Vietnam's resilience and attractions for foreign investments; and COVID-19 stressed weaknesses of Vietnam's labour market, such as weak information, weak structure, high rate of labourers without contracts; and others. (BNews Jan 26)

Employers in Vietnam Again Suggest No Wage Hike in 2021

Regarding the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL)'s suggestion of raising the minimum zonal wage in 2021, the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and





DVET

employers in sectors of apparel and footwear again suggested no hike. The VGCL noted that Vietnam recorded economic growth of 3% and inflation in 2020, so a wage hike, even at a small rate, is needed to ensure the livelihoods of labourers. An owner of an apparel plant rejected the suggestion, explaining that the market has recovered but has yet to reach the pre-pandemic level, hence a wage hike would become a burden. Mr. Truong Van Cam, deputy head of the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS), said that COVID-19 pandemic is still complicated so wage hike should be discussed at the moment. Ms. Phan Thi Thanh Xuan, vice chairwoman cum general secretary of the Vietnam Leather, Footwear and Handbag Association (LEFASO), even affirmed that no wage hike should take place in three-five years to help firms recover operation. VCCI Vice President Hoang Quang Phong said that the priority should be facilitating businesses, then employments, and eventually wage, so wage should not be hiked in 2021. Besides, experts said that no wage hike aims to reduce financial burden for firms to facilitate employments for labourers. (VnEconomy Jan 26)

Vietnam Defence Ministry to Tighten up Military Service

Vietnam's Ministry of National Defence (MoD) will tighten up military service, by applying more penalties on violators, updating the outdated and light penalties, and updating the easy-to-rigged health checks, the MoD replied to questions of voters from localities. Voters from northern Haiphong City questioned about benefits for recruited soldiers and veterans. The MoD listed current benefits of vocational training support, return to former working places, and others. (MOD Jan 28)

• Business Sector and Labour Market •

Foreign Cooperation

LILAMA 2 Mechanical Teachers Enhance Competence in Advanced Maintenance, Repair Work

The further training in "Advanced maintenance and repair works for Construction Mechanics teachers" for ten Mechanical teachers of LILAMA 2 International Technology College (LILAMA 2) was conducted from January 11 to 23. This was the technical further training course conducted by a LILAMA 2's mechanical trainer with substantial experience and organised at LILAMA 2. The basic maintenance course was conducted in November 2020 for the pre-qualified participants. Currently, ten Construction Mechanics teachers have received the course completion certificates. Mr. Bui Quang Vinh, the course's trainer stated: "Maintenance work is very useful for daily teaching in classes. The participants had the chance to explore maintenance aspects and the configuration of each machine part. Furthermore, they also developed a pedagogical approach to relay their knowledge to the students." "Throughout the two-week training course, I was great to learn from the other participants' knowledge and experience, especially sharing about pedagogical methods and effective workshop management", expressed by Mr Nguyen Ngoc Tuan, one of the participants. This training course was held within the component "Supporting High-Quality TVET Institutes" as part of the Vietnamese-





German "Programme Reform of TVET in Viet Nam". The programme is financed by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), implemented by GIZ together with the MoLISA. (<u>TVET</u> Feb 2)

Vietnam Becomes Japan's Largest Source of Foreign Labour for 1st Time: Ministry

With 443,998 workers in Japan in 2020, accounting for 25.74% of Japan's foreign employees, Vietnam has, for the first time, overcome China to become the biggest labour supplier of Japan, according to statistics by the Japanese Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. A record of over 1.72 million foreign nationals worked in Japan in 2020 despite the COVID-19 pandemic as of end-October, up 4% y/y, the Ministry said. It was also marked the eighth straight year for a record number of foreign workers. (VTV, BNews, Tin Tuc Feb 1)

Vietnam to Boost Cooperation with Japan in Rating Working Skills

The DVET, under MoLISA, and Japan's Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare had an online meeting on January 28 to review and boost the Skills Evaluation System Promotion Program (SESPP) in 2021. The DVET informed that the SESPP in Vietnam is running for seven jobs. However, the program for five jobs began in 2015 and was halted in 2018, hence the skill exam was not delivered. The Japanese side answered that the program only provides Japanese experiences and the program only provides the full contents to jobs that Japanese firms have demand. Besides, the DVET noted a problem that the SESPP usually gives update to the DVET in May and June, which disrupts the DVET's plans for the whole year. However, the DVET vowed to keep cooperating with the Japanese side. For 2021, the DVET proposed further cooperation per the agreement in 2019, training for assessment officials, support for Vietnam in building skill evaluations, and others. Besides, DVET Deputy General Director Nguyen Thi Viet Huong appreciated the SESPP in Vietnam in the last 20 years. (Dan Tri, Bao Dan Sinh Jan 29)

Vietnam to Become Southeast Asia's Top Driving Force: Diplomat

Vietnam will become a top driving force for development in Southeast Asia and also a production hub of the world, said South Korean Ambassador to Vietnam Park Noh Wan, adding that Vietnam is among top four economic partners of his nation. For further growth, the diplomat suggested Vietnam focus more on improving business environment and labour force for high-tech sectors. (Lao Dong Feb 1)

Taiwan Firm to Build \$200M Electronic Spare Part Plant in Vietnam Nghe An

Taiwan-based firm Ju Teng International Holdings Limited will build an electronic components factory for laptops, tablets, smartphones, and electronic product consumption in Hoang Mai 1 industrial zone of Vietnam's central Nghe An province, per an agreement signed virtually on January 27. The 130-hectare plant will be built in two phases, of which the first phase will cost \$200 million and create jobs for about 30,000 labourers. (Bao Nghe An Jan 27)



Domestic News



Vietnam Names 7 Hottest Jobs in 2021

Dan Sinh newswire named seven hottest jobs in Vietnam in 2021, namely Information Technology (IT), English language, construction, food technology, digital marketing, logistics, and social psychology consultation. Vietnam's IT sector now needs to recruit 80,000 people annually, while universities can only provide 32,000 people yearly, and only about 15% of those graduates fulfil employers' demand. Foreign language jobs, especially English, Chinese, Korean, and Japanese, are having high demand because foreign firms are boosting investment in Vietnam. Besides, Vietnam is estimated to need 400,000-500,000 labourers for the construction sector annually. Food technology is also a top choice thanks to the government's priority until 2025, with a vision to 2035. Digital marketing will become trendy because of the massive growth of the Internet in Vietnam. For example, Ho Chi Minh City alone will need 10,000 labourers for this job. Vietnam's logistics sector is estimated to have the demand of 18,000 labourers annually, to fulfil the growth of 35%-40% with 1,500 firms. Yearly, Vietnam needs to recruit 1,000 people for the sector of social psychology. (<u>Bao Dan Sinh</u> Jan 28)

Close to 80% of Vietnamese Female Labourers Yet to Get Vocational Training

As many as 79.5% of Vietnamese female labourers have not undergone vocational training, Chairwoman of the Vietnam Women's Union Ha Thi Nga cited a 2019 report at the 13th National Party Congress as saying. Female labourers account for over 66% of Vietnam's workforce, higher than that in a majority of foreign countries. Meanwhile, they appear to belong to the vulnerable group in the labour market with the unemployment rate higher than the national average and low and unstable income. Out of 13.6% of the migrant population, females make up 55.5%, and most of the women migrant workers have to resort to rental housing. Additionally, in 65% of the rural population, 48.5% are women labourers, who work in most of segments and barely enjoy maternity leave. (Tuoi Tre, Bao Dan Sinh Jan 28)

Vietnam Records 6.14 Fatal Labour Accidents per 100,000 Labourers in 2016-2020

Vietnam recorded 6.14 fatal labour accidents per 100,000 labourers in the 2016-2020 period, down from 7.19 in 2011-2015, and fulfilled the target of reducing labour accidents by 5% annually, according to the national program on labour safety in 2016-2020. In 2019, 6,288 firms checked working environment, 1.82 million labourers had their regular health checks, 243,418 labourers working in toxic conditions were detected with occupational diseases. In the five-year period, 960,089 labourers were detected to have occupational diseases. In the last four years, the program helped 8,500 firms build management systems on labour safety. With such achievements, the program helped save VND350 billion (\$15.02 million) on relevant costs. (Bao Dan Sinh Jan 27)

Working Class Accounts for 65% of Vietnam GDP







Vietnam's working class with 24.5 million people accounts for 65% of the GDP and 70% of the state budget collection, said President of the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour Nguyen Dinh Khang, at the Communist Party of Vietnam's 13th National Congress on January 27. (<u>TBTC</u> Jan 27)

Scholar Tips Measures for Vietnam's Sustainable Economic Growth

Prof. Tran Van Tho, a former lecturer at Japan's Waseda University suggested several measures for Vietnam to achieve sustainable economic development in the next period. In labour, with 35% of the labour force still working in agriculture with low productivity, he proposed channelling labour from agriculture to industry and services through stepping up industrialization. (en.Vietnam Plus Jan 31)

Vietnam Aims for GDP Growth of 6.5%-7%/Yr in 2021-2025: Party Congress Resolution

Vietnam is aiming for an annual average gross domestic product (GDP) growth rate of 6.5%-7% in 2021-2025 and the per capita income of \$4,700-\$5,000, according to a resolution of the 13th National Congress of the Communist Party of Vietnam (CPV) that ended on February 1. The labour productivity is set to grow by more than 6.5%/year in the period. The proportion of trained workers is targeted to hit 70%, and a quarter of the country's labour force will work in the agricultural sector. (VietnamBiz Feb 1)

Vietnam Licenses 10,100 New Firms in Jan, up 21.9% y/y: GSO

Vietnam is estimated to have licensed nearly 10,100 new firms in January, up 21.9% y/y, with their total registered capital of VND155.1 trillion (\$6.69 billion), up 25.9% y/y, the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO) said in its latest monthly report. The average registered capital of a new firm in January grew by 3.2% y/y to VND15.4 billion, the agency said, noting that the new firms used 115,900 labourers this month, up 37.2% y/y. (Vietnam Plus Jan 29)

Vietnam's Offshore Wind Power Capacity Can Reach 11-25 GW by 2035: Report

Vietnam has the potential to reach an offshore wind power capacity of between 11 gigawatts (GW) and 25 GW by 2035, according to the World Bank's report on the country's offshore wind energy roadmap. Besides, the offshore wind power sector is expected to create 700,000 jobs and reduce 217 million tons of CO2 emissions annually by the year. (Cong Thuong Jan 28)

Hoa Binh Generates Jobs for 121,000 Youngsters in 10 Years

The northern province of Hoa Binh generated jobs for 121,000 youngsters and provided TVET to 85,300 youngsters in the last ten years, raising the trained labour rate to 54.2%. (Bao Hoa Binh Jan 29)



Danang City Encourages Schools to Boost Training Experts in Electric Car Sector

The central city of Danang has encouraged its universities, colleges, and educational facilities to cooperate with each other and with foreign partners to boost training of experts in the electric car sector. The city will propose support in interest rates for projects producing or using clean technology, clean energy, and renewable energy. Besides, the city will use ODA and capital from foreign non-governmental organizations for the work. (Dan Sinh Jan 29)

39 Firms in Quang Ngai Need to Recruit 19,000 Labourers in 2021

As many as 39 firms in the central province of Quang Ngai have registered to recruit 19,000 labourers this year, according to the management board of Dung Quat Economic Zone and Quang Ngai Industrial Parks. The average salary on offer ranges from VND5 million to VND15 million per month. (Dan Tri Jan 30)

Processing Zones, Industrial Parks in HCMC Recruiting 12,000 People

Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City Export Processing and Industrial Zones Authority (HEPZA) is recruiting 12,000 labourers for 600 firms for 2021. The HEPZA added that the demand includes 2,540 university-level people, 4,700 intermediate-school-level people, and the rest of simple workers. The most popular sectors were apparel and footwear. The HEPZA informed that HCMC currently has three processing zones and 14 industrial parks with 1,396 operating projects and 276,698 labourers. Regarding COVID-19 in 2020, the HEPZA reported that 93 firms with 19,841 staff were impacted, including 5,780 labourers with terminated contracts and 10,780 labourers with halted jobs with payments. (Bao Dan Sinh Feb 1)

30K Job Vacancies Expected to Arise in HCMC after Tet Holiday

Around 30,000 job vacancies may arise in Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC) after the Lunar new year, or Tet holiday, said a representative for the municipal DoLISA. The official gave the information while hosting a delegation of the MoLISA, led by Deputy Minister Le Van Thanh, on January 28. Last year, the city attracted 306,992 labourers, fulfilling 102.33% of the target, and generated over 136,000 jobs, completing 101.28% of the whole-year plan. HCMC offered vocational training to 2,218 labourers, created local jobs for 5,430 people from near-poor and poor households, and assisted three others with working abroad under contracts. Throughout 2020, the city issued work permits to 14,972 people. As of end-2020, there were 276,698 Vietnamese labourers and 2,282 foreigners at export processing zones and industrial parks citywide. (Dan Tri, Bao Dan Sinh Jan 28)

Public High Schools in HCMC Reduce Recruitment

Public high schools in HCMC reduce the recruitment of grade 10 by 3% in the next academic year, to fit career path guidance. In 2019-2020 academic year, HCMC's public high schools recruited 66,000 learners. (Nguoi Lao Dong Jan 27)



Vietnam's Realty Giant Novaland Forecast to Recruit 40K Personnel by 2023

No Va Land Investment Group Corp - Novaland (HOSE: NVL), among the most well-known private real estate developers in Vietnam, is expected to employ 40,000 people, mostly for executive positions and thousands of specialists by 2023. This year, the firm sets a goal of recruiting 2,000 employees, triple that of 2020, including 200 personnel for middle and senior management. (Tuoi Tre, Vietnam Plus, Thanh Tra Jan 27)

Dong Nai Province Provides TVET to 2,400 Rural Labourers in 2020

The southern province of Dong Nai provided TVET to 2,457 labourers in rural areas last year despite impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, comprising 799 non-agriculture and 1,678 agro jobs. Of them, 1,899 have graduated and 1,731 have got jobs. The rest will graduate in early 2021. (Dan Sinh Jan 31)

Dong Nai Should Focus on TVET: Deputy Minister

Dong Nai province should focus on developing the labour market and TVET, said Deputy Minister Le Van Thanh, at a working session with Dong Nai People's Committee on January 28. As of end-2020, Dong Nai had 12 million labourers, including 9,048 foreign expats; and recorded 21 labour strikes. Besides, 32 industrial parks in Dong Hai have 609,141 labourers. (Dan Sinh Jan 29)

Di An Vocational Junior College Merged into Vietnam-Singapore Vocational College

Di An vocational junior college on January 27 was merged into Vietnam-Singapore Vocational College. Current learners of Di An vocational junior college will continue their courses and will receive certificates from Vietnam-Singapore Vocational College. From 2021-2022 academic year, both are recruited by Vietnam-Singapore Vocational College. (Binh Duong Jan 27)

Vinh Long Province to Provide TVET to 1,570 Rural Labourers in 2021

The southern province of Vinh Long plans to provide TVET at the intermediate-school level and under-three-month courses to 1,570 labourers in rural areas this year using local budget. (Bao Vinh Long Jan 29)

Vinh Long Aims to Give TVET to 1,570 Rural Labourers in 2021

Vinh Long province aims to provide beginner-level TVET courses to 1,570 rural labourers in 2021, in jobs of civil construction, healthcare, babysitting, restaurant, and others. (Vinh Long Jan 29)



Ba Ria-Vung Tau Gives Job Consultations to 106,922 People in 2020

The job service centre in the southern province of Ba Ria-Vung Tau provided consultations on jobs, TVET, and labour policies to 106,922 people last year, said its Director Pham Quang Viet. (Dan Sinh Jan 31)