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Vietnam TVET Bulletin

February 25 – March 3, 2021

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● Policies ●

Vietnam Vocational Training Directorate Lists 5 Key Targets for 2021

Officials of the DVET, under the MoLISA, listed five key targets of the sector in 2021, at an online meeting on February 23 with Deputy Minister Le Tan Dung. The five are (i) updating the legal framework and policies to boost vocational training, (ii) pushing recruitment and career guidance for learners, (iii) enhancing the state management on the sector, (iv) quickening digitalization for the sector, and (v) utilizing non-state resources better for the sector. The DVET listed some methods, such as following anti-COVID-19 guidelines, boosting vocational training for rural labourers and retraining labourers, focusing on promotion events and contests, and others. ([DVET](#), [Dan Tri](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#) Feb 24)

Updates on Early Retirement Become Effective on Mar 1

The MoLISA's Circular 11/2020/TT-BLDTBXH on harsh jobs and early retirement became effective on March 1. The circular has 1,838 such jobs. ([Thanh Nien](#) Feb 27)

Vietnam Labour Confederation Helps 6.3M People with VND6.5T during Tet 2021

The Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) provided assistance of VND6.5 trillion (\$279.14 million) to 6.37 million labourers during the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday 2021, versus VND4.1 trillion to 4.14 million labourers in Tet 2020. Regarding support for labourers affected by COVID-19 and natural disasters in 2020, the VGCL helped 329,000 people with VND310 billion. ([Nguoi Lao Dong](#), [Lao Dong Thu Do](#) Mar 1)

DVET Issues Guideline on Online Learning in TVET

The DVET, under the MoLISA, has issued the guideline on online learning in TVET, at <https://daotaocq.gdnn.gov.vn/camnangdttt/>. The guideline is the result of the cooperation between the DVET and the GIZ's program "Reform of TVET in Vietnam." The guideline includes basic concepts, legal framework, and instruction to online teaching software, LMS, and others. Vietnam has proactively switched learning, including TVET, into online format since early 2020 as COVID-19 pandemic began. ([Dan Sinh](#) Feb 25)

● Business Sector and Labour Market ●



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Foreign Cooperation

DVET Answers Questions ASEAN TVET Council on RECOTVET Program

DVET General Director Truong Anh Dung on February 24 join an interview to answer questions about the ASEAN TVET Council (ATC), on preparation for the ATC meeting in March. The interview featured RECOTVET project officials and GIZ officials. Mr. Dung informed that the ATC would focus on (i) recommendations to improve TVET in ASEAN nations and fulfil labour market, (ii) mutual recognition of labour skills among ASEAN nations to facilitate immigration of labourers, (iii) research on model to improve TVET and construction of TVET database. Mr. Dung added that other priorities are (i) construction of TVET data base to facilitate online learning, (ii) enhancement to abilities of TVET officials, (iii) mutual recognition of labour skills among ASEAN nations to facilitate immigration of labourers, (iv) policies to back firms to join in TVET, (v) recognition of labourers skill and training/retraining for labourers, and (vi) sharing of information about immigration of labourers. About digitalization, Mr. Dung listed three priorities of experience exchange, sharing of resources and models, and construction of resources and database. ([Dan Sinh](#), [DVET](#) Feb 25)

Vietnam for First Time Hosts Skill Contest to Recruit People to Work in Japan

For the first time, Vietnam will host a skill contest on March 23 to recruit “specific skilled workers” to work in Japan, per cooperation between state agencies of both nations. The Japan Association for Construction Human Resources (JAC) will host the contest for the job of reinforcement construction. It planned to receive up to 30 applications until February 25. So far, the JAC has signed agreements with five universities and colleges under Vietnam’s Ministry of Construction for such labour cooperation. Both nations will then host similar contests from July for other jobs, such as furniture, operation of construction machines, and others. Such contests are expected to create more opportunities for Vietnamese people to work in Japan and cut costs and risks versus doing such contests in Japan. ([Nguoi Lao Dong](#), [Tien Phong](#) Feb 24)

Vietnamese Labour Force Dedicates to Japan’s Post-Pandemic Rebound

Vietnam continues to provide an important labour source to Japan’s economic revival and development in the post-COVID-19 period, the Japanese magazine Modern Business commented. The publication cited a report from Japan’s Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (MHLW) as saying that in October 2020, the number of foreign employees in the country reached a record high of 1.72 million, up 4% y/y. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Japan has been applying a travel ban on foreigners. In the middle of last year, the government allowed some specific foreign groups to arrive in Japan, including workers. Thanks to Vietnam’s effective control of the pandemic containment, the number of Vietnamese workers in Japan grew by 10.6% in 2020 to nearly 444,000. The article said the demand for foreign labourers will be on rise after Japan ends the state of emergency and will further thrive when the pandemic is under control. ([en.Vietnam Plus](#), [Vietnam Plus](#) Feb 25)



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Dong Thap Recruits 600 Labourers to Work in Japan

Dong Thap province is seeking to recruit 600 labourers to work in Japan under fixed-term employment contract. Employees will work in the sectors of food processing, mechanics, and machinery. The application will be open in March and April this year. ([Nguoi Lao Dong](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#) Feb 24)

Vietnam Recruiting 300 Caregivers to Work in Germany

The CoLAB, under the MoLISA, is recruiting 300 caregivers to work in Germany. The recruitment began in December 2020 and the deadline for people to submit their applications has been extended to March 15. Candidates must be born between 1993 and 2000 and have graduated or are about to graduate from caregiver courses of colleges or universities. Qualified candidates will then learn German language in Vietnam, have German test, and move to Germany to learn professional courses for three years. Anyone passing the courses can work in Germany. ([Thanh Nien](#), [Saigon Times](#), [CoLAB](#), [CoLAB](#) Feb 28)

Taiwanese Firms in Vietnam Lacking 50,000 People for Executive Posts

Taiwanese firms in Vietnam are recruiting 50,000 people for executive jobs, said an official from the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Ho Chi Minh City. She complained that Taiwanese firms have high demand for Chinese-speaking lawyers but most of law students in Vietnam does not care about this demand. She also noted that many training courses are outdated and do not fulfil firms' demand. Nevertheless, the office seeks to enhance the ties between the training sector and businesses to attract more Vietnamese talents. ([Tuoi Tre](#) Feb 26)

IIA President Proposes Indian Firms Invest in Vietnam's Industrial Sector

Indian Industries Association (IIA) President Pankaj Gupta has proposed that Indian firms should invest in Vietnam's industrial sector like energy, mineral mining, agricultural chemicals, production of sugar, tea, and coffee, car spare part production, and information technology. The IIA president made the proposal at an online bilateral trade-investment promotion conference, titled "Boosting trade-investment cooperation opportunities between Vietnamese and Indian small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)," on February 25. Participants at the event agreed that Vietnam now has many advantages for investors such as attractive investment incentives, numerous free trade agreements, rapid economic growth, good infrastructure, political stability, cheap labour costs, and young labour forces. ([BNews](#), [en.Vietnam Plus](#), [BNews](#) Feb 26)

Samsung Vietnam's Export Revenue Hits \$57B in 2020 Despite COVID-19: Exec.

Samsung Vietnam's export revenue reached \$57 billion last year, below the target of \$60 billion but still a relatively positive outcome amid the COVID-19 pandemic, said General Director of the firm Choi Joo Ho. Currently, Samsung Vietnam holds no intention to make new large-scale investment but focuses on operating its existing plants and improving the output and products'



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quality, the executive said. Speaking of Samsung's research and development (R&D) centre project, which is under construction in Hanoi, the executive said that it is aimed to serve the research of technologies in the future and expected to boost the prestige of Vietnam and Samsung on global scale. The centre will generate jobs for around 180,000 labourers, and Vietnamese construction contractors will get VND1.6 trillion (\$69 million) in payment, which will promote the local economy, Mr. Choi said. ([Tuoi Tre](#) Mar 1)

Japan's Dentsu Company Plans to Recruit 400 More Vietnamese Engineers: Executive

Japan's Dentsu company, which specializes in technical design for important infrastructure in Japan, plans to employ 400 Vietnamese engineers in five years to come, its Director Iri Kazuaki said. The executive added that Vietnamese engineers have made crucial contributions to its operations over recent years, commending their qualification, diligence, carefulness. Many experienced Vietnamese engineers in Japan could be responsible for providing technical guidance or instructions on site. Ten Vietnamese engineers are currently working for the company in Japan and 85 others at its branches in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. ([Bao Quoc Te](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [Tin Tuc](#) Mar 1)

Vietnam, Austria Boost Economic, Trade Ties

Vietnamese Ambassador to Austria Le Dung and Austrian Deputy Minister for Digital and Economic Affairs Michael Esterl have had a working session to discuss measures to promote the bilateral economic and trade relations. On the occasion, both sides reaffirmed the wishes to boost cooperation in the fields of vocational training and labour. They reached a consensus on urging competent authorities to kick off a pilot project to carry out Austria's vocational training model in Vietnam. ([Tin Tuc](#) Mar 2)

Experts Propose Measures to Help Vietnam Attract Foreign Investment Effectively

Experts have estimated foreign investors to consider pouring more capital into Vietnam after the COVID-19 is contained and have proposed some measures to help Vietnam lure foreign investment effectively. Economist Pham Chi Lan proposed increasing working capacity through better education and vocational training, in a bid to help local firms join the global supply chains more deeply. ([Thoi Bao Kinh Doanh](#) Mar 1)

Domestic News

61 Vietnamese Localities Re-Open School on Mar 1-2 after Days off due to Virus

Students in 61 localities in Vietnam have come back to school on March 1 and 2 after a one-week school break due to COVID-19. Meanwhile, northern Haiphong city planned to allow students to return to school from March 8, while northern Hai Duong province decided to let learners stay home until March 17. ([Zing](#), [Giao Duc Thoi Dai](#), [VTC](#), [MOET](#) Mar 1)



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Vietnam Licenses 18,129 New Firms in Jan-Feb, down 4% y/y: Ministry

Vietnam is estimated to have licensed nearly 18,129 new firms in January-February, down 4% y/y, with their total registered capital of VND334.82 trillion (\$14.43 billion), up 52.2% y/y, the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) said. New firms used 172,844 labourers during the two-month period, up 9.7% y/y. ([MPI](#) Feb 26)

Almost All Labourers in Vietnam Return to Work: Labour Confederation

Close to 100% of labourers in Vietnam have returned to work normally after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday, as of February 26, except for the COVID-19-hit areas, reported the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL). Such rates are high for some sectors, such as apparel, footwear, handbag, electronics, agriculture, industry, and others. However, the rates are lower for some COVID-19-hit sectors, such as tourism, transportation, food and beverage, and accommodation. The VGCL noted a trend that many unemployed people opted to work temporarily for ride-hailing services, such as Grab, Now, Gojek, Be, and others, because of the firms' easy conditions on joining and leaving jobs. Grab currently has about 175,000 motorbike riders/car drivers nationwide, while the figures of Gojek and Be are about 150,000 and 100,000, respectively. Besides, the VGCL informed that during the Tet holiday (until February 22), Vietnam recorded 35 labour strikes, down 12 y/y. Most of the disputes were about bonuses, wages, working schedules, and others. ([Bao Dan Sinh](#), [Lao Dong](#) Feb 27)

Foreign Tourist Arrivals to Vietnam down 99.1% y/y to 11K in Feb: GSO

Vietnam received nearly 11,000 foreign travellers in February, down 38.3% month/month and 99.1% year/year due to the negative impacts of COVID-19, according to the latest data from the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO). As Vietnam has been closing its door to overseas tourists, most of the foreign arrivals last month were experts, executives, and skilled-labourers. ([CafeF](#), [VietnamBiz](#), [GSO](#) Feb 28)

PM Approves Agro Restructuring Plan in 2021-2025

Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc on February 25 issued Decision 255/QD-TTg to approve the agricultural restructuring plan in the 2021-2025 period. Under the plan, the sector is set to grow by 2.5%-3%/year and the agro labour productivity growth is expected to increase by 7%-8%/year. ([Luat Viet Nam](#) Feb 25)

\$5.3B, VND324.9T Registered for Infrastructure of Vietnam's IPs, EZs as of Feb

Investors have so far registered to invest \$5.3 billion and VND324.9 trillion (\$14 billion) in developing the infrastructure of industrial parks (IPs) and economic zones (EZs) in Vietnam as of end-February, 46.2% of which has been disbursed, the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) has said. Industrial zones and economic zones have so far employed 3.65 million direct labourers. ([MPI](#) Feb 25)

Annual Salary of IT Staff in Vietnam Firms Can Up by 30%/Year: Navigos

The annual salary increase rate of Vietnamese firms for the information technology (IT) workforce may be up to 30% per year, according to the report released by Navigos. According to the report, the salary increase rate may range from 5% to 15% or even to 20% for exceptional employees, who belong to the top 5%-10% best contributors. Specifically, in the IT industry, a Chief Technology Officer (CTO) with over 15 years of experience can earn a salary of up to \$20,000 per month. The salary for hardware IT staff with less than five years' experience is \$1,200/month, and for managers with five-ten years of experience is \$2,000/month. Meanwhile, in the IT software segment, the salary may up to VND34.5 million (\$1,487) per month for staff with less than five years of experience, and VND69 million/month for staff with five-ten years of experience. The IT workforce also recorded a remarkable Tet bonus. According to a survey by Vietnam-based TopDev, the average Tet bonus for experienced programmers is estimated at VND30 million. ([VietnamBiz](#) Feb 24)

Hanoi to Have 110,000 Secondary Schools Learners Graduate in 2021

Hanoi is expected to have 110,759 secondary school learners graduate this year, up by 6,220 y/y, and those learners will likely advance to high schools or vocational training. Of the total, 62% (68,670) are planned to advance to public high schools, 22% (24,370) to private high schools and public high schools with financial autonomy, and only 8% (8,860) to vocational training schools. The entrance exam is scheduled on May 29-30. ([VietnamNet](#), [An Ninh Thu Do](#), [Lao Dong](#) Feb 21)

Hanoi's Demand for Manual Labourers Increases after Tet

The demand for labourers in the capital city of Hanoi has inched up after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday, with half of which being manual workers, according to the Hanoi Centre of Employment Service (HCES). Firms have offered monthly salary of VND5 million-VND12 million for labourers. From February 17 to 22, up to 86 firms offered 3,600 vacancies, mostly in fields of electronic spare parts manufacturing, apparel, machinery, trade-service, and finance. ([Tuoi Tre](#) Feb 25)

95% of Labourers in Industrial Parks in Hanoi Return to Work

152,000 labourers of Hanoi's industrial parks, or 95% of the total, have returned to work after Tet holiday. The figure included 1,180 foreigners. ([Dan Sinh](#) Mar 3)

Firms at IZs in Phu Tho, Ha Nam Recruit Very Few Labourers after Tet

Firms at industrial zones (IZs) in northern Phu Tho and Ha Nam provinces have recruited very few labourers after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday. Specifically, only 10% of 70-80 firms at IZs in Phu Tho have had demand for more labourers after Tet. Besides, only new firms at IZs in



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Ha Nam have recruited more workers after the holiday. Ha Nam-based firms are expected to employ 8,000-10,000 labourers this year. ([Lao Dong](#) Mar 2)

Ninh Binh IZs' Firms Aim to Earn \$2.6B Revenue, Employ 3,500 More Workers in 2021

Firms at industrial zones (IZs) in northern Ninh Binh province are aiming to earn VND60 trillion (\$2.6 billion) in revenue and employ 3,500 more workers this year. Currently, local IZs are home to 40,242 Vietnamese labourers and 343 foreign labourers. ([Lao Dong](#) Feb 28)

Vietnam Gov't Gives Nod to Build VND3.89T IZ in Thai Binh

Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc has given an in-principle nod for Green I-Park Corporation to build the Green I-Park-1 industrial zone in northern Thai Binh province, with a total investment of VND3.89 trillion (\$167.67 million). Upon completion, the IZ will create jobs for about 50,000 labourers. ([Thoi Bao Kinh Doanh](#) Mar 1)

32 FDI Firms in Thanh Hoa Generate Jobs for 146.5K Labourers

As of February, 32 foreign direct investment enterprises in central Thanh Hoa province attracted 146,491 labourers, according to a report by the provincial Confederation of Labour. Each worker earns an average income of close to VND5.9 million (\$254) per month, the report said. In addition, there are 142,865 employees out of the total, or 97.5%, joining social insurances, health insurances, and unemployment insurances. ([Bao Thanh Hoa](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#) Mar 1)

Career Fair in Nghe An on Feb 25 Attracts Few People

Nghe An DoLISA on February 25 hosted a career fair, also the first edition after Tet Holiday. The event attracted only a few labourers, as the event was on mid-Lunar-January festival and the fierce competition between recently-launched firms and industrial parks. ([Dan Tri](#) Feb 25)

Ha Tinh Plans to Kick off \$2.2B Vung Ang 2 Power Project in Apr

The Vung Ang 2 thermal power project in central Ha Tinh province is scheduled to be kicked off in April with a total investment of \$2.2 billion. Vung Ang 2 power plant is expected to ensure the power supply for the northern region and provide jobs for over 3,000 workers during the construction time and 300 labourers for its operation. ([VietnamBiz](#), [Vietnam Moi](#) Feb 27)

Apparel Firms in Quang Tri in Thirsty of Labourers

Apparel firms in central Quang Tri province have sought a large number of labourers for their expanded operation; however, they have been unable to employ enough workers despite offer of stable salary. VTJ TOMS Textile and Garment Company Limited is seeking for 200 sewing workers, 40 goods-checking workers, and 50 manual workers with monthly salary ranging from



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VND5.5 million to VND13 million. However, the firm has received only 60 applications for such positions after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday. ([Lao Dong](#) Feb 28)

Quang Tri to Push More Students to Advance to Vocational Training

Quang Tri's DoLISA will cooperate with the Department of Education and Training (DoET) to guide more secondary and high school students to advance to vocational training. In 2020, Quang Tri's vocational training sector recruited and trained 14,500 labourers (86.2% of the plan), including 173 college-level ones, 730 intermediate-level ones, and others. Rate of trained labourers reached 65.88%, rate of labourers with vocational training reached 47%, and rate of labourers with certificates reached 31%. ([Dan Tri](#) Feb 28)

Very Few Labourers Join Danang City's Career Fair on Feb 26

The career fair of central Danang City on February 26 attracted the participation of 90 firms with nearly 3,000 vacancies, including 32,000 firms joining in the offline format. However, very few labourers participated in the fair because labourers have yet to come back to the city after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday and days off due to COVID-19. ([Lao Dong](#) Feb 26)

Khanh Hoa's Demand for Labourers in Construction Sector May Jump 30%-40% in 2021

The central province of Khanh Hoa's demand for labourers in the construction sector may jump 30%-40% y/y in 2021, thanks to the take-off of Van Phong economic zone, said Mr. Van Dinh Tri, deputy director of the provincial DoLISA. ([Lao Dong](#) Feb 26)

Ninh Thuan Provides TVET to 35,289 Rural Labourers in 2010-2020

The central province of Ninh Thuan spent VND61.2 billion on providing TVET to 32,289 labourers in rural areas in 2010-2020. Of whom, 28,743 labourers have got jobs, equal to 81.45% of the total. Currently, the province is home to 21 TVET institutes for training of 17 jobs at the college level, ten at the intermediate school level, and 187 at the elementary level, with a total of 9,000 people trained per year. ([Tin Tuc](#) Feb 26)

Four Contractors Participate in 3.5-GW Wind Farm in Vietnam Binh Thuan

Four contractors in Vietnam, namely CS Wind Corporation, PTSC Mechanical and Construction Limited Company, Southern Petroleum Construction JSC (Alpha ECC), and Vietnam-Russia oil and gas joint venture (JV) Vietsovpetro, have recently joined the 3.5-gigawatt (GW) La Gan offshore wind power project in Binh Thuan province. The project is also expected to contribute over \$4.4 billion to Vietnam's economy and create over 45,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) jobs during its implementation, according to a study from BVG Associates. ([Nang Luong Vietnam](#), [Cong Thuong](#), [BNews](#), [VietnamBiz](#), [Vietnam Finance](#), [Tai Nguyen Moi Truong](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [VOV](#), [Bao Xay Dung](#) Feb 24)



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Over 600 Firms in Binh Duong in Crying Need of 71.3K Labourers

611 enterprises in Binh Duong province are urgently recruiting 71,300 employees, which jumps by 20,000 labourers compared to the same time last year, the provincial Confederation of Labour said. More than 85% of companies with trade unions across the province have been back in business after the Lunar New Year holiday (Tet), with nearly 716,000 workers, or 92.5%, returning to work. Many corporations at the Vietnam-Singapore Industrial Park (VSIP) are seeking to recruit around 20,000 labourers, and those at Ben Cat Industrial Park have demand for about 10,000 staff. ([Dan Tri](#), [Lao Dong](#) Feb 24)

HCMC Creates Jobs for over 27,000 Labourers in Feb

The southern metropolis of Ho Chi Minh City generated jobs for 27,412 labourers in February, including 12,554 new jobs, according to the municipal Statistics Office's report released on March 1. In January-February, the city provided jobs for 54,157 labourers, equal to 18.05% of the target. ([Hanoi Moi](#) Mar 1)

Over 20K Labourers in HCMC File for Unemployment Benefits in Jan-Feb

As many as 20,149 labourers in Ho Chi Minh City filed for jobless benefits in the first two months this year, according to the municipal Statistics Office. During the spell, the city created jobs for 54,157 labourers, fulfilling 18.05% of the whole-year target, and offered 24,780 job vacancies, equal to 17.09% of the year's target. In February, the city generated jobs for 27,412 workers, including 12,554 job vacancies. The FALMI has forecast that HCMC may need between 270,000 and 300,000 labourers in 2021, including 140,000 job vacancies. In the first quarter, the city is predicted to be in need of 70,000-75,000 labourers, according to the centre. ([Bao Phap Luat](#), [Thuong Truong](#) Mar 2)

400 Workers of Apparel Firms in HCMC on Strike on Feb 24

As many as 400 workers of Asia Garment Limited Company, which is based in Ho Chi Minh City, went on strike on February 22 due to problems in wage payment. The labourers demanded the firm to pay the rest of the wage for January of VND700 million (\$30,042), social insurance premium of VND8.3 billion, and other promised bonuses. However, the firm informed that it is having financial problems and is unable to pay. The workers informed that they are preparing to sue the firm. In the afternoon of February 24, 300 workers left and about 100 others returned to work. The firm also vowed to make the wage payment on February 25. ([Zing](#), [Nguoi Lao Dong](#), [Nguoi Lao Dong](#) Feb 24)

Firms in Dong Nai Need 40,000 Labourers after Tet Holiday

Firms in the southern province of Dong Nai are in need of recruiting around 40,000 labourers after the Lunar New Year, or Tet holiday. Of which, Prowell Vietnam Co. Ltd. needs over 3,000 workers for expanded operation, besides its current 5,000 employees. Besides, Kowide Outdoor



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Co. Ltd. needs 300 more labourers. ([SGGP](#) Mar 1)

8,200 Workers in Tien Giang Strike to Demand Higher Incomes on Feb 25

As many as 8,200 workers of Simone Accessories Collection Vietnam TG Ltd, which is based in Vietnam's southern Tien Giang province, made a labour strike on February 25 to demand better incomes and benefits. A few hours later, the firm, which specializes in handbag production, let all the workers have a one-day break and informed them to return to work normally on February 26. Tien Giang authorities informed that the cause may be the workers' disagreement with the firm's wage policy. ([Tuoi Tre](#), [Bao Phap Luat](#), [VTV](#) Feb 25)