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DVET

Vietnam TVET Bulletin

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● Policies ●

Vietnam May Let Colleges Have More Autonomy in High-Quality Courses

Vietnam may let colleges have more autonomy in developing the goals, setting up the faculty, collecting fees, and recruiting learners for high-quality courses, according to the MoLISA's draft circular on principles of colleges. Accordingly, such autonomy follows Article 25, Law on Vocational Training and Education (TVET). The draft circular also stressed that colleges are TVET units, with two types of public and private ones. ([Bao Chinh Phu](#), [Dai Doan Ket](#), [Hanoi Moi](#) Mar 4)

MoLISA again Rejects Suggestion of Higher Zone Min Wage

The MoLISA has once again rejected the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL)'s suggestion of higher minimum zonal wages in 2021. The MoLISA has just submitted its opinion on the VGCL's suggestion to the government. The MoLISA suggested the government not increase the minimum zonal wages in 2021. The MoLISA explained that such rates in 2020 can fulfil the minimum livelihood in 2021. The MoLISA added that in case the consumer price index (CPI) 2021 is beyond 2.28%, the minimum zonal wages should be recalculated for application in 2022. The MoLISA also informed that the average in 2020 was VND6.62 million (\$284) per head per month, well above the minimum zonal wages. Hence, the MoLISA noted that changes would not improve labourers' wages and no changes should be made to help firms during complicated development of the COVID-19 pandemic. Besides, the MoLISA rejected the VGCL's suggestion of updating the minimum zonal wages on July 1. The MoLISA clarified that the current date of such updates on January 1 fits international practice and habits of employees and employers. ([PLO](#), [VASEP](#) Mar 3)

Vietnam Announces Holiday in April

The MoLISA has announced Hung King holiday on April 21 and National Reunification-International Labour Day holiday on April 30-May 3. ([VOV](#), [Hanoi Moi](#) Mar 5)

Vietnam Issues Plan on Boosting Gender Equality in 2021-2030

The government has issued Resolution 28/NQ-CP on general equality in 2021-2030. One target is that the rate of newly-recruited female TVET learners is 30% in 2025 and 40% in 2030. ([CafeF](#) Mar 8)

Vietnam Has 16.03M People Joining Social Insurance as of End-Feb 2021

Vietnam had 16.03 million people joining social insurance as of end-February 2021, including 14.98 million people joining compulsory ones and 1.05 million people joining voluntary ones, the government-run Vietnam Social Security reported on March 3. The number of people with



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healthcare insurance is 86.41 million, up 728,500 m/m. The total collected premium from social insurance and healthcare insurance in the period was VND52.61 trillion (\$2.26 billion). ([Bao Hiem Xa Hoi](#), [Bao Bao Hiem Xa Hoi](#) Mar 3)

● Business Sector and Labour Market ●

Foreign Cooperation

Vietnam, IOM, UNESCO to Boost Vocational Training Cooperation

Officials of the UNESCO and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), both under the United Nations (UN), and the DVET had a meeting in Hanoi on March 5 to discuss further cooperation. DVET General Director Truong Anh Dung suggested the two UN agencies help the DVET in boosting management methods, enhancing vocational training quality and digitalization, approaching developed nations and mutual recognition of training quality, and distancing learning amid COVID-19 pandemic. In reply, Mr. Michael Croft, head of the UNESCO Office in Vietnam; and Ms. Park Mi Hyung, chief of Mission, IOM in Vietnam; agreed with Vietnam's suggestions. Mr. Michael Croft said that the UNESCO is able to help in training management staff, pushing private-public partnership, and recognition of training. Ms. Park Mi Hyung noted that the IOM is capable of helping Vietnam in digitalization and information technology skills. ([DVET](#), [Bao Dan Sinh](#) Mar 5)

Vietnam Has Many Problems in Bringing Labourers to Japan: Gov't Inspectorate

The DoLAB, under the MoLISA, has applied weak control on task of bringing labourers to foreign nations, especially Japan, the Government Inspectorate (GI) has announced. The GI said that the DoLAB failed to control the fees that firms applied on labourers, which forced labourers to pay exorbitant money (of \$7,000-\$8,000) to work in Japan. Another issue is that the DoLAB set many fees against the labour agreement with Japan. Other issues are that the DoLAB did not manage such labourers with codes, the DoLAB did not consult with the MoLISA nor report to the Prime Minister about labour export, and the DoLAB did not punish labour export firms with violations. Besides, the GI detected that six provinces of Vinh Phuc, Phu Tho, Nghe An, Ha Tinh, Hung Yen, and Hai Duong have many mistakes, especially in managing the number of labourers working and overstaying abroad, especially South Korea. The GI suggested the MoLISA tighten the management and punish relevant individuals and groups. ([Thanh Nien](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [Thanh Nien](#), [Lao Dong](#), [Dan Viet](#), [Nhan Dan](#) Mar 5)

Danang, S. Korea Willing to Foster Multifaceted Cooperation

Vietnam's central city of Danang and South Korea are willing to beef up their cooperation in multifaceted ties, according to a recent meeting of the municipal People's Committee and the South Korean Consulate to the city. Speaking at the meeting, Chairman of Danang's People's Committee Le Trung Chinh wished to receive more supports to launch start-up and innovation centres, develop hi-tech agriculture and medicinal cultivation, human resource exchange and labour export, and others. ([BNews](#) Mar 9)



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New Zealand to Aid \$35.6K to Pandemic-hit Female Workers in Central Vietnam

The Embassy of New Zealand and ActionAid Vietnam will together provide financial aid worth NZD50,000 (\$35,600) for women workers in informal sectors in central Danang City and Thua Thien-Hue province, in aid of responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. The assistance aims to support more than 350 women workers in informal employment as street vendors, junk collectors, or house helpers, over the next three months. Underscoring the importance of this project in the support program by New Zealand to Vietnam, New Zealand Chargé d'Affaires Joseph Mayhew hoped the aid to ease the economic impacts of COVID-19 and strengthen the resilience of more than 350 women workers and their families in central Vietnam. According to ActionAid Vietnam's recent research, almost 90,000 people in Danang City and Thua Thien-Hue province became unemployed or suffered from greatly reduced income due to the COVID-19. ([Tuoi Tre](#), [en.Vietnam Plus](#) Mar 8)

Malaysian Banker in Vietnam Wins Trial against Bank over Labour Issue

Malaysia citizen FKJ, a staff of bank V, Ho Chi Minh City, has won the trial against the bank over labour issue. However, HCMC People's Court did not accept his demand of the bank compensating him VND86 billion (\$3.69 million) and only asked the bank to make a compensation of VND300 million. Mr. FKJ worked at bank V from April 2013. In March 2020, the bank informed that it would end the labour contract with Mr. FKJ and dismissed him from his post. However, in June 2020, the bank informed that such decision was nulled and ordered Mr. FKJ to return to work. In July, Mr. KFJ sued bank V for labour contract violations. Bank V explained that the document to remove Mr. FKJ had the effective date on June 30 but the bank reverted that a few days before that date. ([PLO](#) Mar 1)

Domestic News

COVID-19 Speeds up Digitalization in Vietnam's Vocational Training

COVID-19 pandemic has pushed the digitalization in Vietnam's vocational training sector, said Mr. Pham Vu Quoc Binh, vice general director of the DVET, the MoLISA. Mr. Binh made the statement at a working session to check digitalization in northern Bac Ninh province's vocational training sector on March 4. He stressed that COVID-19 pandemic pushed the pace of already-in-process digitalization. He also reviewed that Vietnam is improving the legal framework for the sector, pushing ties between vocational training schools and businesses, developing teachers' skills, and the enhancing application of information technology in teaching. ([DVET](#), [Dan Tri](#) Mar 5)

Over 70% of Vietnamese Working-age Women Joining Labour Force: ILO

More than 70% of Vietnamese working-age women are participating in the labour force, higher than the global level at 47.2% and 43.9% of the Asia-Pacific region, according to the latest report of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Vietnam. Accordingly, although the gender



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gap in labour force participation in Vietnam is narrower than in the world, the figure has still stood at 9.5 percentage points over the last decade. The report pointed out that women were underrepresented in decision-making jobs. Less than one-fourth of overall management roles were given to women, while women's participation accounted for nearly half of the labour force. ILO Vietnam also noted that about 20% of Vietnamese men never do household chores while women spent an average of 20.2 hours per week doing these activities. ([Tuoi Tre](#), [ILO](#), [SGGPnews](#) Mar 4)

56% of Firms in Vietnam Want to Expand Recruitment: Manpower Group

A recent survey by ManpowerGroup Vietnam showed that 56% of firms in Vietnam want to expand their recruitment, 37.3% do not want such expansion, and only 6.6% want to reduce their recruitment. However, the survey was conducted on January 14-28, just before the latest COVID-19 outbreak in Vietnam. The survey collected answers from 442 recruiters in 16 sectors. Notably, 81% of the responders were from small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) with 10-250 labourers each. In the long term, about 66% of firms expected their recruitment to return to pre-COVID-19 levels in three months, 22% expected such recovery in six months, and only 3.2% predicted similar recovery in over a year. ManpowerGroup informed that the average income of a Vietnamese labourer is \$321 per month, up 38.6% y/y. Regarding sector, ManpowerGroup suggested that the sectors with the biggest prospects of recovery in the next three-six months are manufacturing & processing, construction, wholesale & retail, logistics, information technology (IT), and others. ([VietnamNews](#), [Vietnam Plus](#), [BizLive](#), [Lao Dong](#), [CAND](#), [manpower](#), [VnExpress](#) Feb)

Vietnam Now Has 94,572 Fishing Ships, Harvests 3.63M Tons/Year: Directorate

Vietnam currently has 94,572 fishing ships and the country annually harvests around 3.63 million tons of fisheries products, according to a report by the Directorate of Fisheries, under the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD). So far, there have been 4,227 operating at-sea production groups with 29,588 fishing ships and 179,600 labourers. ([VnEconomy](#) Mar 5)

Vietnam Firms May Benefit from AD, Anti-Subsidy Duties on Thai Sugar: Houses

Vietnamese sugar firms may benefit from the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT)'s decision on imposing temporary anti-dumping and anti-subsidy duties on sugar imported from Thailand, some brokerage houses have said. Last year, Vietnam imported 1.3 million tons of sugar from Thailand, which skyrocketed 330.4% y/y. It is estimated that 3,300 Vietnamese labourers have lost their jobs and 93,225 farming households have been affected by such import. ([BNews](#), [CafeF](#) Mar 2)

Vietnam Airlines Lays off 1.3K Workers in 2020, Remains 4.3K Staff: Ministry

National flag carrier Vietnam Airlines JSC (HOSE: HVN) furloughed 1,344 workers in 2020 due



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to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), remaining 4,308 personnel at the moment, according to a report by the MoLISA to the Prime Minister. The report centred on a pilot of salary and labour management at HVN and Vietnam Air Traffic Management Corporation (VATM). Last year, the airline's salary fund was VND1.21 trillion (\$52 million), down 56% y/y, and the average salary was VND23.37 million per head per month, down 42.3% y/y, said the report. Particularly, a pilot's salary was VND77 million per month, and other labourers earned VND14 million each per month. In general, the average salary of airline workers was VND22.4 million/head/month. ([PLO](#) Mar 4)

Hanoi Records Higher Recruitment Demand

Demand in labour recruitment in Hanoi has recovered after recent COVID-19 outbreak and Tet holiday. Hanoi Centre of Employment Service received requests from 207 firms to recruit 5,037 people between February 17-March 2, mostly for jobs of electronics, mechanics, apparel, cashier, and others. ([KTDT](#) Mar 4)

Haiphong Dismisses Disinformation of Further School Break

Haiphong City dismissed disinformation of further school break on March 9-15 and insisted that all learners are back to schools, including TVET schools, on March 8. ([BNews](#) Mar 7)

Nearly 2,400 Workers in Haiphong City Get Unemployment Indemnification in Jan-Feb

As many as 2,380 workers in northern Haiphong City received decisions to get unemployment indemnification totalling VND45 billion in the first two months of this year, according to the municipal employment service centre. ([Lao Dong](#) Mar 9)

Hai Duong Allows Grade-12 Students to Return School on Mar 8

The Department of Education and Training in Hai Duong has allowed grade-12 students to return school from March 8 amid the complicated context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, grade-12 students of high schools and vocational education centres in Chi Linh city, Binh Giang, Gia Loc, Nam Sach, Ninh Giang, Thanh Ha, Thanh Mien, and Tu Ky districts will come back to school while students at others still stay at home until March 17. ([Tuoi Tre](#) Mar 2)

Quang Ninh Helps Texhong Hai Ha with Workforce Recruitment

Quang Ninh DoLISA has recently worked with Hai Ha district to boost recruitment of Texhong Hai Ha industrial park. Firms there are seeking more staff to expand their operations. For example, KHKT Texhong Ngan Ha needs to recruit 4,000-5,000 labourers, May Mac Hoa Loi Dat seeks to add 7,000 staff, Dai Dong wants to recruit 200-300 labourers. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 4)

Formosa Ha Tinh Recruits 150 Labourers



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Steel firms Formosa Ha Tinh recruited 150 labourers on March 6 after screening 230 candidates. The workers will earn between VND7 million-VND8 million each, per month, not including bonuses. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 7)

Vietnam's Billion-dollar Power Projs in Quang Binh Raise Environmental Concerns

The Quang Trach I and II coal-fired power projects, with a combined investment of nearly \$3.7 billion, in central province of Quang Binh have raised people's concerns on their negative impacts on the environment of the locality with tourism as a spearhead economic sector. Aside from contributing VND2.4 trillion (\$103.45 million) to the state budget annually, they are expected to provide over 2,000 jobs for local workers. ([CafeF](#), [Tien Phong](#) Mar 5)

Many TVET Teachers in Quang Ngai Are Doctors, Masters

Quang Ngai province currently has 28 TVET schools with 700 teachers, of whom many are masters and doctors. For example, Dung Quat College of Technology has 170 teachers, including 3 doctors and 50 masters. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 6)

Binh Thuan Seeks to Launch TVET College

Binh Thuan province and Vietnam General Confederation of Labour have recently checked the progress of construction of Campus 2 of Labour Union College of Economics-Technology. The campus can enrol 2,000 learners yearly and has free dorms for learners. Its key courses are cuisine, air-conditioner-fridge, resort management, and others. ([Nguoi Lao Dong](#) Mar 8)

Firms in Phu Yen Find It Hard to Recruit Workers after Tet

Firms in central Phu Yen province have found it hard to recruit workers for their business expansion, despite a low job-switching rate after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday. Data showed that local firms are in need of over 1,500 sewing and fisheries processing workers, 200 machinery workers, 100 safeguard staff, and 50 business/marketing/sales employees. ([Lao Dong](#) Mar 6)

Kon Tum Targets to Boost Trained Labourers Rate to 60% in 2025

Kon Tum province will focus on developing TVET and guiding 40% of secondary and high school graduates to advance to TVET, in order to boost rate of trained labourers to 60% in 2025. ([VTV](#) Mar 7)

Dak Nong Aims to Provide Employments to 90,000 People in 2021-2025

Dak Nong province has issued a plan of boosting vocational training and employment in 2021-2025, including targets of employments for 90,000 people and rate of trained labourers at 45% in



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2020 and 57.5% in 2025. Earlier, Dak Nong Party Committee plans to provide employment to 90,000 people and high-quality TVET to 20,000 people. ([Dan Tri](#) Mar 6)

Vocational Schools in HCMC to Add New Subjects, Increase Enrolment Targets

A number of vocational colleges in HCMC have decided to add new subjects and increase enrolment slots this year. The HCM C Technical and Economic College (HOTEC), for example, will recruit 1,400 students for 20 academic areas, an increase of 100 slots compared to 2020. The subjects include logistics, mechanical equipment and machinery maintenance, hotel management, vehicle maintenance and repair automobile chassis, automotive air-conditioning and climate control system, moulding manufacturing, and industrial electronics. At Vien Dong College, the enrolment target will be 2,500, up by 10 per cent over the same period last year, Tran Thanh Hai, principal of Vien Dong College, has said. The two majors midwifery and database administration will be offered this year at the college in response to the shortage of human resources in health care and to the country's efforts in digital transformation. Dai Viet College needs 2,000 candidates for this academic year. It will focus on developing two subjects in demand, namely automotive and mechanical engineering. ([VietnamNews](#), [Tuoi Tre](#), [GDNN](#) Mar 4)

21.4% of Female Sewing Workers in HCMC Developing Osteoarthritis

Up to 24.1% of female sewing workers in Ho Chi Minh City are developing osteoarthritis, while 20.6% are living with respiratory diseases, 10.1% pneumoconiosis, and the remaining are developing other diseases, according to a survey released on March 8 by the municipal Labour Federation and the Trade Union of the Vietnam National University-HCMC. The survey was conducted on 1,772 people, including sewing workers, trade union staff, and firms' representatives. ([NLD](#) Mar 9)

HCMC Spends VND860B on Supporting Workers on Tet

Ho Chi Minh City spent nearly VND860 billion on supporting local workers during the 2021 Lunar New Year, or Tet holiday, which doubled the previous Tet's figure, according to the municipal Labour Federation. ([Thanh Nien](#) Mar 5)

Firms in Southern Vietnam in Thirsty of Workers after Tet

Firms in southern Vietnam have been in a dire need of labourers after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday. Notably, firms in Binh Duong have needed to recruit between ten and 1,000 labours each. In other provinces such as Dong Nai and Ba Ria-Vung Tau, firms have set up recruitment desks in populous areas, besides online methods. ([VTV](#) Mar 8)

Dong Nai Focuses on TVET for Rural Labourers



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Dong Nai province has focus on TVET for rural labourers per a plan issued in 2016. In 2020, Dong Nai provided TVET courses for 2,610 people in 27 jobs. Besides, 1,899 TVET learners graduated and 91.15% of those were employed upon graduation. ([Dong Nai](#) Mar 4)

Dong Nai Spends VND110B on Supporting Labourers before, after Tet

Southern Dong Nai province has spent VND110 billion in total to support labourers before and after the Lunar New Year (Tet) holiday, according to the provincial Labour Federation. ([Lao Dong](#) Mar 6)

Hau Giang Aims to Send 2.5K Labourers abroad in 2021-2025

Southern province of Hau Giang has set a goal of sending 2,500 labourers abroad under contracts in 2021-2025. This year, the locality strives to send 200 workers abroad under contracts. Labourers will work mainly in Japan, South Korea, and Taiwan. ([PLO](#) Mar 5)

Kien Giang to Mobilize VND12.7T for Marine Aquaculture by 2030

Mekong Delta province of Kien Giang, among the largest fisheries producers in the country, aims to mobilize VND12.7 trillion (\$547.4 million) for marine aquaculture in the 2021-2030 period. More than 47,680 workers are expected to be employed in the sector. ([Tin Tuc](#) Mar 1)

Work Starts on \$15M Apparel Factory in Vietnam's Tay Ninh

Vietnam Happytex Joint Stock Company, a jointly owned company between local partner and two foreign partners from of Czech and Germany, has kicked off construction of a \$15-million textile factory at the Trang Bang industrial park in southern Tay Ninh province, revealed Mr. Ha Van Cung, head of the provincial Management Board of Economic Zones, attended the ground-breaking ceremony on March 4. In the first two months of this year, the province drew 364 investment projects, including 265 foreign-invested ones and 99 domestically-invested ones with a total capital of over \$8.3 billion, creating jobs for about 34,000 workers, Mr. Cung added. ([BNews](#), [en.Vietnam Plus](#), [Vnanet](#) Mar 4)