





Vietnam TVET Bulletin

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MoET Issues Circular on Organization, Operation Mechanism of TVET Institutions

MoET has enacted Circular 01/2023/TT-BGDDT on the organization and operation mechanism of TVET and continuing education institutions. TVET institutions' continuing education is under the state management of MoET, and their vocational education and training activities are under the management of MoLISA. The institutions' tasks include illiteracy eradication, educational curriculums within the national educational system, and educational curriculums in line with the need of learners. The circular will take effect on February 22, 2023. (Dan Sinh Jan 13)

DVET

DVET Announces 5 Outstanding Events of TVET Sector in 2022

DVET has announced five outstanding events of vocational education and training sector in 2022. First, policies on vocational education continued to be completed and come to life with the implementation of many programs and plans. Second, the prime minister enacted Decree 62/2022/ND-CP on maintaining the model of DVET as an administrative unit in aid of MoLISA in TVET management. Third, recruitment of learners surpassed the target. Fourth, TVET quality continues to be improved. Fifth, communications and activities honouring TVET teachers and learners have contributed to spread the value of and innovation in vocational education. (Dan Sinh Jan 17)

Vietnam PM Suggests Using Trade Union Funds to Support Jobless Workers

Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh has asked the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) weigh using trade union funds to support workers with job losses or underemployment ahead of the upcoming Lunar New Year. The order was made under document 235/VPCP-KGVX, issued by the Government Office, on employment, wage, and bonus in businesses. Between September 2022 and January 8, 2023, there were 1,300 businesses across 50 cities/provinces incurring order decline, consequently cutting hours of 546,835 workers. Meanwhile, the number of workers getting their hours cut or taking a break with pay was 491,212, accounting for 89.92% of the affected, VGCL said, adding that there were 7,000 employees subject to leave without pay, and 48,623 with suspended contracts. (Tien Phong, Tin Tuc, Bao Chinh Phu, Thanh Nien Jan 13)

Vietnamese Workers with Job/Hour Cuts to Get Cash Aid from Trade Union Funds

Vietnamese workers who have had their jobs and hours cut due to order decline will receive VND1 million-VND3 million (\$41.6-\$125) each from trade union funds, according to a resolution issued by the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) on January 16. Beneficiaries will be members of trade unions at businesses and cooperatives, paying trade union





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fees before September 30, 2022, and incurring hour cuts or labour contract suspension/termination. Those who are not members of trade unions will get an amount of allowance equal to 70% of the aid for trade union members. The aid distribution should be completed no later than May 30. (<u>VnEconomy</u>, <u>VOV</u> Jan 17)

Vietnam Logs 157 Labour Strikes in 2022, up 46.7% y/y: VGCL

Vietnam recorded 157 labour strikes in 2022, which rose by 50 cases or 46.7% y/y, the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) reported on January 10. Most stoppages occurred at foreign-invested enterprises and in major cities/provinces in the southern key economic zone. In Q4, the country witnessed only 18 labour strikes, which fell by one compared to the same period of 2021. Between September 2022 and January 8, 2023, there were 1,300 businesses across 50 cities/provinces incurring order decline, consequently cutting hours of 546,835 workers. Meanwhile, the number of workers getting their hours cut or taking a break with pay was 491,212, accounting for 89.92% of the affected, VGCL said, adding that there were 7,000 employees subject to leave without pay, and 48,623 with suspended contracts. (Vietnam Plus Jan 10)

Business Sector and Labour Market

Foreign Cooperation

Midterm Review Workshop with PAM Trainees

Having opened on March 2022, the PAM Programme (Partnership Approaches for Development-Oriented Vocational Training and Labour Migration) has completed half of the journey with German standard-oriented training course in metal cutting. To review and get feedback on all activities from PAM trainees, the PAM Programme has conducted a Midterm Review Workshop with PAM trainees on December 29, 2022. The Workshop has dynamic participation of more than 40 students, in which the first session focuses on presentation of students' opinions and feedback on following topics: Metal cutting course, German language, Incompany training, Outdoor activities, Communications, etc. For each criterion, trainees will work in groups to represent their viewpoints on pros and cons, improvements, and recommendations. In the second session of the Workshop, representatives of the PAM Programme have announced the result of 05 pre-selection candidates for linkage with German enterprise. The selection is based on results of metal cutting, German language, and German speaking ability. In addition, learning and working attitude is also considered as significant criteria in determining. Conveying after the Workshop, PAM trainee Ho Nhut Khanh "appreciated great opportunities to share and to be listened their opinions about learning and working". He hoped more workshops with the participation of GIZ and communication in German would be organized in the future to increase interaction and interpersonal skills. The Workshop has created an opportunity for trainees to share their comments directly with GIZ and helped to consolidate their solution-oriented thinking, work collaboration and respect diversity among members. Besides, a closed connection between trainees and PAM Programme has been strengthened to get in-depth understanding of their current working and learning situation,



thereby to consult appropriate advisories for trainees and improve further in the year 2023. (<u>TVET</u> Jan 17)

1st-Month Salary of Vietnam Workers in S.Korea Highest by Nation of Employment

The average first-month salary earned by Vietnamese workers in South Korea was the highest by country of employment in 2021, reaching VND27.7 million (\$1,125), according to the General Statistics Office (GSO). Also, low-skilled Vietnamese workers earned VND30.5 million in first-month wages on average in South Korea, the highest among countries receiving Vietnamese workers. The country that offered the second-highest first-month salary to Vietnamese workers was Japan, at VND26 million on average. The first-month salary of Vietnamese workers in other countries stood at VND19.2 million on average. By economic sectors, agro-forestry-fisheries workers made the highest salary in their first month of work, at VND24.7 million, followed by industrial and construction labourers with VND22.4 million, and service staff with VND21.8 million. The salary of female workers is lower than their male peers' in all industries. (CafeF, Tai Chinh So Jan 13)

Vietnam, Laos Exchange Protocol on Education Cooperation

On January 11, Vietnamese Minister of Education and Training Nguyen Kim Son and Lao Minister of Education and Sports Phout Simmalavong exchanged a Protocol to promote education cooperation and signed a cooperation plan for 2023. The signing ceremony was witnessed by Vietnamese Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh and his Lao counterpart Sonexay Siphandon as part of Mr. Chinh's ongoing visit to Laos. Accordingly, the Protocol will concretize educational cooperation activities for international students between the two countries in the next five years, including regulating the selection, training, and management of international students. Regarding the cooperation program in 2023, Vietnam's Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) will receive 464 Lao cadres, students, and overseas Vietnamese children in Laos to study in Vietnam. Vietnam will also send 35 teachers to teach the Vietnamese language to the Lao education and training institutions. Besides, both sides concur to add the content of historical works of special relations of Vietnam and Laos into teaching curricula at both nations' schools, and continue to implement projects to improve educational management capacity and facilities for Laotian administrations and schools. (Giao Duc, MoET, VTV Jan 12)

Vietnam Hands over \$5M Friendship Vocational-High School to Laos

Vietnam's Ministry of Education and Training (MoET) has handed over the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Vocational School worth \$5 million to the Lao Ministry of Education and Sports, as the gift of the Party, State, and people of Vietnam. The handover ceremony took place in Khammouane province's Nongbok district on January 11, with the presence of Vietnamese Deputy Minister of Education and Training Nguyen Huu Do, Lao Deputy Minister of Education and Sports Sisouk Vongvichith, and Secretary of the Party Committee and Governor of Khammouane Vanxay Phongsavane. Covering 3.7 hectares, the Laos-Vietnam Friendship Vocational School comprises a principal building, class campus, dormitory area, technical





infrastructure, and others. The school is expected to develop the human resources of Khammouane province, thus creating jobs for local high school students, unemployed workers, people with disadvantaged cases, workers who need to change careers, and returnees from overseas due to the COVID-19 pandemic. (Vietnam Plus, Bao Binh Duong Jan 11)

Vietnam, Japan Share Experience in Operating Trade Unions

On January 11, the Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) and the Japan International Labour Foundation (JILAF) held a conference to share experience in operating trade unions, with the participation of over 30 officials from Ho Chi Minh City and surrounding localities. (Lao Dong Ngày 11/1)

Niigata Mayor Works with Hanoi College of Technology-Trading

On January 12, Mr. Hanazumi Hideyo, mayor of Japan's Niigata prefecture and representatives of over 30 firms from the locality had a working session with Hanoi College of Technology-Trading. (Dan Sinh Jan 13)

Head of DVET Visits Japan-Invested Denso Vietnam

Head of DVET Truong Anh Dung paid a visit to and worked with executives of Japan's Denso Manufacturing Vietnam Co.,Ltd on January 16. During his working session at the business, Mr. Dung congratulated two employees of Denso Vietnam on winning the bronze medals in CNC milling and CNC turning at the World Skills Competition 2022 Special Edition in Germany. (Dan Sinh Jan 16)

Vietnam Nghe An Works with JICA on Agriculture, Labour Cooperation

Vice Chairman of the People's Committee in Vietnam's central province of Nghe An Nguyen Van De received a mission from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) on January 12, during which both sides discussed cooperation in agriculture and labour. During the talks, Mr. De asked for JICA's assistance to restore and upgrade the province's southern irrigation system, develop the Sanuki garlic value chain, and promote Japanese firms to seek investment opportunities in Nghe An, especially in the agricultural sector. The JICA experts welcomed requests by the Nghe An side, adding that the garlic farming project in Ky Son district will be kicked off this year. JICA plans to join hands with the Vietnam National University of Agriculture to send Vietnamese trainees to Japan to work at livestock and farming facilities, which is a good chance for Nghe An province to dispatch its workers to Japan. (Truyen Hinh Nghe An Jan 12)

Canon Vietnam Called to Strengthen Training of Local Workforce

Canon Vietnam should further step up staff training and sharpen the skills of its employees, said Minister of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Dao Ngoc Dung. Minister Dung made his





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request while receiving General Director of Canon Vietnam Co.,Ltd. Shigeyuki Okamoto in Hanoi on January 11. He requested Canon Vietnam to build up a working environment based on harmonious interests and shared risks. He proposed the Japanese firm contribute part of its profits to the society and join the National Fund for Vietnamese Children. The executive, for his part, shared that Canon Vietnam achieved a relatively good business performance over the past year and sustained employment for 21,000 staff. (Lao Dong Xa Hoi, MoLISA Jan 12)

U.S's Pulsar Products INC Gets License to Build \$17M Plant in Vietnam Hai Duong

On January 10, the government of Vietnam's northern province of Hai Duong granted an investment certificate to Pulsar Products INC from the United States to build a VND400 billion (\$16.66 million) plant to manufacture electronic products, lifting beds, and lifting tables controlled by electrical equipment. Accordingly, the firm will lease 4.6 hectares of land in Lai Vu industrial park to build the plant. Once operational in September 2023, the plant, with an annual capacity of 300,000 products, is expected to create 500 jobs. (Bao Hai Duong Jan 10)

Domestic News

Vietnam's Workforce Quality Falls Short of Requirements: PM

Vietnam's labour market has yet to develop in an even and sustainable way while the quality of its workforce still falls short of requirements, said Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh. PM Chinh made his remarks while addressing a conference held by the MoLISA on January 14 to review its 2022 performance and put forward tasks for 2023. Mr. Chinh said that during his talks with foreign investors many times, they were concerned about Vietnam's infrastructure and manpower and wondered if the country's workforce could satisfy their expectations. He added that the sector failed to reach the goal of raising labour productivity in 2022, and the labour market has been seriously affected by shrinking exports in certain industries. The government chief, therefore, asked the ministry to strengthen high-quality workforce training, further develop the labour market in a flexible, effective, and sustainable manner, step up investment in vocational training, improve the quality of vocational education, and promote the public-private partnership in vocational education. (VnEconomy, VOV Jan 15)

88% of Surveyed Firms in Vietnam Willing to Raise Pay for Employees in 2023

Up to 88% of businesses in Vietnam are willing to raise salaries for their employees in 2023, according to a survey by Robert Walters, a specialist recruitment agency. The report showed that staff with job changes could probably secure a 15%-25% rise in their wage this year, while some sectors with high demand for workers may witness an at-least 35% jump in pay. Some sectors such as manufacturing, research and development, technology, and digital will drive the employment market in Vietnam post-pandemic, said the report. (VTV, CafeF Jan 12)

TVET-equipped Workers Make up 28.5% of Labourers at Industrial Zones in Bac Ninh



Industrial zones in northern Bac Ninh province currently use 308,136 labourers, including 87,687 equipped with TVET, or 28.5%. Such proportion has relatively remained unchanged in the last five years. (Bao Bac Ninh Jan 16)

Ha Tinh Enrols 20,926 TVET Learners in 2022

Central Ha Tinh province enrolled 20,926 TVET learners and created jobs for 22,995 people last year, including 11,478 domestic jobs and 11,517 overseas jobs, the provincial DoLISA said at a conference on January 14. (Bao Ha Tinh Jan 14)

Vietnam Van Phong EZ Attracts \$4.2B Investment, including \$2.9B FDI So Far

Van Phong Economic Zone (EZ) in Vietnam's central province of Khanh Hoa has to date attracted 155 foreign direct investment (FDI) and domestic direct investment (DDI) projects with a total pledged capital of \$4.2 billion, including over \$2.9 billion in FDI, according to the provincial People's Committee. Of the total, 98 projects have started their operations. The \$350-million Hyundai-Vietnam shipyard, which has created over 4,000 jobs and contributes over 40% of the province's annual total exports, is among those. In 2022, firms in the EZ made revenue of \$480 million, exported \$399 million, imported \$920 million, and paid VND2.6 trillion (\$108.33 million) to the state budget. They created jobs for 12,010 workers. (Nhip Song Kinh Te Jan 11)

Dak Lak Creates Jobs for 41,250 Labourers in 2022

The Central Highlands province of Dak Lak created jobs for 41,250 labourers last year, up 39.83% y/y and equal to 103.13% of the year's target, the provincial DoLISA said at a conference on January 16. The figure included 1,586 workers sent abroad, up 296.5% y/y and equivalent to 105.73% of plan. (<u>Bao Dak Lak</u> Jan 17)

Vietnam HCMC Creates Jobs for 315K Persons in 2022, Beating Yr Target by 5.3%

Vietnam's southern economic hub of Ho Chi Minh City supported employment for 315,612 people in 2022, surpassing the year's target by 5.3%, the municipal leaders said at a labour conference chaired by Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh on January 14. Last year, the city had 161,676 employed workers getting training certificates, meeting 138.38% of the year plan, raising the total trained workers citywide to nearly 4.33 million. The municipal government reduced 16,154 poor households, equivalent to 184.24% of the year target, and 9,723 near-poor households, exceeding the year's goal by 88.07%. By the end of 2022, HCMC's unemployment rate decreased to 3.97%. (Bao Dan Sinh, Lao Dong Xa Hoi Jan 15)