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DoLAB Finds Labour Dispatching Firm VND132.5M for Violations

The DoLAB, under the MoLISA, has imposed a fine of VND132.5 million on VTC1 Overseas Study Investment and International Cooperation,. JSC for violating regulations. (<u>Lao Dong Cong Doan May 29</u>)

Business Sector and Labour Market

Foreign Cooperation

Training Workshop in Dissemination about the Law on Contract-based Vietnamese Overseas Workers for Northern Vietnam Services Enterprises

On March 31, a training workshop in dissemination on the Law on Contract-based Vietnamese overseas workers (Law 69) was co-organized by DoLAB and GIZ- Programme Migration & Diaspora (PMD) in Quang Ninh province. The workshop welcomed participations of leaders from nearly 80 services enterprises located in Northern Vietnam, specializing in sending labourers to work in foreign countries. The workshop adheres to disseminate new regulations and in-depth knowledge of Law 69 and relevant legal documents to enterprises in Vietnam. In addition, the training aims at creating opportunities for delegates to have direct exchange and discussion during their implementations, thus, obtaining clarification and advice from expert and DoLAB leaders. The Law 69, which came into force on January 1, 2022, has been developed from former Vietnamese legislation to reinforce the protection for migrant workers. For implementing stakeholders, it is pivotal to get comprehensive understanding about relevant normative documents guiding mandates to upscale the legal ability and avoid mistakes. Within the workshop, updates of the Law 69 regarding: 1) obligations and responsibilities of enterprises sending labourers abroad; 2) overseas employment support fund; 3) penalties for administrative violations in fields of labour, social insurance; 4) database system of contract- based Vietnamese overseas workers have been delivered in detailed for delegates. After each topic, the discussion and exchange experiences received dynamic participation from delegates and responses from experts. Closing the remark, DoLAB's Deputy General Nguyen Gia Liem emphasized the importance of mainstreaming legal understanding for enterprises, thereby, contributing to the effective and successful fulfilment of responsibilities and ensure rights for overseas workers. The upcoming workshop, which will be disseminated in Thanh Hoa city in the last of April 2023, will be provided for enterprises in the Central of Vietnam. These workshops are one among series events, coordinated by DOLAB and GIZ-PMD in an effort to stimulate Law 69's updates to enterprises and employment service centres. (TVET May 26)







Transcultural Training Course for PAM Trainees - Pivotal Preparation to Migrate Germany

"German people look tall, strong with a simple casual style," a PAM trainee answered when she was asked to describe a German. Indeed, the first impression is important, however, not enough to represent all aspects of a German. And for people who want to migrate and integrate in destination country, the preparation list is beyond qualifications and language. In the process of integration, well-understanding and integrating culture of other countries are considered as indispensable to a global citizen. The transcultural perspective incorporates the involvement at all levels of one culture, ranging from people, lifestyle, customs, and practice in daily life. To better equip all PAM trainees with relevant knowledge about society, the country and culture of Germany, a two-day training course on transcultural preparation was organized by GIZ-the Programme "Partnership Approaches for Development- oriented Vocational Training and Labour Migration" (PAM in Vietnam) in Ho Chi Minh City from April 15-16. The training focuses on stereotypes, cultural misunderstanding and general information about German culture and history. The transcultural course develops participants an overview of Germany as well as in-depth understanding of particular aspects by learning the history, values, and behavioural patterns of Germany. Thereby, PAM trainees can properly find ways to fully participate in public life. "Only by experiencing may you realize the real nature of one person."- shared by a consultant during the course. And to get rid of inappropriate stereotypes in terms of race or ethnicity, the training course provided trainees with a new approach of multi culture via interacted activities such as play-acting, watching videos and discussing in groups. Thereby, the trainees could share, dynamically exchange their opinions with their classmates and learn to respect others' different viewpoints. The approach to transcultural has initially inspired trainees in researching more about culture. "I love the hidden meaning of play-act in Diary excerpt, when the mother always asks her son's friend whether he took a shower or not. Discourteous may emerge in some people's minds, but in fact, it is a friendly way to initiate a conversation. Taking everything simple is the key to avoid unnecessary conflicts," PAM trainee Le Van Hoa expressed after the training. Besides particular training cases, the course provided inputs about Germany, ranging from facts of Germany, social structures, education, values, prejudices and experiences from the international consultant. Finally, track back to certain historical periods (Reich, National socialism, Cold war...) to see how it still impacts political and cultural discourses and practices until today. The transcultural training course left a good impression on all participants. For PAM trainees, it was a brand new and unforgettable experience as their first time to approach creative training methodologies, get more prepared for the upcoming journey. This is the first training course among a series of transcultural events to provide comprehensive information about Germany before migration. (TVET May 26)

Workshop "Improving Multi-stakeholder Linkage in TVET to Meet Demand of Labour Market in Vietnam"

As one of the five provinces/cities in the central key economic region, Thua Thien-Hue has great potential and opportunities to attract investment and development. To meet the requirements of fast and sustainable socio-economic development, Thua Thien-Hue is focusing on the development of human resources, especially high-quality human resources. Although technical





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and vocational education and training (TVET) in Thua Thien-Hue has been improved over the past few years to meet the local human resource needs, the linkage and cooperation between stakeholders, especially business sector, in developing and assessing the quality and effectiveness of TVET human resources are still limited. Hence, on May 18, the Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs in Thua Thien-Hue (Hue DoLISA) to organise successfully the workshop "Improving multi-stakeholder linkage in TVET to meet the demand of labour market in Vietnam". The objective of the workshop is to 1) share on human resource development in Thua Thien Hue by 2025, with vision to 2030, 2) share on promoting training cooperation and fostering human resources in some key sectors, 3) share on national and international experiences on promoting stakeholder collaboration in TVET, and 4) discuss the cooperation mechanism among the State – Enterprises – TVET institutes in TVET – Model of the Provincial TVET Council. The Programme "Reform of TVET in Vietnam II" (TVET Programme) together with VCCI and Aus4Skills have an opportunity to exchange both national and international experiences in linkage multi-stakeholder in TVET, especially the Skills Councils mechanism. The council mechanism is a multi-stakeholder cooperation mechanism among the State - Schools - Enterprises, which will act as a bridge between all stakeholders and address skills gaps between demand and supply. In the opening remark, Deputy Director of the provincial DoLISA Nguyen Huu Phuoc said this workshop was a premise for developing and forming a cooperation mechanism for multi stakeholders in TVET, contributing to the development of vocational education and training, creating high-quality human resources in the province. The workshop gathered 70 participants from provincial government departments, leading enterprises, provincial business association, organisation of employers (VCCI), TVET institutions and international organisation (Aus4skills), etc. Together they discussed the Provincial TVET Council model as a solution to promote TVET, develop high-quality human resources of Thua Thien-Hue, especially in key/prioritised sectors. (TVET May 26)

MoLISA, EuroCham Seek to Simplify Work Permit Issuance

The European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (EuroCham) and the MoLISA have held a dialogue to seek practical solutions to streamline work permit issuance procedures. The event, held in Ho Chi Minh City on May 26, covered the revision of Decree 152 on the grant of work permits to foreign expats, slated for release in July 2023. Chairman of EuroCham Gabor Fluit said that the increasingly cumbersome issuance of work permits hinders foreign direct investment, impedes the transfer of valuable skills and knowledge, undermines competitiveness, and stifles innovation. Minister of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs Dao Ngoc Dung emphasized the importance of this amendment and looked forward to its implementation by the end of the third quarter. Co-Chair of EuroCham's Human Resources & Training Sector Committee Khuat Van Trung noted that foreign expats face increased stringency and complicated procedures since the expiration of Resolution 105 on December 31, 2022. During the dialogue, foreign-invested businesses proffered their recommendations for Decree 152, mainly about tailoring education and work experience requirements to practical expectations and scrapping the existing restriction on the number of work permit renewals. Under current regulations, only one renewal is allowed, forcing applicants to restart their application process in case of permit expiration, the business complaint, urging local authorities to adopt an official and







standardized application form. (<u>Cong Thuong</u>, <u>vov2.vov.vn</u>, <u>Thoi Bao Ngan Hang</u>, <u>Kinh Te va</u> Du Bao, PLO May 26)

Australia Offers 3,000 Apprenticeships for Vietnamese Students

More than 3,000 Australian apprenticeships for Vietnamese students were announced at the Vietnam-Australia vocational training cooperation and exchange forum held in Ho Chi Minh City on May 26. Occupations covered by apprenticeships include hospitality, IT, automotive technology, agriculture, preschool, and healthcare. Earlier on March 10 and May 18, two batches of students came to Australia under the apprenticeship grant program. (VnExpress May 29)

Workers from Vietnam Help Fill Labour Gap for New Zealand's Sealord

Nelson-based fishing company Sealord is welcoming 115 workers from Vietnam over the next three weeks to process fish in its wetfish factory during the upcoming hoki season. Vietnamese workers join around 80 people from Samoa who started at Sealord in January and February, thanks to the Government's new seafood sector agreement providing visa allocations for much-needed process workers in the fishing industry. The Vietnamese workers arrive at Sealord in six intakes over the next three weeks, with the first group having arrived on May 23 for two days induction before starting work in the factory. (Thanh Nien May 28)

Quang Ngai Learns Finland's Experience in TVET Development

A delegation of central Quang Ngai province led by Secretary of its Party Committee Bui Thi Quynh Van visited Finland on May 26 (local time) and worked with the Finnish National Agency for Education (EDUFI) and Gradia Vocational School. During the working session, the Quang Ngai delegation learned about Finland's experience in TVET development, career orientation for high-school graduates, dispatching of workers abroad, and transferring education. (Quang Ngai May 27)

Vietnam Electric Power University Boosts Cooperation with Japan's Gifu College

Headmaster of Vietnam's Electric Power University Nguyen Le Cuong has recently received a delegation of Japan's National Institute of Technology, Gifu College. On behalf of the Gifu College mission, Mr. Tajma Koji proposed the two sides put forward measures for effective education, facilitate students to develop their careers in the future, send Vietnamese students to Japan for one- to four-month internships and vice versa, and introduce partners to each other. (Tap Chi Cong Thuong May 30)

Domestic News

Vietnam Licenses 61,900 New Firms in May, Down 1.6% y/y: GSO





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Vietnam is estimated to have licensed over 61,900 new firms in the first five months of this year, down 1.6% y/y, with their total registered capital of VND568.7 trillion (\$23.69 billion, down 25.3% y/y, the government-run General Statistics Office (GSO) said in its latest monthly report. The average registered capital of a new firm fell 24.1% y/y to VND9.2 billion, the office said, noting that the new firms used 405,900 labourers during the period, down 7.2% y/y. (GSO May 29)

Over 81% of Surveyed Firms Pessimistic about Vietnam's Outlook by Year-end

Up to 81.4% of surveyed companies in Vietnam are doubtful about the country's economic prospects by the end of this year, according to the latest survey of the Private Economic Development Research (Board IV), under the Advisory Council for Administrative Procedure Reform. The survey covering nearly 10,000 businesses in Vietnam also indicated that only 4.2% of the respondents are upbeat about the country's economic projections in the rest of this year. According to the survey, up to 82.3% of the interviewees plan to reduce their business scale, suspend their operations, or stop doing business in the remaining months of this year. Meanwhile, 71.2% are expected to downsize their labour forces by more than 5%. (ANTD May 26)

Layoffs in Vietnam Likely to Linger thorough End of 2023: Board IV

The wave of layoffs in Vietnam could probably last until the end of this year due to macro and business internal hardship, forecast the Prime Minister's Private Economic Development Research (Board IV), under the Advisory Council for Administrative Procedure Reform. Citing its April survey covering 9,560 firms, Board IV said that about 5,200 respondents planned to cut their staff for the rest of this year, mostly in the construction and industrial sectors. Most of them are private businesses, with half operating in Ho Chi Minh City and its nearby southern province of Binh Duong, citing order scarcity as their biggest challenge. Board IV recommended the government strengthen investment in improving the higher education quality and providing flexible vocational training to workers. (VnExpress, Dan Tri, NLD May 29)

40K Workers in Aluminium Sector Lose Jobs, Experience Lower Incomes

Up to 40,000 workers in the aluminium sector have either lost jobs or had their incomes lowered since early 2023, as production has been at only 30%-40% of capacity, according to the Vietnam Aluminium Association (VAA). (VTV May 24)

Hanoi Creates Jobs for 85,784 Labourers in Jan-May

Hanoi capital city is estimated to have created jobs for 85,784 labourers in the first five months of this year, fulfilling 52.9% of the whole-year target, according to the municipal DoLISA. In the period, the city approved unemployment allowances for 30,374 labourers with a total aid of VND855 billion and supported TVET for 487 people with a total cost of VND2.1 billion. (Dan Sinh May 29)







Bac Ninh Aims to Send 1,300 Labourers Abroad in 2023

Northern Bac Ninh province has set a target to send 1,300 labourers overseas and enroll 55,000 TVET learners, thus increasing the trained labour rate to 78%, according to the provincial DoLISA. (Lao Dong May 25)

Career Fair in Ninh Binh Offers 2,600 Overseas Job Vacancies

A recent career fair in northern Ninh Binh province attracted the participation of 21 businesses with nearly 8,000 job vacancies, along with two vocational colleges with over 3,000 learners. Notably, the fair provided recruitment information for 2,600 jobs in South Korea, Japan, and Taiwan with average monthly incomes of VND60 million. (Lao Dong May 29)

Vinh Phuc Helps 5,900 Labourers Find Jobs since Early 2023

Northern Vinh Phuc province has helped over 5,900 labourers find jobs in the year to date, according to the provincial DoLISA. (Lao Dong May 26)

Binh Dinh Eyes Building VND6.8T Port for Long Son Steel Complex

The government of Vietnam's central province of Binh Dinh is seeking approval from the Ministry of Planning and Investment to build a VND6.8-trillion (\$283.33 million) port specialized for the Long Son iron and steel complex. Once operational, the port is expected to create over 7,500 jobs, pay VND10.39 trillion to the province's budget, and contribute VND20.52 trillion to the gross regional domestic product (GRDP). (VietnamFinance, VnExpress, Dan Tri, PLO May 29)

HCMC Creates over 12,300 New Jobs in Apr

Southern Ho Chi Minh City created 12,304 new jobs in April, raising the figure to 48,879 in the first four months of this year, fulfilling 34.9% of the whole-year target, according to the municipal Statistics Office. In the month, the city sent 96 labourers overseas, mostly to South Korea and Japan. (Thanh Nien May 24)

HCMC Hosts Workshop on Boosting Research, IP Administration at Colleges

On May 26, Ho Chi Minh City College of Economics (HCE) and HCMC's Department of Science and Technology co-hosted a workshop on boosting research and intellectual property (IP) administration at local colleges. Ph.D. Dang Minh Su, former head of the municipal TVEV department, stressed that training quality and IP registration create brands for TVET institutes in the current context. (Dan Sinh May 28)







Firms in HCMC Have High Demand for Highly-skilled Workers

Firms in southern Ho Chi Minh City have high demand for highly-skilled workers and manual workers as well, according to the first career fair of the Saigon Hi-tech Park (SHTP) on May 26. The event, hosted by the SHTP Training and the municipal DoLISA, attracted the participation of 14 firms with hundreds of job vacancies. (Tuoi Tre May 26)

Demand for Trained Workers in HCMC Accounts for 86.92% of Total: FALMI

Ho Chi Minh City-based firms' demand for trained workers makes up 86.92% of the total, according to the Centre for Forecasting Manpower Needs and Labour Market Information (FALMI). Specifically, the need for workers of university and above levels accounts for 20.17%, intermediate level 27.42%, and primary level 20.42%. To address human resources issues, many businesses target junior and senior students or graduates from local universities and colleges. (NLD May 25)

Career Fair in Dong Nai Attracts Few Labourers

A career fair in southern Dong Nai province on May 25 attracted the participation of 20 firms with a recruitment need of 1,350 workers. However, only 300 labourers joined the fair. Of whom, 190 are expected to get jobs. (<u>Dong Nai</u> May 25)

Binh Duong Boosts TVET Institutes-Labour Market Connection to Meet Firms' Demand

Southern Binh Duong province's DoLISA has strived to boost the connection between TVET institutes and labour market to meet firms' demand. Local firms are forecast to need 8,000-10,000 workers in the second quarter (Q2) of this year, including 75%-80% with skills. (Dan Sinh May 27)

Firms in Mekong Delta Region Step up Hiring

Many businesses in the Mekong Delta region are stepping up recruitment amid the expansion of their farm produce processing plants. A cooperative said it needs to employ 120 more workers as its orders for seedless limes, pomelos, and others to Australia, Japan, and New Zealand are expected to rise by 30% y/y in the second half of this year. Phu Thinh Food Processing Export JSC shared that it needs to recruit an additional 150 workers to prepare for the main mango crop. The Industrial Zone Authority in Hau Giang province said that since early this year, firms at the provincial industrial parks have demands for extra 3,600 employees, mainly in textiles, fisheries processing, food, and mechanicals, and electronics. (VTV May 23)

Career Fair in Can Tho City Attracts 1,417 Participants







A career fair in the Mekong Delta city of Can Tho on May 26 attracted the participation of 1,417 people, comprising 1,107 students and 310 workers, along with 19 TVET institutes and five businesses. (Dan Sinh Ngày 26/5)

Long An Aims to Provide Vocational Training to Nearly 6,200 Rural Labourers in 2023-2025

Southern Long An province has set a target to provide vocational training to nearly 6,200 labourers in rural areas in 2023-2025, with a total cost of VND6.79 billion. (Long An May 28)

TVET Institutes in Vinh Long Enrol 12,200 Learners in Jan-May

TVET institutes in southern Vinh Long province enrolled over 12,200 learners in the first five months of this year, including 11,600 at short-term courses. The figure is estimated at 2,400 in June. (Vinh Long May 30)