

PRESS RELEASE

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250 OFWs leave weekly for Korea EPS

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration is sending an average of 250 Filipino workers per week to Korea under the Employment Permit System, Administrator Rosalinda Dimapilis-Baldoz said.

Baldoz said 6,145 workers are now working in various Korean factories and establishments since the start of the program in August 2004 including 5,310 who were deployed in 2005.

The Ministry of Labor of Korea allocated a total 14,000 jobs for Filipino workers out of the 72,000 labor quota given to 6 countries under the EPS.

Baldoz said that just recently, the Minister of Labor of Korea, Kim, Dae-Hwan visited the POEA for consultation with government officials on how to improve further the implementation of the KOREA EPS.

Minister Kim expressed optimism that existing cooperation between Korea and the Philippines shall result to a more efficient and timely deployment of workers.

Baldoz noted that more employment opportunities are in store for Filipino workers in Korea as the MOL Korea is working, in conjunction with its Ministry of Justice, for the expeditious issuance of working visa in order to attract more local businesses to avail of foreign workers through the EPS.

Baldoz said the policy on assignment of EPS quota shall be influenced by the efforts of sending governments in helping toward reduction of illegal workers in Korea.

Minister Kim also requested for cooperation in promoting a culture of working legally in Korea and encouraging early departure of workers who have finished their contracts.

The other countries that send workers to Korea under the EPS are Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Sri Lanka and Mongolia.