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NEWS RELEASE

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POEA REITERATES RECRUITMENT BAN TO LEBANON

The total ban on the deployment to Lebanon is still in effect, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) head, Administrator Jennifer Jardin-Manalili announced yesterday.

Manalili said reports have reached POEA that a number of household workers who left the country illegally despite their personal knowledge of the ban are presently stranded at the Philippine Embassy in Lebanon.

These workers, she explained, were recruited using tourist visas and were assured they need not pay a placement fee, nor spend any amount for their deployment. Thus, they are forced to work for employers without any employment contract and often become victims of maltreatment and other forms of abuses according to the workers' families.

The POEA chief warned the public that defiance of the deployment ban will only result in the workers' disadvantage. All prospective workers are advised to go through the legal process and verify the status of licensed recruitment agencies and available job orders through the POEA's website www.poea.gov.ph. Interested applicants can also register through the website's interactive e-registration, Manalili said.

Those in the provinces can also go to the nearest POEA Regional Offices, the LGUs Public Employment Service Office (PESO), and the Department of Labor and Employment, she added.