



NEWS ADVISORY
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Italy does not allow recruitment of seasonal workers in the Philippines

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration warns overseas job applicants against recruitment agencies and individuals promising jobs in Italy supposedly as seasonal workers.

POEA Administrator Jennifer Jardin-Manalili said that recruitment of seasonal workers is allowed only in countries with special agreements with Italy excluding the Philippines, and those already working legally in Italy .

The Philippine Overseas Labor Office in Rome reported that the new illegal recruitment scheme has already victimized a number of Filipino workers who are now stranded in Italy because of lack of proper work documents after paying up to Php500,000.00 each for non-existent jobs.

Manalili said that while it is true that there is opportunity for employment as seasonal workers, it only covers those who are already in Italy with valid work permit (*soggiorno*). Italy allows direct recruitment of foreign workers only in countries which has signed bilateral agreements for the purpose, including Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Croatia, India, Ghana, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Ukraine.

Foreign workers illegally staying in Italy face penalties or imprisonment or deportation.

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