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## Warning on language study in Japan

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration yesterday advised Filipino workers to be wary of language centers offering Japanese language study in Japan.

The Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in Tokyo has reported of numerous requests for assistance by Filipinos studying Japanese language courses either through study-now, pay-later plan or upfront cash payments on the promise of recovery of expense through 28-hour part time work.

The language study is being used as a means to find work in Japan by some Filipinos which may lead to abuse, low wages, job mismatch, arrest and deportation due to visa and immigration rules violation and debt trap.

Many Filipinos using student visas to enter Japan do not complete their language courses because instead of attending classes, they are looking for work which oftentimes are not suitable to their skills and qualifications.

Language training centers have no authority to recruit or deploy OFWs. The promise of work by them is considered illegal recruitment.

Enrollment in language schools operated by recruitment agencies does not guarantee actual deployment even after payment of training fees.

The public is advised to report immediately to POLO Tokyo at <u>polotokyo@gmail.com</u> or to the POEA Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch at 721-0609 or 722-11-92 or <u>poea\_airb16@gmail.com</u> any unauthorized individual or groups offering similar schemes. #END