

NEWS RELEASE  
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## Beware of illegal employment schemes in Japan

The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration yesterday warned Filipino workers against securing jobs in Japan through illegal employment schemes.

Administrator Bernard P. Olalia said the Philippine Overseas Labor Office in Tokyo has discovered a *modus operandi* supposedly used by Filipino nationals to circumvent the legal system of staying and working in Japan.

In a report, Labor Attache Marie Rose C. Escalada said some Filipinos with relatives or friends in Japan travel as tourists with the intention of finding work afterwards. Allegedly, these tourists are referred to expatriate sponsors who are willing to apply for designated activities visa in exchange for unpaid domestic work.

The designated activities visa allows the applicant to undertake any activity, paid or otherwise.

Labatt Escalada said this scheme is too risky especially when there is no regular employment that awaits the worker. To support themselves, the Filipinos have to find part-time work while staying with the family or friends who helped them travel to Japan.

Olalia reminded Filipinos seeking jobs in Japan to only transact with licensed recruitment agencies with job orders approved by the Administration.

He also enjoined applicants to be vigilant against illegal recruiters and to report any suspected illegal recruitment activities to the POEA Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch at 722-11-92 or at POEA Hotline numbers 722-11-44 or 722- 11-55. /END