

NORTH SOUTH JOURNAL

PATAS AT MAKATARUNGANG PAHAYAGAN
YOUR NATIONAL NEWSPAPER

Taon 10 Blg. 32 HULYO 22-28, 2019 P10.00

MANILA — The Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) on Thursday warned Filipino teachers against the supposed illegal recruitment activities of a language school in Japan.

The Philippine Overseas Labor Office (POLO) in Tokyo reported that a certain Heart English School has been directly recruiting Filipinos without the proper authorization from the POEA.

"This unauthorized practice exposes the teachers to possible abuse," the agency said in a statement.

According to POLO-Tokyo, a Filipino contact whose identity is being withheld has been supposedly facilitating the travel of the teachers as tourists, or the

conversion of student visas to teacher visas of those already in Japan.

It added that the school has continued to defy the advice for it to recruit Filipino teachers through a licensed recruitment agency in the Philippines since it is a Japanese company that has no obligation to abide by Philippine regulations.

The government agency noted that those who are looking to be employed overseas must avoid such illegal recruitment schemes and transact only with POEA accredited recruitment agencies with legitimate job offerings.

"The POEA reminds Filipinos seeking jobs in Japan to only transact with licensed recruitment agencies with job orders approved by the Administra-

tion," it added.

With this, the agency urged the public to report to POLO-Tokyo any unauthorized individual or organizations offering similar schemes.

Also, the people may send reports to polotokyo@gmail.com or to the POEA Anti-Illegal Recruitment Branch at 721-0609 or 722-11-92 or poea_airb16@gmail.com. (PNA)

RESCUE OPS ONGOING FOR 2 MISSING PINOYS IN THAI SEA

MANILA-- The rescue operations for two Filipinos who went missing in Thailand are ongoing, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) said on Thursday.

In a bulletin posted by DFA Assistant Secretary Emmanuel Fernandez, the two were reportedly at the beach playing in the sea during a heavy storm when they were swept away and have not been seen since.

"The Department of Foreign Affairs, through the Philippine embassy in Bangkok, is actively monitoring the case of two Filipinos who went missing at Freedom Beach in Phuket, Thailand on July 17, 2019,"

Fernandez said.

Ambassador to Thailand Mary Jo Bernardo-Aragon, on the other hand, said the "rescue operations by authorities resumed today".

Reports said the search was temporarily suspended on Thursday morning due to bad weather.

The embassy was notified by the Royal Thai Police and a group of Filipino tourists in Phuket about the

case on Wednesday.

The Philippine foreign post then immediately made representations with the Thai Police and coordinated with the Filipinos that evening. Bernardo-Aragon said the embassy continues to coordinate with the authorities on the case, as well as respond to the needs of the Filipino family and friends of the two missing Filipinos. (PNA)

Mail Permit No. 2C-17-07-528
Office of Entry: Bacoor City, Cavite
Entered as 2nd Class

DPWH forms Earthquake Resiliency Office

MANILA -- The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) on Friday reported the creation of an office that will ensure the earthquake resilience of the country's infrastructure.

Public Works Secretary Mark Villar formed the DPWH Earthquake Resiliency Program Management Office (ER-PMO) through Department Order (DO) 75 dated July 10, which would serve as an integrated department approach in addressing earthquake resiliency problems.

"We need to fast-track the implementation of interventions to make sure that our infrastructure cannot just withstand earthquake but also protect the people in the event of an earthquake, particularly 'The Big One' that is anticipated to hit any time in Mega Manila," he said in a statement.

Under the order, a technical steering committee was also formed to collect and review situational reports, oversee the accomplishment of regional operations, and create policy decisions.

A separate support services committee was also tasked to formulate long- and medium-term resiliency development plans and ensure funding for the whole program.

According to experts, the "Big One" is a scenario of a 7.2-magnitude quake in Metro Manila that could be triggered by movements at the Valley Fault System.

The last time the country experienced a 7.2 earthquake was in Central Visayas on Oct. 15, 2013. More than 200 persons perished from the quake while damage to infrastructure was estimated at more than PHP2.2 billion.

The Resiliency Office is led by Villar, with Undersecretary Emil K. Sadain for Technical Services as alternate; and the directors of the Bureau of Maintenance and Unified Project Management Offices as deputy for operations and support, respectively.

The department order was issued pursuant to Executive Order 52 series of 2018 titled "Creating the Program Management Office for Earthquake Resiliency of the Greater Metro Manila".

Villar also announced the creation of three Regional Operations Groups headed by the undersecretaries for regional operations to conduct vulnerability and risk assessment of vital infrastructure in the provinces and collaborating with the local government units in mitigating risks.

To assist the DPWH ER-PMO, several agencies were identified to serve as support agencies – the National Economic and Development Authority; the departments of finance, budget, interior and local government, and social welfare; the National Disaster Risk Reduction Management Council; Department of Science and Technology - Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology; and Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Mines and Geosciences Bureau. (PNA)

“Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and He will flee from you.” – James 4:7