

DOLE Celebrates Labor Day in Pampanga

The 2019 Labor Day Celebration in San Fernando, Pampanga highlighted the continuous and collective efforts of the government and its social partners in developing the country's human resource and providing decent and productive employment for the Filipino workers. It recognized the Filipino workers' hard work, perseverance, and contribution to the economy.

"We pay tribute and give honor to the Filipino workers. We do this in grateful recognition of their sacrifices and hard work that brought our nation to where it is now," Secretary Silvestre Bello III said in his speech.

To mark the observance of Labor Day, DOLE organized a series of activities to symbolize the government's gratitude to and appreciation of the Filipino workers.



One of the activities was the Trabaho, Negosyo, Kabuhayan Job Fair and Business Opportunity held at the Kingsborough International Convention Center in Pampanga. One hundred fifty (150) employers joined the job fair offering local and overseas jobs. Most of the local jobs available were in the field of construction under the government's Build Build Build program. Vacancies for skilled professionals including English teachers and nurses were also available for overseas placement.

At the same venue, simultaneous learning sessions were conducted. The Department of Education discussed the Philippine Qualifications Framework; the Department of

Trade and Industry talked about How to Start a Business; and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority conducted a skills demonstration.

The National Reintegration Center for OFWs and Bureau of Workers with Special Concerns conducted a livelihood seminar for interested jobseekers, while the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration held a Pre-Employment Orientation Seminar. The Home Development Mutual Fund (Pag-IBIG) provided information on Pag-IBIG benefits and services.

Also part of the Labor Day celebration were the groundbreaking ceremony of the OFW Hospital and Diagnostic Center as well as the signing of the Memorandum of Agreement on Skills Training, Technical Education, Assessment and Certification for Returning OFWs, the DOLE-DOJ-BI Joint Guidelines on the Issuance of Work and Employment Permits to Foreign Nationals, and the Implementing Rules and Regulations of RA No. 11210 or the 105-Day Expanded Maternity Leave Law.

END/Kim Margarete B. Martinez