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### Latest News

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### Article in Brief

#### **Ministry of Education and Ministry of Finance to waive tuition and fees for compulsory education in all cities and towns across China**

Full text: <http://www.moe.gov.cn/edoas/website18/75/info1219481497160475.htm>

Ministry of Education Online, 23 August 2008: The State Council has determined that all tuition and fees for compulsory education will be waived in cities nationwide starting from the Autumn Semester 2008. In order to ensure smooth implementation of this decision, the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance held a meeting in Beijing on 23 August to discuss implementing the work in the northern, eastern and central-southern regions of China. Mr Zhou Ji, Minister of Education and Secretary of Ministry Party Group, attended the meeting and gave a speech. Mr Zhou Ji emphasised that waiving tuition and fees in all cities takes education reform from rural villages to the next level, thereby fulfilling the basic requirements for the successful implementation of the *Compulsory Education Law of PRC*.

#### **Fujian's Provincial Implementation Plan on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children (2008-2012)**

Fujian province recently published its *Provincial Implementation Plan on Combating Trafficking in Women and Children (2008-2012)*. Please see [here](#) for the full text.

#### **Fujian province will severely punish enterprises for use of child labour**

Full text: [http://www.legaldaily.com.cn/dfjzz/2008-08/13/content\\_923196.htm](http://www.legaldaily.com.cn/dfjzz/2008-08/13/content_923196.htm)

Legal Daily, 13 August 2008: Eight departments of Fujian government – including Labour and Social Security, Public Security, Industry and Commerce, Education and Health – have jointly issued a notice to punish organisations found to use child labour. Such organisations will be fined RMB 5000 per month for employing each child worker, up to RMB10,000 per month. As the same time, the permit of these organisations will be withdrawn. While various levels of employment monitoring agencies have severely punished enterprises that employ child workers in recent years, some enterprises continue to use such workers. During a specialised campaign carried out across the province in November 2007 alone, 265 child workers were uncovered and ordered to be released.

### **Vietnam and USA strengthen their labour cooperation**

Full text: [http://www.lm.gov.cn/gb/news/2008-08/12/content\\_248755.htm](http://www.lm.gov.cn/gb/news/2008-08/12/content_248755.htm)

Ministry of Commerce, 12 August 2008: According to a report in Vietnam's *Economic Times* on 8 August, Labour, Wounded Soldiers and Social Department signed an agreement with the US Department of Labour in Washington which extended the existing labour cooperation memorandum for another 4 years until August 2012. According to this agreement, both parties will strengthen cooperation in the following areas: improving labour relations, enhancing labour laws and regulations, strengthening labour monitoring and implementation of labour laws, improving employment services, pushing forward the building of social security systems, preventing the spread of HIV/AIDS in workplaces, clamping down on child labour, combating human trafficking, and protecting the rights of foreign workers.

### **Ministry of Commerce warns: China has yet to bring into effect its employment-system labour cooperation with South Korea**

Full text: [http://www.hlj.gov.cn/snpd/zxdt/200808/t20080811\\_131532.htm](http://www.hlj.gov.cn/snpd/zxdt/200808/t20080811_131532.htm)

Helongjiang News, 11 August 2008: Some enterprises, brokers and individuals have organised various recruitment and training programs in Helongjiang province under the false pretence of Chinese labour export to South Korean. Some of these parties have even forged documents by relevant Chinese or South Korean departments and agencies to engage in fraudulent behaviours. Thousands of people have been deceived and the amount of money involved in this case has reached tens of millions of yuan. This has brought the Chinese government into disrepute and affected social stability. Ministry of Commerce issued a public notice to warn that the employment-system labour cooperation between China and South Korea is still under negotiations and has not been officially brought into effect.

### **教育部、财政部全面部署免除城市义务教育学杂费工作**

全文: <http://www.moe.gov.cn/edoas/website18/75/info1219481497160475.htm>

教育部网站, 2008年08月23日, 国务院决定, 从2008年秋季学期开始, 在全国范围内全面免除城市义务教育阶段学生学杂费。为确保这项工作顺利推进, 教育部、财政部8月23日在京召开片会, 学习、领会国务院文件精神, 全面部署华北、华东、中

南地区城市义务教育免除学杂费工作。教育部部长、党组书记周济出席会议并讲话。周济强调，免除城市义务教育学杂费，是继农村义务教育经费保障机制改革后，国务院决定实施的又一重大决策，标志着我国城乡义务教育全面落实了《义务教育法》的基本要求。

## 福建反拐实施计划

福建省日前出台《福建反拐实施计划（2008-2012）》，请点击[此处](#)阅读全文。

## 福建重罚雇用童工企业

全文: [http://www.legaldaily.com.cn/dfjzz/2008-08/13/content\\_923196.htm](http://www.legaldaily.com.cn/dfjzz/2008-08/13/content_923196.htm)

法制日报, 2008年08月13日, 日前, 福建省劳动和社会保障、公安、工商、教育、卫生等八部门首次联合下发通知, 规定对使用不满16周岁童工的单位, 由劳动保障部门按照每使用一个每月罚款5000元的标准给予处罚, 最高的可重罚1万元, 同时吊销其营业执照。近年来, 尽管福建省各级劳动监察等机构对非法使用童工行为进行严厉打击, 但仍有一些企业继续使用童工, 仅去年11月份在全省开展的用人单位禁止使用童工专项检查中, 就查出并责令清退童工265名。

## 越南与美国加强劳务合作

全文: [http://www.lm.gov.cn/gb/news/2008-08/12/content\\_248755.htm](http://www.lm.gov.cn/gb/news/2008-08/12/content_248755.htm)

商务部, 2008年08月12日, 据越南《经济时报》8月8日报道, 越南劳动伤兵和社会部与美国劳工部在华盛顿签订协议, 决定将两部间原有的劳务合作备忘录有效期延长4年至2012年8月。根据该协议, 今后双方将加强以下合作: 改善劳务关系, 完善劳务会计法规; 加强劳务监察和劳动法实施工作; 改善劳动就业服务, 推动社保体系建设; 预防HIV/AIDS在工作地点传染和蔓延; 取缔未成年劳动, 打击人口贩卖活动; 保护在外国务工人员的权益等。

## 商务部门警示: 中韩尚未启动雇佣制劳务合作

全文: [http://www.hlj.gov.cn/snpd/zxdt/200808/t20080811\\_131532.htm](http://www.hlj.gov.cn/snpd/zxdt/200808/t20080811_131532.htm)

黑龙江新闻网, 2008年08月11日, 最近, 中韩两国一些企业、中介和个人单独或合伙借中韩雇佣制输韩劳务之名, 在我省许多地方非法组织各类招募和培训等活动, 有的甚至伪造中韩两国政府有关部门文件进行诈骗, 致使成千上万群众受骗, 涉案金额达数千万元人民币, 严重侵害了群众权益, 损害了我国政府的形象, 影响社会稳定。日前, 商务部门发布警示: 中韩雇佣制劳务合作有关事项正在协商之中, 相关业务尚未正式启动。

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