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Latest News

Index

- Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) published its annual Blue Paper claiming employment stability in 2008 despite global financial crisis
- All-China Federation of Trade Union (ACFTU) will put in great efforts to expand legal aid and manage non-payment of wages
- Combating transnational crimes – Guangxi Province publicised experience in preventing cross-border trafficking in women and children
- Break the Chains of Modern Slavery: End Demand

《反拐新闻文摘》目录

- 中国社会科学院发布《社会蓝皮书》金融危机对中国就业影响为近年罕见 2008年中国就业形势仍保持基本平稳
- 全国总工会将大力开展法律援助和欠薪治理
- 打击跨国犯罪 广西推广"预防跨国拐卖儿童妇女"经验
- 瑞典：斩断现代奴役的锁链：终止需求

Article in Brief

Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) published its annual Blue Paper claiming employment stability in 2008 despite global financial crisis

http://www.mohrss.gov.cn/mohrss/Desktop.aspx?path=mohrss/mohrss/InfoView&gid=59cd2527-5207-446a-b004-a3d332c4b0eb&tid=Cms_Info

China Labour & Social Security News, 17 December 2008: A meeting to launch CASS's *Blue Paper 2009* was held on 15 December 2008. The meeting focused on analysing labour and employment situation in 2008 which showed overall stability. However, it was noted that the US sub-prime crisis, and the subsequent global financial crisis, have made profound impact on China's economy and society, particularly in terms of employment. A large number of retrenched rural migrant workers have been forced to return to their home towns. This is a rare phenomenon for China in the last decade.

All-China Federation of Trade Union (ACFTU) will put in great efforts to expand legal aid and manage non-payment of wages

<http://www.acftu.net/template/10004/file.jsp?cid=222&aid=81062>

ACFTU, 18 December 2008: According to the Director of Work Security Department of ACFTU, Mr Li Shouzhen, the planned 'delivering warmth' activity for the 2009 Chinese Spring Festival will focus on addressing important problems encountered by target groups,

understanding difficulties faced by workers; helping unemployed workers and rural migrant workers to establish businesses and find employment; expand legal aid and manage non-payment of wages.

In particular, ACFTU will put in great efforts to expand legal aid and manage non-payment of wages in order to protect the legal rights and interests of employees and rural migrant workers. Targeting the increasing labour disputes between employees and business owners as a result of the global financial crisis, trade unions nationwide, in particularly those in the Yangtze River Delta and the Pearl River Delta regions, will increase efforts on providing legal aid, raising funds and utilising ACFTU's legal aid centres and legal representatives, so as to assist employees and rural migrant workers to address disputes that arise from retrenchment, non-payment of wages and cancellation of social security payments.

Combating transnational crimes – Guangxi Province publicised experience in preventing cross-border trafficking in women and children

http://www.gx.xinhuanet.com/newscenter/2008-12/17/content_15200112.htm

Guangxi Daily, 17 December 2008: The Provincial Women's Federation of Guangxi Autonomous Region and Save the Children jointly held a meeting in Nanning on 16 December to share and publicise the achievements and experience gained from the *Preventing Cross-Border Trafficking in Women and Children* project, in order to further combat transnational crime of trafficking in women and children, build the capacity of project officers and exchange experience gained since the implementation of the project. Provincial Women's Federation leaders and officers from 14 cities and 70 counties and districts of Guangxi participated in the meeting. Since 2003, the Provincial Women's Federation of Guangxi Autonomous Region and Save the Children have worked together to implement the project in Nanning and Chongzuo, whereby a variety of activities were carried out and expected outcomes in combating and preventing trafficking in persons were achieved.

Break the Chains of Modern Slavery: End Demand

<http://us.oneworld.net/article/358996-modern-day-slavery-sex-trafficking>

OneWorld, December 2, 2008: After years of parliamentary debate, in 1999 Swedes passed the *Sex Purchase Law*, which criminalized buying and decriminalized selling sex. This placed the emphasis on the buyers, while allowing women to seek help without being fined or deported. In five years, the number of prostituted women in Sweden dropped 40%. Today, the government estimates that less than 400 women are trafficked into the country, while in neighboring Finland it's 17,000. The law and its accompanying measures are credited with shifting the entire social mindset to one where buying another human being is simply unacceptable.

Sweden has inspired a trend. Norway recently made it illegal for its citizens to purchase any sex acts anywhere in the world. Britain's Home Office just introduced a new law making it an offence to pay for sex with somebody who is "controlled for another person's gain," including pimps, traffickers, and drug dealers who force addicts to repay them. Laws based on the Swedish model are being considered in Israel, India, and even the Netherlands, where a third of the infamous red light district brothels were shut down this year due to the illicit trafficking lurking within the shadows of the legal sex industry.

中国社会科学院发布《社会蓝皮书》金融危机对中国就业影响为近年罕见 2008 年中国就业形势仍保持基本平稳

http://www.mohrss.gov.cn/mohrss/Desktop.aspx?path=mohrss/mohrss/InfoView&gid=59cd2527-5207-446a-b004-a3d332c4b0eb&tid=Cms_Info

中国劳动保障报 2008 年 12 月 17 日: 12 月 15 日下午, 2009 年《社会蓝皮书》发布暨中国社会形势报告会在北京社科博源宾馆召开。会议着重分析了 2008 年我国的劳动就业形势, 指出总体形势平稳。但是需要注意的是, 由美国次贷危机演变成的国际金融危机, 对中国的经济社会产生了深刻的影响, 其中最为突出的是对就业的影响, 大批农民工因企业裁员而返乡的现象, 是近十几年来罕见的。

全国总工会将大力开展法律援助和欠薪治理

<http://www.acftu.net/template/10004/file.jsp?cid=222&aid=81062>

全国总工会 2008 年 12 月 18 日: 总保障工作部部长李守镇介绍说, 2009 年送温暖活动主要针对四类困难群体面临的突出困难和问题, 全面摸清困难职工底数, 帮助下岗失业职工和农民工实现自主创业和自谋职业, 开展法律援助和欠薪治理, 加大帮扶救助工作。

全总将大力开展法律援助和欠薪治理, 努力维护职工和农民工合法劳动权益。针对金融危机导致的职工与企业方劳动关系纠纷增多的情况, 各地工会, 特别是长三角和珠三角地区的工会, 将加大法律援助力度, 安排好法律援助资金, 充分利用工会法律援助中心和法律援助律师团, 为困难职工和农民工提供法律咨询和法律援助服务, 帮助他们解决因裁员、欠薪、断保等引发的劳动关系纠纷。

打击跨国犯罪 广西推广“预防跨国拐卖儿童妇女”经验

http://www.gx.xinhuanet.com/newscenter/2008-12/17/content_15200112.htm

广西日报 2008 年 12 月 17 日: 12 月 16 日, 自治区妇联和救助儿童会在南宁联合举办广西实施“预防跨国拐卖儿童妇女”项目成果经验交流推广会, 进一步打击跨国拐卖妇女儿童犯罪, 增强项目点工作人员能力, 交流项目实施以来的工作经验。来自全区 14 个市的妇联领导及 70 个县(区、市)妇联分管领导和维权干部参加了交流会。2003 年以来, 自治区妇联和救助儿童会联合在南宁、崇左实施“预防跨国拐卖儿童妇女”项目, 开展了形式多样的活动, “打拐”、“防拐”工作取得了预期效果。

瑞典: 斩断现代奴役的锁链: 终止需求

<http://us.oneworld.net/article/358996-modern-day-slavery-sex-trafficking>

Oneworld 网, 2008 年 12 月 2 日: 经过了多年的国会??, 瑞典在 1999 年通过了《买淫性交易法》。此法律惩治买淫, 并将卖淫非刑事化。通过强调打击买者, 以利被迫卖淫的妇女寻求帮助, 而免遭罚款或遣返的惩处。在法律施行后的五年内, 瑞典娼妓的人数减少了百分之四十。目前, 瑞典政府估计被拐卖入境的妇女不足 400 名, 而邻国芬兰被拐卖的妇女则达到 17,000 名。法律和配套措施促使了整个社会观念的转换, 即买方市场是绝对不允许存在的。

瑞典的做法推动了一个新的趋势。最近, 挪威规定其公民在世界任何地方产生任何性交易行为均被视为违法行为。英国的内政部刚刚发布了新的法律, 规定参与性交易的中间环节的人也构成犯罪, 这些中间人“控制他人所得”, 他(她)们包括: 皮条客、人贩子和强迫吸毒者还钱的毒贩子。此外, 效仿瑞典模式的法律正受到以色列、印

度、甚至荷兰当局的考量。由于在合法的性产业的掩盖下所潜藏的非非法拐卖事件层出不穷，荷兰声名狼藉的红灯区内有三分之一的妓院已在今年关闭。

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