

August 26, 2019

PRESS RELEASE

In an unprecedented move, a program has been launched by Labour Minister Ugyen Dorji on Monday for the Bhutanese youth to take up technical training internships in Japan. This is the outcome of the Memorandum of Cooperation signed between the Ministry and the Government of Japan in 2018.

“This program is not going to be implemented like the Learn & Earn Program which did not fare well in the past,” the Labour Minister said during the launch. “To begin with, the program will be directly implemented by the Ministry.”

The program which has been designed in direct collaboration with the Japanese government will allow our Bhutanese youth to pursue internships with Japanese employers to gain skills and knowledge for their employability. The internship is also expected to result in the transfer of skills, technologies, and knowledge to the Bhutanese youth which will culminate in the capacity development of Bhutanese people.

“Mismatch of skills leads to unemployability,” the Minister pointed out in his keynote address. “This program will help address the problem by sending our youth to one of the most developed economies in the world like Japan where work skills are highly revered and practiced passionately. The Ministry is striving to create a gainful employment for youth through such programs.”

The youth will be placed for three years of internships in various implementing organizations in Japan with possible extension up to five years. The employing agencies in Japan will pay the stipend to our youth based on their prevailing rates for internships. The employing agencies will also facilitate the accommodations and logistics for youth during the internship.

After the internship the youth are expected to return home to join the labour market in the similar sectors of their engagement. The Ministry expects youth to bring back critical skills in filling the job vacancies at home. However, youth can also choose to work in Japan through their own choice and if they get working visa.

Interested youth can start browsing the details of the program on Ministry’s website. The guideline for the program is put up for download where they can find information related to selection criteria, preparation and requirements for working in Japan.

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