Asia Pacific Industrial Relations Net (apirnet.ilo.org) is an ILO-sponsored Community of Practice (CoP) for industrial and employment relations specialists across Asia and the Pacific. It is the premier gateway for information on Industrial Relations in Asia Pacific.

Dear Industrial Relations Net members and readers,

We are happy to bring the latest news for this June issue. The highlights and new features on this AP-IRNet newsletter include:

- World Employment and Social Outlook: The Changing Nature of Jobs; Giving a voice to rural workers;
- As well as updated news on industrial relations issues in the region.

To ensure that you receive our community updates in the future, please register as an AP-IRNet member. You can also view more news, resources and events on industrial relations issues in Asia and the Pacific by clicking here. Do you have Facebook or Twitter? Like our AP-IRNet Facebook page and follow our Twitter! Your voice counts!

Featured Publications

World Employment and Social Outlook: The Changing Nature of Jobs
The World Employment and Social Outlook is the ILO’s new flagship report on world of work issues. Exploring the inter-connected nature of macroeconomic policies on the one hand, and employment and social outcomes on the other, it analyses which policy combinations are most effective in delivering high employment and balanced incomes. The publication also provides readers with the most up-to-date global as well as regional labour market and social indicators.

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Giving a voice to rural workers

The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations publishes annually an in-depth General Survey on member States’ national law and practice, on a subject chosen by the Governing Body. This year the General Survey focuses on the Right of Association and Rural Workers’ Organizations instruments. General surveys are established mainly on the basis of reports received from member States and information transmitted by employers’ and workers' organizations. They allow the Committee of Experts to examine the impact of Conventions and Recommendations, to analyse the difficulties indicated by governments as impeding their application or their ratification, and to identify means of overcoming these obstacles.

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News Highlights

**Fiji: Bill allows civil servants to join unions**

Fiji Times, 28 May 2015 - CIVIL servants - excluding the military, police and corrections service - and workers in government statutory organisations will soon have the freedom to join trade unions and take part in strikes over working conditions.

**Cambodia: Unions Pushing for Another Wage Increase**

Voice of America, 26 May 2015 - Cambodia’s garment factory unions are preparing for another push to increase the minimum wage.

**Vietnam: ILO to inspect Vietnamese textile enterprises**

Fibre2fashion, 25 May 2015 - Over the next five months, the Vietnamese labour ministry and experts from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) will inspect hundreds of garment and textile enterprises across 12 provinces and cities, a leading Vietnamese newspaper reported.

**Global: More collective bargaining means less inequality**

ILO, This chart compiles data from 30 developed economies to show that in countries in which a higher percentage of workers are covered by collective bargaining agreements, relative levels of wage inequality is lower.

**Myanmar: US pressure for more reforms - US employs the soft and hard approach to ensure the Myanmar government stays the course**
The Nation, 25 May 2015 - Amid fears of backsliding political reforms in Myanmar, the United States has adopted a carrot-and-stick approach to ensure that the reforms stay on course.

Bangladesh: ILO presses for rules on labour law

The Financial Express, 22 May 2015 - The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has emphasised preparing rules for implementation of the Bangladesh Labour Act (BLA) in accordance with the international labour standards.

Asia: 'Cheap and Trendy' Fashion Comes at a Price

The Diplomat, 18 May 2015 - The rise of “fast fashion” is influencing labor standards in Asia and elsewhere.

Philippines: Addressing shoe factory fire in Manila, UN urges global action on workplace safety

IndiaBlooms, 16 May 2015 - The International Labour Organization (ILO), in a statement issued in the wake of this week's deadly shoe factory fire in the Philippine capital, noted often such accidents are preventable and offered its assistance to improve safety and health conditions in the workplace.

India: ILO report highlights growing insecurities in India's labour market

liveMint, 9 May 2015 - Around 94.2% workers employed on short-term contracts amid growing insecurity in India's labour market, says ILO

Maldives: Half of Maldives resort workers sign petition for US$600 minimum wage

MinivanNews, 7 May 2015 - Approximately half of the Maldivians working in the tourism sector have signed a petition demanding that the government set a minimum wage of US$600 for resort workers.

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