

Protecting Worker's Life and Health

KOSHA Newsletter

February 2010

- Recruitment and Operation of Citizen Inspectors for the Safety of Construction Sites -

Feb. 2, 2010

- KOSHA (CEO: Noh Min-ki) **announced on the 22nd that it will recruit and operate 「Citizen Inspectors for Safety of Construction Site」** to raise public awareness of safety management of domestic construction sites and encourage the observance of safety regulations.
- As a new accident prevention project consigned by the Ministry of Labor, the 「Citizen Inspectors for Safety of Construction Site」 (“Citizen Inspectors”) project starts this year. It regularly patrols and inspects small and medium construction sites with capital of KRW 12 billion (KRW 15 billion for civil engineering works) and carry out relatively insufficient safety management since they have no obligation to appoint a safety manager. To prevent accidents in such construction sites, Citizen Inspectors will direct the improvement of dangerous elements and make related personnel observe the safety regulations voluntarily.
- To participate in the government's job creation efforts and for more effective inspection, the Citizen Inspectors project recruits only retired people (including unemployed people) who had accumulated experiences for more than 3 years, such as safety managers who retired from NGO and retired construction site safety manager. After taking related education for the certain period, they will be deployed in 19 regions (except Jeju-do) to inspect construction sites.
- If there is a construction site where the general safety regulations are not observed, Citizen Inspectors ask staff such as the site manager to observe

related regulations and guide the improvement of dangerous elements.

○ In particular, if there is a chance of urgent accident including fall and collapse due to very poor safety facilities, or people can be easily exposed to asbestos owing to the illegal dismantling or removal of asbestos, Citizen Inspectors will instantly report to the related local labor office to prevent accidents at the construction site.

○ For more detailed information on Citizen Inspectors such as qualifications and schedule, visit the homepage of KOSHA (www.kosha.or.kr). Applications are accepted until May 1 (Mon.), 24:00 only through e-mail (kosha04@kosha.net).

KRA, join “Service Industry Safety^{+(Plus)} Project”
KOSHA, sign performance agreement with KRA Inc.

Feb. 16, 2010

“Specific performance agreement made to prevent accidents among
personnel in the service industry”

○ Korea Occupational Safety & Health Agency (KOSHA; CEO: Noh Min-ki) signed a performance agreement for the “**Service Industry Safety^{+(plus)} Project**”* with KRA (Korea Restaurant Association), Inc., (CEO: Nam Sang-man) in the conference room of KRA at 11:30 am on the 16th (Tue.).

<Outline of the Performance Agreement between KOSHA and KRA>

- Date: 11:30 ~ 13:00, Feb. 16, 2010
- Place: Office of KRA, Inc.
- Attendant: KOSHA Educational Promotion Director Choi Dae-yeol, KRA’s CEO Nam Sang-man

*** The Service Industry Safety^{+(plus)} project is designed to minimize accidents in the service industry by conducting accident prevention activities (inspection of dangerous elements, distribution and attachment of safety promotion materials, etc.) at the sites of the top 5 dangerous service industries.**

○ In this agreement, both parties agreed to cooperate on the “**Service Industry Safety^{+(plus)} Project,**” one of KOSHA's major service industry projects in 2010, in partial fulfillment of the "MOU for the prevention of industrial accidents" made by and between KOSHA and KRA in 2009.

○ The restaurant business records the highest number and ratio of industrial disaster victims (22%, 6,614 persons in Nov. 2009); most of them are poor, with employees numbering less than 5. In addition, most of the restaurant employees (server, cook, delivery worker, etc.) are temporary, old, or

women, employees who are vulnerable to industrial accidents. Therefore, systemic safety/health management for them is harder than that for employees in manufacturing industries.

○ KRA agreed to include safety/health education in the "Food Hygiene Education" course, a legal job training for members. For its part, KOSHA agreed to support lecturers, make safety/health promotion materials, and distribute them to the participants of such education to raise safety awareness (see attached Performance Agreement).

※ Legal job training for restaurant owners (6H) and existing managers (3H) in accordance with Article 41 of the Food Sanitation Act

○ In particular, KOSHA shall make and distribute safety/health materials for the prevention of accidents in the form of promotion materials instead of the existing printouts such as poster and sticker to promote safety/health not only for restaurant employees but also for customers.

○ According to KOSHA CEO Noh Min-ki, this agreement is the first case of an MOU made in 2009 and embodied as a specific performance agreement. “KOSHA and KRA will fully cooperate in implementing the ‘**Service Industry Safety^{+(plus)} project**’ to reduce accidents in the restaurant business,” he said. (End)

To protect the life and health of workers, 「**KOSHA**」 as a preventer of industrial accidents will always lead the way.

“Delivering Korea’s Accident Prevention Development Models to Vietnam”

- KOSHA invited 12 Vietnamese OSH officials for a training program

○ KOSHA (President: Min-ki Noh) launched a weeklong training program (from Feb. 22 to Feb. 26, 2010) at Occupational Safety and Health Training Institute in Incheon. The training program was targeted toward 12 Vietnamese OSH officials from the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) and National Institute of Labor Protection (NILP).

○ The training program came out of the technical arrangement Vietnam’s MOLISA and NILP signed with Korea in October 2009, during Vietnam-Korea Week held in Hanoi. The training program was held to upgrade Vietnam’s OSH system by enhancing the capabilities of public officers and related officials.

○ The training program was about the overall management of OSH, including Korea’s OSH system. The discussion-based training, in which trainees can learn accident prevention techniques and visit worksites firsthand, helped them to acquire accident prevention methods effectively in a short time. In addition, training sessions focused on OSH education training and safety certification were also carried out.

○ Under the main objective of providing follow-up measures and systematic technical support upon the signing of the technical arrangement, KOSHA will establish “Master Plan to enhance Vietnam’s OSH levels”. Also, systematic technical support will be provided to Vietnam based on annual plans.

○ “I expect the training program to provide realistic help to Vietnamese officials, so that they can actually improve their work performance. KOSHA will make efforts to bring the global attention to OSH by reinforcing our accident prevention technical support toward Asia’s developing nations,” according to an official at KOSHA.