



MORE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN ISRAEL

The Philippine Overseas Labor Office in Israel has reported that the Israel Government, through the Ministry of Interior Population Immigration and Border Authority, has issued a special permit for the employment of foreign workers for the construction of the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem Express Railway Line. The Shapir Civil and Marine Engineering Ltd. Company and the Pizzarotti Company (Italian company) will directly employ the foreign workers. The government has required the deposit of bank guarantee of NIS 4 million to ensure the protection of the rights of foreign workers and compliance of the company under Israel laws. The project is estimated to be completed in 2015.

The special permit outlines the following responsibilities of the employing companies on the workers, to wit:

- The company should pay the annual fee for each employee. Such fees will not be deducted, directly or indirectly from the workers' salary.
- The company shall pay the income tax to authorities. Any tax that applies on the employment of foreign workers should not be deducted from the salary of the workers.
- The company shall ensure that foreign workers are not required to pay any fee or other payment whatsoever, directly or indirectly, for the right to work in Israel.
- The worker shall submit to the industrial permit unit, before issuance of work permit, a signed affidavit declaring that he did not pay the company, the foreign concessionaire, the manpower subcontractor or their representatives any fee or commission for the right to work in Israel.

- The employer shall employ the worker under the laws of the State of Israel, and undertakes that he or any of its representatives will not hold the passports of foreign workers, will not act violently with foreign workers and will pay the foreign workers' salary directly to a bank account under the name of the workers.
- The worker shall be entitled to a weekly day or rest, holidays, overtime payment, suitable accommodations, a written contract, medical insurance and detailed pay slip.
- The Enforcement Department of the Permits Unit of the Immigration Authority will perform special periodic inspection on the employment conditions of the foreign workers.

