

1 Results of supervision/instructions (July-December 2013)

The Fukushima Prefectural Labour Department has issued supervisions and instructions to 660 employers within the jurisdiction of its Labour Standards Inspection Offices during the period from July to December 2013 in order to ensure proper conditions of employment and the safety and health of workers engaged in decontamination works.

Among those employers, a total of 446 (violation rate of 67.6%) were recognized as being in violation of applicable laws such as the Labour Standards Act or Industrial Safety and Health Act. Corrective recommendations were issued to these employers to correct said violations accordingly.

The number of violations was 1,105, among which 742 were those relevant to conditions of employment; payment of increased wages (Article 37 of LS Act), preparation of payroll books (Article 108 of LS Act), and working hours (Article 32 of LS Act) .

Violations numbering 363 were those relevant to safety and health; preliminary survey (Article 22 of the Industrial Safety and Health Act, and Article 7 of the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination), use of protective equipment (Article 22 of the Industrial Safety and Health Act, and Article 16 of the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination), and radiation exposure dose monitoring (Article 22 of the Industrial Safety and Health Act, and Article 5 of the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination) (See Material 1-2 and 1-3 for details and Material 2 for related provisions of relevant laws)

Supervisions and instructions were implemented to 1, 047 employers during the one year period of 2013, among which violations of labour standards laws and regulations were found for 709 employers (violation ratio 67.7%)

Cases of violation (July to December 2013)

< Relating to conditions of employment >

- Employers failed to count hours of special education necessary for engaging in decontamination works or hours required for medical checks of the internal exposure measurement as working hours and failed to pay wages for such hours (Article 24 of the Labour Standards Act);
- Employers ordered workers to be absent from work on rainy days on which decontamination works were cancelled but they could cause workers to engage in works other than decontamination works. However, they failed to pay the absence from work allowance to workers. (Article 26 of said Act);
- Employers failed to include the decontamination allowance in the base calculation of increased wage for overtime working, and the amount of the increased wage paid was lower than the amount that was calculated by the method provided for in the Labour Standards Act (Article 37 of said Act);
- Employers failed to prepare payroll books and used paystubs delivered to workers instead, which did not contain items required by the Labour Standards Act nor were used for payroll books (Article 108 of said Act).

< Relating to industrial safety and health >

- When a labour standards inspector went to a decontamination works site and checked the method to measure external exposure dose, the inspector got the answer that “we measure the external exposure dose of all the workers by requiring a representative of the workers to carry a radiation dosimeter”. However, when the inspector checked the carrying conditions, it was found that the dosimeter was actually left behind in a car, and accurate radiation exposure dose was not measured (Article 5 of the Ionizing Radiation Ordinance for Decontamination).
- When using a heavy machine to excavate soils to which radioactive material was attached, not dust masks to prevent inhalation of dust, but surgical masks (*) were used (Article 16 of said Ordinance). *Surgical masks generally worn by persons affected by cold or hay fever.
- Employers made workers engage in decontamination works for about 6 months who had not attended the special education for decontamination works as the day of the said special education could not be adjusted to the works schedule (Article 19 of said Ordinance).

2 Other actions

(1) Cooperation with the Fukushima Office for Environmental Restoration

The Fukushima Prefectural Labour Bureau has provided the Fukushima Office for Environmental Restoration with information on any non-payment of special duty allowance (decontamination allowance) since November 2012.

Information on non-payment cases provided to date is 21.

(2) Labour consultation desk

The Fukushima Prefectural Labour Bureau and the Labour Standards Inspection Offices in Fukushima Prefecture provide consultation about working conditions such as non-payment of wages and dismissal of workers engaged in decontamination works.

List of labour consultation desks

Office	Address	Phone	Jurisdiction area
Fukushima Labour Bureau	Fukushima government office complex 5F Kasumi-town 1-46, Fukushima-city, Zip:960-8021	024-536-4602 (Inspection Division)	
Fukushima	Fukushima government office complex 1F Kasumi-town 1-46, Fukushima-city, Zip:960-8021	024-536-4610	Fukushima-city, Nihonmatsu-city, Date-city, Date-county, Soma-county Iitate-village
Koriyama	Kuwano 2-1-18, Koriyama-city Zip:963-8025	024-922-1370	Koriyama-city, Tamura-city, Motomiya-city, Tamura-county, Adachi-county
Iwaki	Iwaki local government office complex 4F Doune-town 4-11, Taira, Iwaki-city, Zip:970-8026	0246-23-2255	Iwaki-city
Aizu	Shiromae 2-10, Aizuwakamatsu-city, Zip:965-0803	0242-26-6494	Aizuwakamatsu-city, Onuma-county, Minamiaizu-county, Yama-county (Inawashiro-town, Bandai-town), Kawanuma-county
Shirakawa	Kakunai 1-124, Shirakawa-city, 961-0074	0248-24-1391	Shirakawa-city, Nishishirakawa-county, Higashishirakawa-county
Sukagawa	Asahi-town 204-1, Sukagawa-city,	0248-75-3519	Sukagawa-city, Iwase-county,

	Zip:962-0834		Ishikawa-county
Kitakata	Suwa 91, Kitakata-city, Zip:966-0896	0241-22-4211	Kitakata-city, Yama-county (Nishi-aizu-town, Kita-shiobara-village)
Soma	Sakuragaoka 68, Nakamura, Soma-city, Zip:976-0042	0244-36-4175	Soma-city, Minamisoma-city, Soma-county Shinchi-town
Tomioka	(Temporary office) LATOV Building 8F Tamachi 120, Taira, Iwaki-city, Zip:970-8026	0246-35-0050	Futaba-county