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China Labour Bulletin Weekly Roundup No. 25 (2006-11-17)

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Protest

style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>

Over 1,000 state-owned enterprise workers protest against unfair layoff compensation

More than 1,000 workers of a state-owned enterprise in <st1:State><st1:place> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>Gansu</st1:place></st1:State> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'> province staged a protest against being laid off and given unfair compensation after the company was privatized. [href="http://www.clb.org.hk/public/contents/news?revision%5fid=40180&item%5fid=40179">Read More]<o:p></o:p>

mso-list:l1 level1 lfo2;tab-stops:list 36.0pt'><u>Labour</u>
 <u>class=SpelIE>rights struggle</u><o:p></o:p>

style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>

Labour rights group cracked down for organising mass signature campaign

A Shenzhen-based labour rights group was forcibly closed down for organising a mass campaign aiming to collect one million signatures calling for the government to scrap the labour dispute arbitration handling fee. [href="http://www.clb.org.hk/public/contents/news?revision%5fid=40171&item%5fid=40170">Read More]<0:p></o:p>

 mso-list:l2 level1 lfo3;tab-stops:list 36.0pt'><u>Coal</u> <u>mine accidents</u><o:p></o:p>

style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>

The best way to reduce coal mine accidents is to allow miners monitor their work safety

A total of 104 miners have been killed in a series of coal mine accidents across <st1:country-region><st1:place> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>China</st1:place></st1:country-region> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'> in the past eight days, according to the State Administration of Work Safety (SAWS). SAWS officials recently admitted that coal mine safety was growing worse. "There is a stronger demand for coal in winter as it is the major material for heating in most parts of <st1:country-region><st1:place> EN-GB'>China</st1:place></st1:country-region> style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>. For this reason, coal mines try to produce more than they can manage," a SAWS official said. [
href="http://www.clb.org.hk/public/contents/news?revision%5fid=40094&item%5fid=40092">Read More]<o:p></o:p>

mso-list:l3 level1 lfo4;tab-stops:list 36.0pt'><u>Government</u>
 <u>policies on labour issues</u><o:p></o:p>

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State Council issues policy summary on the 11th five-year plan on labour and social security

The State Council issued the summary of the 11th five-year plan (2006 - 2010) on labour and social security on 9 November. According to the summary, <st1:country-region><st1:place> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>China</st1:place></st1:country-region> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'> will face serious challenge in labour and social security affairs in the next five years and the biggest challenge will be on employment. [href="http://www.clb.org.hk/public/contents/news?revision%5fid=40098&item%5fid=40097"> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>Read More lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>]

Two policies adopted on rural migrants' residential status in urban areas

More than 140 million rural residents left their home villages to go to work in cities and towns. Since they didn't have residential status (class=SpellE>hukou) in the cities and towns, they could not enjoy the benefits given to urban residents, such as free nine-year compulsory education to their children, medical insurance, unemployment insurance and minimum living allowance. In response to these problems, the central government has adopted two measures in the residency system reform since 1997. [href="http://www.clb.org.hk/public/contents/news?revision%5fid=40167&item%5fid=40165"> lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>Read More lang=EN-GB style='mso-ansi-language:EN-GB'>]

Government launches new website on rural migrant workers

The central government's website has opened a special section on enhancing service and management to rural migrant workers and the protection of migrant workers' rights, the URL of which is http://www.gov.cn/ztzl/nmg/index.htm. [href="http://www.clb.org.hk/public/contents/news?revision%5fid=40066&item%5fid=40064">