

The Department of Labor and Employment-9 (DOLE-9) sees the move to end “endo” in Region 9 and Zamboanga City as a battle as the said practice is prevalent in the region and mostly in Zamboanga City.

“We consider this a battle...(referring to “endo”) President Rodrigo Duterte is challenging us that by the end of December 2016, to end contractualization by 50 percent and by December 2017, 100 percent na... wala ng contractualization in the region,” Gay Iris T. S. Tangcalagan, DOLE 9 information officer, said in an interview.

At present, DOLE labor law compliance officers are conducting inspection of the different establishments in the region. They were issued authority to conduct assessment in establishments where they check if workers get their benefits, if “endo” is not being practiced, and payment of minimum wage is being followed.

“Endo” is the practice of giving workers short-term contracts then letting them go before they are entitled to the benefits of full-time employment.

Tangcalagan explained that during the assessment, case violations have been found and DOLE issues an order of compliance to the company. In the event they will really not comply, garnishment will follow, and lastly, the office will push the case to the National Labor Relation Commission.

“We need to knock at their door we do not want na darating yung point na harsh yung approach natin sa kanila because developmental tayo. We do not want to do that (referring to the filing of cases). We want to have it settled... they must follow the law,” the information officer said.

Recall that President Duterte wants “endo” ended even before he won as president. This is also the first order of Labor Secretary, Sylvestre H. Bello III to all DOLE regional offices. — R.G. A A. Go