

Office of Sen. Manny Villar

Sagip-OFW Helpline

Ground Floor, Worldwide Corporate Center Bldg., Shaw Blvd., Mandaluyong City
☐ 09174226800 and 09175050639 • mannyvillar_sagipofw@yahoo.com

News Release
01 March 2011

Saudi bridge dwellers get assistance from Villar's Sagip OFW

Eighteen overseas Filipino workers with four children today visited Sen. Manny Villar to personally thank him for the assistance provided by the help desk he set up for distressed OFWs.

The OFWs, through the work of Migrante International, were rescued from Khandara Bridge in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. They were repatriated by the Department of Foreign Affairs last month. They sought the help of Sagip OFW so they can pay for their transportation back to their respective provinces, mostly in Mindanao.

“Nagpapasalamat po kami sa lahat ng tumulong na makabalik kami ng Pilipinas matapos kaming manatili sa ilalim ng tulay sa Jeddah ng ilang buwan. Tiniis po namin ang init at lamig pati po ang pagbaha doon, may mga kasama pa kaming mga bata,” said Arnulfo Manongdo, one of the repatriated OFWs.

Manongdo hails from Cabiao, Nueva Ecija. He went to Saudi in 2006 as a machine operator. He was promised to receive SR1,600 salary but was only getting SR450 or roughly P5,000.

Aside from the transportation assistance, the children also received milk, toys, diapers and vitamins from Villar.

“Alam natin na malaki ang problema ng mga manggagawa sa ibang bansa kaya ipinaglalaman natin na madagdagan ang pondo ng gobyerno para maasikaso sila, lalo na yung mga matagal nang naghihintay para makauwi,” Villar said after meeting the group.

Khandara Bridge became the area where overstaying nationalities wait for their deportation back to their countries. They stayed in makeshift tents under the bridge.

Filipinos who converge here experienced unfair treatment from their employers, including contract substitution, low pay and worked excessive hours. Some of them entered Saudi Arabia without proper documentation.

FACT SHEET:
Stranded OFWs in Khandara Bridge

Pangalan ng mga OFWs	Edad	Tirahan	Trabaho at petsa ng pagpunta sa Saudi
Arnulfo Sandoval Manongdo	42 taong gulang	Cabiao, Nueva Ecija	Machine operator- Oktubre 7, 2006
Maricel Pandita	26 taong gulang	Brgy. Digal, Buluan, Maguindanao	Domestic helper-Marso 2006
Soffie Midtimbang	41 taong gulang	Datu Odin Sinsuat, Maguindanao	Domestic helper-Oktubre 11, 2006
Aladin Manambuay	30 taong gulang	Buluan, Maguindanao	Construction worker- Disyembre 6, 2010
Saida Sumakal	37 taong gulang	Sarakan, Matanog, Maguindanao	Domestic helper-Marso 24, 2006
Abdul Basher Palo	36 taong gulang	Balo 1, Lanao del Norte	Driver-Marso 17, 2006
Alira Manobac	28 taong gulang	Balo 1, Lanao del Norte	Flash Terer-Enero 2009
Murad Dibarosa	25 taong gulang	Marawi City	Food server-Hulyo 10, 2009
Norosalam Macalaba Lawi	37 taong gulang	Parang, Maguindanao	Domestic helper-Marso 4, 2006
Lubaira Guiandal	43 taong gulang	Barongis, Maguindanao	Domestic helper- Disyembre 21, 2007
Farida Angcoy	40 taong gulang	Buluan, Maguindanao	Domestic helper-Abril 27, 2004
Armia Dimaporo			
Erlinda Casuga			
Norma Ismael			
Cedric Camacho			
Ericson Apuya			
Arma Dimaporo			
Erlinda Casuga			