

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DepEd training to improve teachers' competence continues

More than 190,000 teaching personnel in 2007-2008 were sent by the Department of Education to upgrade their teaching competencies and improve student performance in English, Science and Mathematics.

Education Secretary Jesli Lapus said that out of the total of 531,705 teaching staff, DepEd targeted 210,760 for training in 2007-2008. Those already trained corresponds to 91% of the target number.

"Teachers training and development is a DepEd priority program that will redound to the delivery of quality education to our students," Lapus added.

The training programs for the teaching staff focused on upgrading knowledge and teaching competencies in key subjects such as English, Science and Mathematics.

Lapus explained that training designs were based on needs and the competency based standards for teachers.

Teachers were also trained in teaching of preschool children, 5-year old children in day care centers, special children, as well as managing special education schools, and other subject areas in the curriculum.

Other areas of competence that were given focus during the training were on technical and vocational education courses; Alternative Learning facilitators, instructional managers and coordinators; as well as training on ICT integration in the curriculum.

School Managers comprised of head teachers and principals were also trained on School-based management focused on developing and implementing School Implementation Plan and Annual Implementation Plan and forging partnership with various stakeholders. Most importantly, they were honed on school leadership and accountability with the end in view of meeting standards for performing schools.

"We must not overlook the critical role played by our non-teaching personnel in attaining the goals of the Department," Lapus said.

DepEd has also trained 8,445 non-teaching personnel including administrative staff, librarians, guidance counselors, medical and dental and support staff or 61% out of the 13,980 targeted for 2007-2008 training.

For high level officials, leadership development programs for leaders were offered by the Asian Institute of Management.

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