

## JILPT Research Activities

### Plans of Research Projects in FY 2006

The JILPT is carrying out nine research projects during the period of three and a half years from October 2003 to March 2007. The plans of the research projects for fiscal year 2006 are as shown below.

- Geo-structural analysis of unemployment

In fiscal year 2006, we will investigate municipalities that had exceptional success in job creation, and clarify how the programs for industry and job creation were planned and implemented. Moreover, we will examine methods that could be used for stimulating regional communities that were not effective in industry and job creation. We will also work towards preparing the final report.

- Restructuring of the system determining working conditions

In fiscal year 2006, we will continue to investigate the functions and the state of labor unions and the labor-management consultation system. We will also work towards preparing the final report considering the research results we have so far obtained.

- Desirable employment strategy in Japan

In fiscal year 2006, we will examine the labor market structure, social background, and employment-related legal systems in the context of drawing up an employment strategy in our country, and advance research on related individual topics. We will also work towards preparing the final report considering the research results we have obtained.

- Environment containing employment and safety nets which would enable diverse working styles

In fiscal year 2006, we will, taking into consideration the research results we have so far obtained, examine the working environment that makes diverse working styles possible and the safety net provided by the application of labor-related laws. We will also work towards bringing together the results, taking into account the policy directions as well, and preparing the final report.

- Comprehensive analysis of corporate business strategies and personnel treatment systems, etc.

In fiscal year 2006, we will, based on the results obtained so far, work on preparing the final report, which will cover the future direction of Japanese

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firms' human resource management and policy challenges.

- Desirable infrastructure development for the labor market regarding vocational ability development

In fiscal year 2006, we will advance research based on the research results we have obtained and work towards preparing the final report, which will cover the challenges in introducing an education and training system in the labor market and policy formation.

- Establishment of a social system which would harmonize private and occupational life

In fiscal year 2006, we will, based on the results we have so far obtained from our survey and research, prepare the final report that will include proposals on how employment, family life, regional communities, etc. should be in balancing one's work and private life and on the necessary employment policy.

- Development of an integrated occupational information database

In fiscal year 2006, we will make required improvements in the system and guidance algorithms for the actual operation and opening to the public of the second prototypes that will mainly be targeted to young, middle-aged, and senior citizens. In parallel, we will prepare occupational information data and a system for assisting the management of the database, and make them open to the public via the Internet.

- Support for the re-employment of middle-aged and older workers who have lost their jobs

In fiscal year 2006, we will, based on the results we have obtained so far, prepare the "Manual for Assisting in Self-Understanding" (provisional title), the Career Insight MC (mid career) system for the middle-aged and senior citizens, and the "Guide to Occupational Counseling" (provisional title), which will be useful in the practical affairs of providing occupational counseling to middle-aged and senior job seekers. Based on these results, we will summarize their interrelations and work towards preparing the final report.

## **Research Report**

The findings of research activities undertaken by JILPT are compiled into Research Reports (in Japanese). Below is a list of the reports published from May to July 2006. The complete text in Japanese of these reports can be accessed from the JILPT website. We are currently working on uploading

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abstracts of the reports in English on to the JILPT website as well.

- No. 61 *Human Resource Management of Today's Japanese Firms: Interim Report of the Research Project "Comprehensive Analysis of Firms' Management Strategies, Personnel Treatment Systems, Etc., (June 2006).*
- No. 62 *Research on Night Work Performed by Young Workers in Various Countries: State of Labor by Children Actors, Etc., (June 2006).*
- No. 63 *Employment Strategy of the Future: Prosperous and Energetic Society in which Everyone is Shining and Motivated, (June 2006).*
- No. 64 *Balancing Work with Family Life: Childcare and Nursing Care, (May 2006)*
- No. 65 *Research on the Current State of Regional Employment Creation, (June 2006).*
- No. 66 *Development of Tools, Etc. for Supporting the Reemployment of Middle-Aged and Senior Job Seekers: Interim Report of the Research Project "Research on Support for Reemployment of the Middle-Aged and Senior Citizens, Mostly White-Collar Workers, who have been Separated from Work", (June 2006).*