Indignation of temporary workers for CPI reduction of 2011 and 2012

Deduction is applied by a decision of the Batllia, which considered the bonus not consolidated. The main affected are teachers, which payroll has been decreased about 70 euros per month.

Several temporary teachers saw their payroll for the month of September was reduced by almost 70 euros. The indignation grew rapidly among the group and gave rise to several complaints to both the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of the Civil Service. The deduction corresponds to the amount that was increased in 2011 and 2012 based on the CPI. The reason why this amount is now being deducted is due to a resolution of the Batllia from a few months ago that considers that the bonus that was granted during these years is not consolidated, despite the fact that until now it had continued to be applied year after year.

The news came shortly after the last general elections and at that time it already alerted the unions. It has not been until now, however, that the grievance has been made public because the reduction only affects newly created contracts, which means that the problem basically affects temporary workers. And one of the groups in which this figure, now called a temp, is more frequent is in the body of Education, although it is not the only one. It is for this reason that with the beginning of the new academic year and, therefore, the hiring of new teachers, the uproar has been generated.

**Changes in the contract** To all this, moreover, it has been added that this year the temporary teachers have also found changes when it comes to signing the new contract. The vast majority of temporary teachers who went to sign the labour agreement at the end of August was given a different document compared to previous years, which does not state the salary they would receive. According to Government sources, this is because teachers are now governed by the new Civil Service Law like any other civil servant and not by the Labour Relations Code as was the case until recently. What they have signed, thus, is an appointment of a public worker and not a contract document as they did before.

Government sources leave the door open to a possible rectification of the reduction, despite the Batllia’s ruling.

In any case, this change, along with the reduction of the payroll, was interpreted by some teachers as a ‘dirty play’ of the Executive. The Government, however, assures that this change was already foreseen in the law and that the decision to lower the CPI is due to the resolution of the justice system and not to its criteria.

Anyway, the same governmental sources said that it will be necessary to see what final decision the Executive takes, leaving the door open to a possible rectification of this reduction.

**Complaints from the teachers** Several complaints were not mentioned by this newspaper were indignant and concerned about the changes, especially the way things have been done. Despite admitting that it is the obligation of every citizen to be informed of the resolutions and the effects they may have on their work, they consider that the Ministry should have warned them in detail of the changes in their payroll through, for example, a memo or an internal communiqué.

In the same regard, they remind us that their salary was frozen for a long time but the cost of living continued to rise. However, they understand that lowering their payroll corresponding to the rise in the cost of living in 2011 and 2012 makes their wages ‘go back in time’ while ‘rents and life in general keep increasing.’

The SEP's assembly held on Thursday did not take any decision yet, on whether or not to take the issue of special relation staff to the Batllia. Both the group of teachers, the Sipaag and also the CFPA had complained that during the past term many of the positions of trust ended up assuming tasks that did not correspond to them. The issue was dealt with during the assembly but as it coincided with the renewal of the board, it was decided to wait for a new assembly, when the transfer of powers had already taken place. The majority has spoken in favour and others against, but we will decide further on,” said the outgoing General Secretary of the union, David Garcia.

However, the positions of the board of the union for the next two years were renewed. Anna Mundó is the new General Secretary and is teamed with Rubén Monter, Daniel Pérez, Eva Viliana, Susagna Casimiro, Elodia Giralt and Sandra Ribolleda. Among the main goals is the monitoring of the development of the Civil Service and Education laws. Mundó indicated that they also have issues on the table such as the mutual insurance, retirement or all the problems related to temporary workers.
LACK OF EMPLOYMENT PROBLEMS

The Executive looks for labour in Ariège to come work in Pas

Government is working with French employment service to offer incentives for the town's cross-borders

The Minister of the Presidency, Economy and Enterprise, Jordi Gallardo, held a meeting on Thursday with the main actors of the commercial fabric of Pas de la Casa, who forwarded to the number two of the Executive their concern for the current lack of workers in the town.

In this regard, the Executive already made a move before the meeting and on Wednesday the Director of the Employment Service, along with other Andorran administrations, held a meeting in Latour-de-Thermes, where it is expected that companies from the town in Encamp will also participate. Moreover, the Minister also announced that with a view to 2020 they are studying the possibility of organizing a job meeting "to allow companies to come from the south of France so that they can be aware of the job opportunities that will be proposed".

Asked if the orientation of the labour supply towards the neighboring country motivated by the absence of Andorran employees who want to travel to Pas, Gallardo said that the Employment Service will also organise two talks to publicise the labour supply in Pas de la Casa for the winter season.

In relation to the option of modifying French cross-border quotas to attract labour in Pas, Gallardo said that it is necessary to explore it because perhaps there are some privileges or some rights that they would not want to lose by coming to work in Andorra. In this way, the Minister was prudent to face "some obstacles that a priori seem to be existential", although he urged to work to respect "the specificities of workers who come from France", as happens with the very concrete status cross-border central valley people have.

"In Pas de la Casa we need qualified employees and we are looking towards France to find these people, either to cross the border every day or to settle here", said the President of Iniciativa Publicitària (Advertising Initiative) of Pas de la Casa, Jean-Jacques Carrié, who assured they must fill vacancies in hotels, restaurants and shops. In addition, Carrié explained that there is a willingness both on the part of the Executive and the Comitè of Encamp, to expedite "the corresponding paper work and work authorisations" for seasonal workers.

For his part, the President of the Associació de Veïns i Comerciants (Association of Residents and Traders) of Pas de la Casa, Òscar Ramon, assessed positively the initiative of the Executive since "they are people who speak French and a good part of our clientele is French-speaking", for which he considered that "there is a very evident lack of personnel".

ACTION PLAN TO BOOST PAS F

Apart from the purpose of increasing the presence of French cross-borders, Gallardo explained that the action plan of the employment service "is very focused on finding a number of high influence". However, the Minister confessed that "the concern expressed by companies in the country is that we must go further", for which he said that "we have taken notice so that there is a stimulation and incentives for people to think of Pas as a place to work all year". Likewise, Gallardo acknowledged that the economic sector of Pas de la Casa would like "that there were less rotation and a certain loyalty of workers".

In this line, Ramon set as an objective "to make Pas attractive so that people would want to work here and stay to live". In any case, Encamp's representative recalled that "we have a series of problems that prevent people from the rest of Andorra from coming to Pas to stay", as is the case of bus schedules or rental prices. Precisely, the Minister did not shy away from this last issue, who promised to have a "closer collaboration than there has been so far" based on "transversal actions that go beyond trade".

ANNUAL RACE

The Andorra Ultra Trail Vallnord generates an economic impact of more than 2 million euros

The 11th edition of Andorra Ultra Trail Vallnord (AUTV) held in July has generated a total economic impact on the country of more than 2.7 million euros, thirteen times more than the public investment that had been made, as confirmed by the Director of AUTV, Lídia Martínez, during the evaluation of 2019's edition. She also wanted to highlight the growth of the race in recent years, with a total of 3,338 runners in the last edition. "Our will is not to keep growing, although we still have a small margin to increase the number of participants in the Euforia and Tamarro races", confessed Martinez, who has assured that the rest of the events will not increase their volume because they want to respect the environment as they are the "basis of the event. According to Martínez, it is a pity that a race like the Solidàritrail cannot grow any more, but the sustainability of the event itself does not allow it. Even so, the organisation of the race wants to continue improving and growing in quality despite the strong competition", stated the Director. The success of the race is that every year we try to respond to the points to improve that runners tell us and when there is an item that does not have a good assessment, we put all the resources to reverse the situation.

Throughout these eleven editions, the event has been internationalised, and in total, there have been participants from 79 different countries who have travelled, on average, 923 kilometres to attend the race. This is one of the growth points of the event, explained Enric Torres, Director of new projects of Andorra Tourism. "There is a need to keep growing in internationalisation", as it has become "a test that puts Andorra within the reference of mountain races in the world, both by the number of participants from around the world, as for the different modalities of races offered", confessed Torres. In this regard, the Mayor of Ordino, Josep Àngel Mortés, ensured the consolidation of the event and also "its continuity for at least a year" in the parish of Ordino. One of the objectives of the race is to make Andorra known and also turn it into a great country festival, as explained by the organizers.

One of the other points of the event is the solidarity aspect both with the Solidàritrail and with the collection of donations to the NGO. At the representation, Martinez gave the money collected from runners to the NGOs since at the time of registration they could give 4 euros to the NGOs Acció Solidària i Logística, Cooperand and the Association of Persons Affected by Autism of Andorra and, in addition, the organisation also allocated 4 euros for each finisher of the races.
Cirque generates an economic return of almost 21 million

Minister Canals is interested on «diversify» the tourist offer throughout the year with other events

**BALANCE OF THE ‘REBEL’ MUSICAL**

**MINISTER CANALS IS INTERESTED ON “DIVERSIFY” THE TOURIST OFFER THROUGHOUT THE YEAR WITH OTHER EVENTS**

**Government considering regulation on medical secrecy of police officers**

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**Bad start to the season**

MoraBanc suffered a great defeat with many errors and Valencia seemed like an unstoppable force.

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**Ponsarnau did not count on Quino Colom and therefore the fans could not see the duel between brothers**

Ponsarnau did not count on Quino Colom and therefore the fans could not see the duel between brothers. 

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