

France Orders Anti-Stress Plans For Workers

PARIS (AP) — France's labor minister has ordered all companies with more than 1,000 employees to develop an anti-stress plan based on discussions about pressure in the workplace.

If not, they will go on a list of shame to be published on the Internet.

The government's concern about the psychological and physical health of employees follows outrage caused by 25 suicides in 18 months at the phone company France Telecom. An employee at the Renault auto firm, where several suicides were reported two years ago, also recently killed himself.

Labor Minister Xavier Darcos told unions Friday that companies should report the results of their negotiations by Feb. 1, 2010. Information sessions are required of small companies. Those failing to act will be publicly named. No other sanctions were announced.

Source URL (retrieved on 01/31/2015 - 2:21pm):

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