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## South Korean police issues arrest warrant for 58 strikers

*Monday, 24 Jul, 2006*

South Korean media reported that local police has sought arrest warrants for 58 unionists on charges of illegally occupying the headquarters of POSCO in Pohang. The police booked another 57 POSCO's subcontractor's workers ended a 9 day siege of POSCO HQ.

Led by the regional union, some 2,000 workers from POSCO's subcontracting companies forced their way into the building on July 13 and began a sit in strike, demanding higher wages and better working conditions. The striking laborers, who do subcontracting work for the company, ended the seizure of POSCO HQ and voluntarily returned to work around 5 AM on last Friday.

The workers demanded that the company get involved in their collective bargaining for higher income and better work environment.

However, the company and the government claimed that such a demand is nonsense and their negotiation partner should not be POSCO but POSCO's subcontracting companies since the company has no responsibility and direct connection to the dispute.

The Ministry of Labor said Thursday that the government had created a task force to address irregularities and problems stemming from the complicated subcontracting contracts in the construction industry, which was the core of POSCO strike.

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