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El Salvador: Public Employees Demand Wage Hikes, Larger Benefits

by Deborah Tyroler
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Nov. 20: According to union leaders, employees of the following ministries and government-run services staged a 24-hour work stoppage: the Treasury, Health, Economy, Public Works, Education, and Agriculture ministries; the phone company, post office, pension institute, tourism development, and national lottery. Public employee demands include wage hikes, benefits, and reinstatement of former Treasury Ministry workers. In addition, civil servants rejected a bill approved by the national legislature for a flat US$75 Christmas bonus, roughly 75% of an average month's pay. The unions are calling for a bonus equal to about US$125. Nov. 21: Nearly 1,000 members of the General Association of Treasury Ministry Employees (AGEMHA) marched to ministry headquarters in San Salvador demanding wage hikes and larger year-end bonuses. (Basic data from Salpress, 11/20/91; ACANEFE, 11/19/91, 11/21/91)

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