

## Abstract

The Thesis entitled 'Approaches to Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons: Case Study of Fishing Industry Workers' aims to study the information on employment conditions, working conditions, well-being, welfare, and work difficulties of workers in fishing industry; Thai and foreign laws on the protection of fishermen and measures on and approaches to protection and suppression of human trafficking in Thailand. The research methodology is based on both primary and secondary sources including documentary research from 58 sources, interviews of fishermen, discussions with employers, and focused groups to brainstorm the concerned executives and academics. The information is categorised by contents, analysed for an overview of each subject matter. The results of the study can be summarised as follows.

Current problems of human trafficking in fishing industry in Thailand have been aggravated due to severe labour shortages. In the meantime, the demand for labour exploitation is rising, resulting in movements in human trafficking for illegal labour recruitment into fishing business. The main cause for the labour to dislike this job is due to difficulties and high risks that come with it, no definite rules on the nature of work, and no standards for living onboard. In addition, there is a lack of government measures and strategies in protecting working conditions, benefits and welfare. Therefore, workers are taken advantage of by employers. Although the government has placed the problem of human trafficking on national agenda in 2005, passed the act on protection and solutions to human trafficking in 2006, and appointed a sub-committee to consider measures on protection and suppression of human trafficking for fishing workers so as to study, consider and to seek approaches and measures, bilateral cooperation and networks for protection and suppression of human trafficking in fishing industry, in practice clear measures and strategies have yet been found.

Suggestions for projection of human beings are to publicise facts on fishing and risks of human trafficking, amend the scope of law on protection for involved labour to be more comprehensive, set up measures and build strategies for monitoring employment, working conditions and well-being in accordance with living onboard, consider extending the protection for benefits and welfare to be equivalent to those of labour of other forms. Approaches to suppression of human trafficking are to regulate and systematise boats, control the arrival and departure of boats from docks, organise boat databases, crewmen, agents and employers so that it is possible to efficiently trace and help the affected and trace the criminals for prosecution, and so forth.