



กระทรวงแรงงาน

## **Ministry of Labour, Concerned Agencies Discuss Solutions to Human Trafficking in Fishery Industry**

The Ministry of Labour and relevant agencies discuss ways to address human trafficking in the country's fishery industry. They plan to carry start carrying out intensive inspections on workers in the industry in October.

ML Puntrik Smiti, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Labour, chaired the meeting on inspection guideline and plan for workers in fishery industry at the Department of Employment's Tien Atchakul Conference Room. The guideline and the plan will be used to prevent human trafficking in the industry.

The meeting was attended by representatives of the Royal Thai Navy, the Marine Police Division, the human trafficking police division, the Royal Thai Police, the Department of Marine, the Department of Fisheries, the Department of Employment and the Department of Labour Protection and Welfare. It also considered dates and times for the inspection.

ML Puntrik said all relevant agencies need to work together on the operation plan and to create a roadmap to address the problem in the industry. They need to decide on which date and time they will carry out inspection in piloted provinces.

ML Puntrik said relevant agencies agree to begin carrying out intensive inspection in October. The Ministry of Labour is speed up addressing labour shortage in the industry and providing protection to workers in the industry to prevent them from becoming victims of human trafficking.

She said the Ministry of Labour has set up operational plans to address the problems as ordered by the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO). The plans include the registration of migrant workers, labour protection measure and amending and enacting new labour laws.

According to ML Puntrik, the Ministry of Labour is drafting a bill concerning protection of fishery workers.

She said the Ministry of Labour carries out the operational plans all together to address labour problems in the industry and show the international community that Thailand's public and private sectors are jointly working to prevent and solve the problems.

ML Puntrik said the meeting is held to mobilize ideas from concerned agencies to establish inspection guideline and plan for workers in the fishery industry to prevent human trafficking. Fishery is the industry with high risk of human trafficking, given its work condition that is different from other industries. The Ministry of Labour attaches importance to human trafficking preventive operations.