



กระทรวงแรงงาน: ๙๙

Ministry of Labour Unveils 3-stages Road Map to Solve Human Trafficking

The Ministry of Labour holds a seminar on ‘Prevention and Solution to Human Trafficking Problem’ to share ideas and experience in preventing and addressing human trafficking in Thailand. A deputy permanent secretary of the Ministry of Labour, meanwhile, says the problem could be solved under the 3-stage Road Map.

ML Puntrik Smiti, Deputy Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Labour, Mr Suradej Waleeitikul, Advisor on Efficiency of the Office of Social Security, Mr Suvit Sumala, Deputy Director of Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Mr Anurak Tossarat, Inspector of Department of Employment were speakers at the seminar. Mrs Sukumal Tananand, Director of Public Relations Division of Office of the Permanent Secretary.

The seminar was held at the Ministry of Labour’s Plaek Phibunsongkhram Conference Room.

ML Puntrik said the 3-stage Road Map cover short-term, medium-term and long-term remedies. The short-term remedy needs to be carried out this year, including regulating migrant workers, labour inspections (normal and interdisciplinary inspections, especially those working on deep- sea fishing boats) and welfares/legal/social security protections. The medium-term remedy, starting from 2015, will cover nationality verification for migrant workers, laws amendments (employment act, job-seeker protection act, labour protection act, ministerial regulation on protection of agricultural workers), promotion of Good Labour Practice (GLP) and Thai Labour Standard (TLS) 8001-2553, database linkage, development of complaint mechanism (hotline and foreign-language interpreter), expansion of coordination centers for fishery workers in all 22 provinces and drafting migrant worker protection document.

She said the long-term remedy, starting 2016, will cover state-to-state import of migrant workers, laws improvement (migrant workers act, social security law and workmen compensation law), creating labour protection network (civil society, labour volunteers and migrant labour volunteers).

Mr Suvit said he wants to clarify that officials at the Department of Labour Protection and Welfare will ensure equal assistance between migrant workers and local workers. He admitted that the officials might find it hard to carry out a labour inspection on some workplaces. Migrant workers are entitled to wage, food and accommodation and employers can deduct their wage for these expenses. The officials will be deployed to inform the employers about the laws and if they do not comply with the laws, they will be subject to legal punishments. The department will work with concerned agencies overseas and local in law enforcement and protecting workers on fishing trawlers. Villager network will be set up to help give the officials information.