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News Alert:

Human Rights Violations of Young Foreign Migrant Workers in Thailand

Year-long Thai Study Expected To Reveal a Situation of Widespread Exploitation

Invitation to presentation of findings:

Wednesday, 13 December, 2006 – 9:30 am
Pathumwan Princess Hotel – floor ‘M’
(at MBK Centre)

Bangkok – While it is generally understood that young foreign migrant workers sometimes face exploitation at the hands of their employers and others, a recently completed year-long survey will reveal the extent of that exploitation and the attitudes and behaviors of those responsible for the abuse. It will also dispel myths relating to human trafficking for labour exploitation alleged to occur at the hands of foreign recruiters.

The research, conducted by the **Institute for Population and Social Research (IPSR), Mahidol University** with the support of the **International Labour Organization’s Mekong Sub-regional Project to Combat Trafficking in Children and Women** investigated the recruitment and working conditions of migrants in four employment sectors in Thailand: agriculture, domestic work, fishboats & fish processing and manufacturing.

The study involved more than one-thousand interviews with foreign migrant workers in Thailand and their employers. A series of in-depth interviews was also conducted. The research also looked into the relationship between recruiters, employers and migrants.

This in-depth report – believed to be the first of its kind in Thailand – has uncovered widespread human rights and labour violations of young migrant workers. It has found significant numbers of migrants endure physical assault, forced labour, a denial of freedom of movement, children in hazardous work – definable as worst forms of child labour – and routine psychological and verbal abuse.

In some cases the exploitation is tantamount to that found in situations of human trafficking.

The presentation of these findings will take place on Wednesday, 13th December at 9:30 am at the Pathumwan Princess Hotel (at MBK Centre), Floor M.

Participants in the presentation will include senior officials from the Royal Thai Government and prominent Thai academics who specialize in the fields of labour migration and human trafficking.

You or your representative(s) are invited to attend this presentation. A question and answer session will follow. One-on-one interviews can also be arranged following the session.

For further information or to arrange interviews:

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