

# **Gender Differences in Attitudes toward Low-Skilled Migrant Workforce in Thai Job Markets: Evidence from Khon Kaen City**

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## **Abstract**

A descriptive research paper studying the attitudes of local people in Khon Kaen city toward problems associated with foreign labor was conducted with concerns regarding a gradual increase in the number of migrant workers in Thailand, especially in Khon Kaen city, the second largest economy in the Northeast. More specifically, this research aims to investigate the differences between the attitudes of the local male and female toward problems associated with low-skilled migrant workers. Using stratified random sampling technique, 460 Khon Kaen people were randomly selected as samples. The final results, based on descriptive statistics and t-test, points out that the local people in Khon Kaen express their concerns about foreign labor in three aspects including health and sanitation problems, economic and labor problems, and crime and drug problems. It appears that the local female has more negative attitude toward every issue as compared to male. Especially, there is a significant difference in attitude between the local male and female towards problems of migrant workers being disease carriers as well as being competitors with local people for jobs. The aspect with highest level of negative attitude for both male and female is the crime and drug problems, followed by the economic and labor problems, and the health and sanitation problems.

**Keywords:** *Gender Differences, Migrant workers, Attitude, Low-skilled Labor, Khon Kaen City*

## **1. Introduction**

Since 2013, during Former Prime Minister Yingluck's administration, after the government pushed the 300 baht minimum daily wage policy, Thailand has become the ideal destination for international migrant workers, especially those from Cambodia, Lao PDR, and Myanmar. From 26 June to 31 October, 2014, there were 1,533,675 migrant workers and 315,880 employers hiring those workers in Thailand. Most of foreign migrant workers were from Cambodia, which accounted for 696,338 people. The second biggest group was from

Myanmar with 623,648 people and followed by Lao PDR with 213,689 people (Royal Thai Embassy, Washington D.C., 2014).

Khon Kaen, a big city located in the center of Northeast region of Thailand, is one of the places that attract a large number of migrant workers. Khon Kaen is the largest economy in the Northeast. According to the data from Khon Kaen's officials, in 2014, Khon Kaen's gross provincial products (GPP) was 145,272 million baht and was ranked as the sixteenth-largest in Thailand and the second-largest in Northeast region (National News Bureau of Thailand, 2014) . In addition, with the formation of ASEAN Economic Community AEC in 2015, Khon Kaen was considered as an important city as for its strategic location. Under the collaborative program of the east-west economic corridor conducted by the six countries of Greater Mekong Subregion, Khon Kaen was chosen as the part of the corridor which connects Khon Kaen to Myanmar in the West and Vietnam in the East (Wanitwattanakosol & Pongpaharatorntep, 2015). The total number of migrant workers from Myanmar, Laos and Cambodia who registered legally was 4,012, of which 3,095 were from Myanmar, 681 were from Laos, and 236 were from Cambodia (IT department Khon Kaen's government office, 2013).

Considering literature about public attitudes toward migrants, Christelle (2014) suggested that local population's perception was impacted by the behaviors of migrants. The study reported that threat from migrants significantly restricted perception of local people. Stephan, Ybarra, Martinez, Schwarzwald, and Tur-Kaspa (1998), and Stephan, Ybarra, and Bachman (1999) defined two types of threats posed by people from immigrant groups: realistic and symbolic threats. Realistic threats would make members of the local people feel threatened by migrants due to political and economic power. Realistic threats could be labor market competition, economic and political power struggles, or competition for welfare state provision. Symbolic threats related to the endangering of the local culture. In another research conducted by Blalock (1967), threats were categorized as perceived and actual threats. Actual threats were threats that could be measured by objective figures and facts, whereas perceived threats were measured from how the individuals perceive it. As this research focuses on public attitude, only perceived threats were taken into account.

Fetzer (2000) mentioned the negative feelings towards immigration, called as anti-immigration sentiment, in his research. Anti-immigration sentiment could be sorted in to three main categories namely marginality, self-interest, and contact. In this research, we only

discussed the last two categories: self-interest and contact. The self-interest is the economic impact the immigrant has on local people. Contact is defined as the impact on the neighborhood generated by the immigrants to the local national. In addition Jewell, R. and Molina D. (2009) stated that the trend of globalization has increased the labor mobility which leads to the rise in anti-immigration sentiment.

According to research conducted by Valentova and Alieva (2014), considering the crime threat posed by immigration, there was a statistically significant interaction between gender and perception of the threat. Specifically, compared to men, the general anti-immigrant sentiment of native women was more strongly associated with perceived crime threats. Chafetz (2006) also provided an evidence of the relationship between gender differences in attitudes towards immigrants. It was suggested that, as men and women performed different social roles, they were differed in types of networks they involved, as well as opportunity and reward they achieved. Also, economic nature is one possible explanation for the gender differences in attitudes towards immigrants. Because women's position in the labor market is more vulnerable than that of men, they are bound to rely on their partners or the welfare provisions. As consequences, women are more likely to concern more about the impact of immigration as it may affect the labor market and sustainability of welfare state directly.

In the research carried out by Chanda (2012), there were five big issues relating to the attitude that local people had upon migrants. The five big issues were problems of health and sanitary, sustainability, economy and labor, crimes and drugs, and culture. In this research, we only investigated the attitudes towards three big aspects: problems of health and sanitary, problems of economy and labor, and problems of crimes and drugs. For sanitary and health problems associated with low-skilled labor, there were certain reasons for local people to fear of them. When the level of sanitation of labor camps was low, many diseases and illnesses might take place in the community and neighboring areas (Thai Health, 2014).

Economic problems associated with migrant labor were caused by Thailand being a destination choice for low-skilled migrant workers. For examples, Burmese workers have been drawn to Thailand to get jobs, where the minimum wage is 300 baht (\$10) a day. Though many Thai employers pay Burmese migrants less than that standard, often 250 baht a day (Migrant News, 2013), Thailand is still an ideal workplace for Burmese migrants as Burma's minimum wage is only 0.58 US dollars per day (National Wages and Productivity

Commission, 2015). This fact results in Thailand attracting more and more low-skilled workers from neighboring countries.

A lot of news has been published regarding bad behaviors of migrant workers in Thailand. For instance, there was the case of Burmese migrant workers who killed the owner of the Duck farm in Ratchaburi province and stole the money around 100,000 baht. The murder confessed that he got drunk before killing his employer (Khaosod, 2014). There have been evidences of cases in which migrant labor involved in drug smuggling across borders into Thailand. The most common method of smuggling is “minor couriers” which refers to gradual delivery of drugs by individuals (Trivej, 2008). As “drug-use and criminality are closely linked together” (National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence, Inc.), it is understandable that local people would be concerned about this issue.

### **1.1 Hypothesis**

There were two expected results. The null hypothesis stated that the attitudes of male and female toward problems associated with migrant workers were the same ( $H_0$ ). The alternative hypothesis stated that there were differences in the attitudes of male and female toward problems associated with migrant workers ( $H_1$ ). The hypothesis was tested separately on the following 3 aspects: attitude towards health and sanitation problems, attitude towards economic and labor problems, and attitude towards crime and drug problems.

## **2. Methodology**

### **2.1 Scopes**

This study was a descriptive research study using a survey method. The field of study was conducted in Khon Kaen city, Thailand. The population included 478,742 local people who lived in Khon Kaen city. Taro Yamane formula (1967) was employed to determine the appropriate sample size:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + Ne^2}$$

Where  $n$  = sample size,  $N$  = population size,  $e$  = the error of sampling. Using a standard error of 5%, the appropriate sample size was as follows:

$$n = \frac{478,742}{1 + (478,742)0.05^2} = 399.67$$

Applying stratified random sampling method based on geographical areas in Khon Kaen city, we decided to collect 460 samples<sup>1</sup> from local people who lived in districts with high population density in Khon Kaen city. This sample size was large enough ( $460 > 399.67$  as suggested by Yamane formula). Those focused areas included Muang district, Chum Phae district, Phu Wiang, Phon, Ban Phai, Chonnabot, Nam Phong, Ubolratana and Muncha Khiri.

## **2.2 Instruments**

A 5-point Likert-type scale questionnaire was used as a data collection instrument in order to collect the local people's attitude towards the increasing number of foreign workers in Khon Kaen province. The questionnaire was divided into three main sections. The first section comprised of the items which asked participants about their demographic information. The second section asked participants to rate their attitudes towards three minor aspects: attitude towards health and sanitation problems, attitude towards economic and labor problems, and attitude towards criminal and drug problems. There were subsections within each aspect. As for the aspect of health and sanitation problems, we included: sanitation of immigrant workers' residence, immigrant worker's responsibility for health problems, immigrant workers being disease carrier, health service coverage by the government, and government spending on health problems. Within the aspect of economic and labor problems, we included: degrees of labor market competition, outflow of money to foreign countries, and possibility of job loss. As for crime and drug problems, the subsections were: crimes committed to Thai citizens, crimes committed to foreign workers and tourists, drug addiction of immigrant workers, and drug smuggling. In detail, the respondents were asked by the forced choice statements presented in order of Very High (5), High (4), Neutral (3), Low (2), and Very Low (1). The last section asked participants to provide their opinion concerning the reasons why they chose those scales.

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<sup>1</sup> In this study, there are some limitations in the data collection process. Firstly, for accessibility to the respondents on face-to-face interview basis, the local people might not be willing to provide the information because it was not on their interests. Some non-respondent who did not respond to a survey might give a different important bias that could make the research results inaccurate to a little some degree. To prevent this, we also omitted a certain number of questionnaires from unreliable respondents upon the researcher's judgements. Moreover, people who are not fluent in English may refuse to answer questions or may give poor quality answer because they are unable to read or understand the statements clearly. In addition, different experiences also affect the respondents' answers if people who were rarely engaged to foreign workers were interviewed.

The data collected from 460 respondents was analyzed using descriptive statistics and presented using discrete probability distribution (probability, mean, and standard deviation). Next, t-test was applied to distinguish the differences between the means of local male and female attitudes toward different problems relating to immigrant workers. As there are 3 main sections in the questionnaire, the following hypothesis testing with 5% level of significance was employed separately in each subsection:

Null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ):  $\mu_{male} = \mu_{female}$

Alternative hypothesis ( $H_a$ ):  $\mu_{male} \neq \mu_{female}$

If the t-test demonstrated a significant difference between the means of local male and female attitudes toward problems relating to low-skilled migrant labor ( $p\text{-value} \leq 0.05$ ), the means of male and female would be compared and ranked according to the numerical values. However, if the test resulted in accepting the null hypothesis ( $p\text{-value} > 0.05$ ), we should ignore that subsection and concluded that there was no significant differences between the attitudes of local male and female as referred to that certain problem.

### 3. Results and Discussions

**Table 1: Demographic Information of 460 Local People in Khon Kaen City**

|                          | Classification      | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------|
| <b>Gender</b>            | Male                | 192       | 41.7    |
|                          | Female              | 268       | 58.3    |
|                          | Total               | 460       | 100     |
| <b>Age</b>               | 15-25               | 128       | 27.8    |
|                          | 26-35               | 104       | 22.6    |
|                          | 36-45               | 72        | 15.7    |
|                          | 46-55               | 88        | 19.1    |
|                          | >55                 | 68        | 14.8    |
|                          | Total               | 460       | 100     |
| <b>Educational Level</b> | primary school      | 22        | 4.8     |
|                          | Secondary School    | 90        | 19.6    |
|                          | Vocational School   | 62        | 13.5    |
|                          | Bachelor Degree     | 240       | 52.2    |
|                          | Master Degree       | 44        | 9.6     |
|                          | Doctor Degree       | 2         | 0.4     |
|                          | Total               | 460       | 100     |
| <b>Occupation</b>        | Government Official | 80        | 17.4    |
|                          | Private Business    | 136       | 29.6    |
|                          | Student             | 90        | 19.6    |

|                              |     |      |
|------------------------------|-----|------|
| Freelance                    | 48  | 10.4 |
| Permanent/Temporary Employee | 96  | 20.9 |
| No job                       | 8   | 1.7  |
| Other                        | 2   | 0.4  |
| Total                        | 460 | 100  |

According to Table 1, the data presents that the number of female respondents are greater than the male, with percentage of 58.3 and 41.7 respectively. Most respondents age between 15-25 years old with the percentage of 27.8, followed by 26-35 years old with the percentage of 22.6, 46-55 years old with the percentage of 19.1, 36-45 years old with the percentage of 15.7, and more than 55 years old with the percentage of 14.8 respectively.

For the level education of the surveyed respondents, 4.8 percent graduated primary school, 19.6 percent graduated secondary school, 13.5 percent graduated vocational school, 52.2 percent graduated bachelor degree, 9.6 percent graduated master degree, and 0.4 percent graduated doctor degree. The majority of respondents are private business man with percentage of 29.6, followed by permanent or temporary employee with percentage of 20.9, student with percentage of 19.6, government officer with percentage of 17.4, freelance with percentage of 10.4, other with percentage of 0.4, and no job with percentage of 1.7.

**Table 2: Attitude towards Health and Sanitation Problems Relating to Low-skilled Immigrant Workers**

| <b>Health and Sanitation Problems</b>      | <b>Gender</b> | <b>N</b> | <b>Mean</b> | <b>Std. Deviation</b> |
|--------------------------------------------|---------------|----------|-------------|-----------------------|
| Sanitation of Immigrant Worker's Residence | Male          | 192      | 3.15        | 0.995                 |
|                                            | Female        | 268      | 2.96        | 0.937                 |
| Responsibility for Health Problems         | Male          | 192      | 3.02        | 0.984                 |
|                                            | Female        | 268      | 2.84        | 0.803                 |
| Being Disease Carrier                      | Male          | 192      | 2.5         | 1.17                  |
|                                            | Female        | 268      | 2.82        | 0.988                 |
| Health Service Coverage by Government      | Male          | 192      | 3.28        | 1.013                 |
|                                            | Female        | 268      | 3.45        | 0.922                 |
| Government Spending on Health Problems     | Male          | 192      | 3.19        | 1.127                 |
|                                            | Female        | 268      | 3.42        | 0.936                 |
| Average                                    | Male          | 192      | 3.0271      | 0.77792               |
|                                            | Female        | 268      | 3.0985      | 0.62323               |

For health and sanitation issues, both male and female gave the same priority on health and sanitation problems relating to low-skilled immigrant workers. Both male and female were concerned the most on health service coverage by the government, with the means of 3.28 and 3.45 respectively, followed by government spending on health problems with the means of 3.19 and 3.42, sanitation of the worker's living place with the means of 3.15 and 2.96, responsibility for health problem with the means of 3.02 and 2.84, and being disease carrier with the means of 2.50 and 2.82. Finally, on average, the local female were more concerned about health and sanitation problems relating to migrant workers than the male (3.0985>3.0271).

**Table 3: Attitude towards Economic and Labor Problems Relating to Immigrant Workers**

| Health and Sanitation Problems        | Gender | N   | Mean   | Std. Deviation |
|---------------------------------------|--------|-----|--------|----------------|
| Degrees of Labor Market Competition   | Male   | 192 | 3.1    | 1.294          |
|                                       | female | 268 | 3.47   | 1.148          |
| Outflow of Money to Foreign Countries | Male   | 192 | 3.24   | 1.074          |
|                                       | female | 268 | 3.31   | 1.029          |
| Possibility of Job Loss               | Male   | 192 | 2.64   | 1.241          |
|                                       | female | 268 | 2.85   | 1.051          |
| Average                               | Male   | 192 | 2.993  | 0.9842         |
|                                       | female | 268 | 3.2114 | 0.86425        |

For the attitude toward economic and labor issues from migrant labors, the local male were concerned the most about the money outflow with the mean of 3.24, followed by degrees of labor market competition within the area with the mean of 3.10, and Job Running away of foreign labor with the mean of 2.64. While female concern the most on Job Competition with the mean of 3.47, followed by Money outflow problem with the mean of 3.31, and possibility of job running away with the mean of 2.85. The average mean value of the male is 2.9930 and 3.2114 for the female, which implies that the female are more concerned about economic and labor problems than the male. Additionally, the female were

concerned the most in every subsection namely: job competition, money outflow, and possibility of job loss.

**Table 3: Attitude towards Crime and Drug Problems Relating to Immigrant Workers**

| Health and Sanitation Problems                   | Gender | N   | Mean   | Std. Deviation |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------|-----|--------|----------------|
| Crimes Committed to Thai Citizens                | Male   | 192 | 3.48   | 1.066          |
|                                                  | female | 268 | 3.63   | 0.977          |
| Crimes Committed to Foreign Workers and Tourists | Male   | 192 | 3.29   | 1.015          |
|                                                  | female | 268 | 3.46   | 0.986          |
| Drug Addiction of Immigrant Workers              | Male   | 192 | 3.65   | 1.036          |
|                                                  | female | 268 | 3.79   | 0.935          |
| Drug Smuggling                                   | Male   | 192 | 3.77   | 1.041          |
|                                                  | female | 268 | 3.92   | 0.942          |
| Average                                          | Male   | 192 | 3.5469 | 0.88653        |
|                                                  | female | 268 | 3.6996 | 0.82534        |

As for crime and drug issues, the local male and female gave the same priority to all the subsections. Both local male and female people were concerned the most with drug smuggling with the means of 3.77 and 3.92, followed by drug addiction of foreign workers with the means of 3.659 and 3.79, crimes committed to Thai citizen with the means of 3.48 and 3.636, and crimes committed to foreign workers and tourists with means of 3.29 and 3.46. On average, the local female are more concerned about crime and drug problems, which relate to migrant workers, than the male ( $3.6996 > 3.5469$ ).

Additionally, t-test was employed in order to distinguish the differences between the local male's and female's attitude. The results were as follows:

**Table 4: T-test on Gender Differences in Attitudes toward Problems Relating to Low-Skilled Migrant Workers**

|                                                  | <i>t</i> | <i>p</i> | <i>Mean Difference</i> |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------|----------|------------------------|
| <b>Health and Sanitation Problems</b>            |          |          |                        |
| Sanitation of Immigrant Worker's Residence       | 1.411    | 0.16     | 0.183                  |
| Responsible for Health Problems                  | 1.455    | 0.147    | 0.178                  |
| Being Disease Carrier                            | -2.187   | .030*    | -0.321                 |
| Health Service Coverage by Government            | -1.276   | 0.203    | -0.167                 |
| Government Spending on Health Problems           | -1.639   | 0.103    | -0.23                  |
| Average                                          | -0.745   | 0.458    | -0.07142               |
| <b>Economic and Labor Problems</b>               |          |          |                        |
| Degrees of Labor Market Competition              | -2.216   | .028**   | -0.366                 |
| Outflow of Money to Foreign Countries            | -0.523   | 0.601    | -0.074                 |
| Possibilities of Job Loss                        | -1.382   | 0.169    | -0.215                 |
| Average                                          | -1.745   | 0.083    | -0.2184                |
| <b>Crime and Drug Problems</b>                   |          |          |                        |
| Crimes Committed to Thai Citizen                 | -1.127   | 0.261    | -0.155                 |
| Crimes Committed to Foreign Workers and Tourists | -1.22    | 0.224    | -0.164                 |
| Drug Addiction of Immigrant Workers              | -1.092   | 0.276    | -0.145                 |
| Drug Smuggling                                   | -1.099   | 0.273    | -0.147                 |
| Average                                          | -1.326   | 0.186    | -0.15275               |

\*\*\*Denotes significant at 1% level, \*\*significant at 5% level, \*significant at 10% level

According to t-test results from Table 4, there were only 2 aspects which demonstrated significant differences between the attitude of male and female towards low-skilled immigrant workers in Thailand's job markets. First, as for the aspect of being disease carrier under health and sanitation problems, the test results confirmed a difference between the male and female attitude ( $p = 0.03 < 0.05$ ). As referred to Table 2, it could be concluded that the local female were more concerned about this aspect than the male ( $2.82 > 2.50$ ). This phenomenon implied that the low level of sanitation in migrant labor camps, especially regarding diseases and illness, could physically (Thai Health, 2014) and psychologically affected the local female more than the male. However, according to Table 2, both male and female rated their attitudes towards health and sanitation problems relating to low-skilled migrant at neutral level which was quite contradict to the information provided by Thai Health (2014).

Moreover, according to the t-test result on job competition problem under economic and labor criterion, there was a significant difference between the local male and female attitude ( $p = 0.28 < 0.05$ ). In addition realistic threat as labor market competition defined by Stephan, Ybarra, Martinez, Schwarzwald, and Tur-Kaspa (1998), Stephan, Ybarra, and Bachman (1999), regarding Table 3, it was found that the local female were more concerned about this issue than the male ( $3.47 > 3.10$ ). Other than the higher degree of job competition, the worries also included competition for the provision of welfare services by the government. However, the concerns of both local male and female about the low-skilled immigrant workers were both ranked at the neutral level on average.

Lastly, the t-test result did not express any significant differences between the male and female attitudes towards crime and drug problems relating to the migrant workers. Nevertheless, according to Table 3, both local male and female rated their concerns at the high level (the scores were rounded up to 4). This finding was consistent with the research conducted by Valentova and Alieva (2013) which considered the crime threat posed by immigration. In sum, there was a significant interaction between gender and perception of the threat from the immigrant workers at some degree. Specifically, compared to men, the general anti-immigrant sentiment of native women was more strongly associated with disease/illnesses and job competition.

#### **4. Conclusion**

This research paper aimed to study the attitudes of local people in Khon Kaen city towards issues associated with low-skilled foreign labor. In addition, this paper tried to distinguish some differences between the local male and female attitudes towards those immigrant workers. The primary data was collected from random samples of 460 local Khon Kaen people through face-to-face interview based on a 5-point Likert-type scale questionnaire on 3 aspects namely: health and sanitation problems, economic and labor problems, and crime and drug problems. The findings pointed out that the local people in Khon Kaen had the neutral attitudes toward foreign labor in two aspects including health and sanitation problems and economic and labor problems. However, the only negative attitude was slightly presented in crime and drug problems. It appeared that the local female had more negative attitudes towards every issue compared to the male. The test statistic also demonstrated that there was a significant difference in attitude between male and female towards problems of migrant being disease carriers and competitors with the local people in Thailand's labor market. The aspect with highest level of negative attitude for both male and

female is crime and drug problems, followed by economic and labor problems, and health and sanitation problems.

The negative attitude of local people adversely affects the group of immigrant workers who are considered a crucial labor force in many industries of Thailand. Thus, Thai government should manage immigrant labor, especially the low-skilled ones, properly and legally in order to solve and to prevent the problems associated with migrant labor as well as to ensure well-being of the citizens of Thailand.

## **5. Policy Recommendations**

The results from this study suggest that the government is the first priority to respond to foreign labor in order to improve the attitudes of local people toward the problems associated with the low-skilled foreign workers in Thailand. The recommendations are discussed as follows:

### **5.1 Health and Sanitation Problems**

As for the impact on health and sanitation problems, there is the fear that some of migrant workers might carry new disease or epidemics with them into Thailand. Every registered foreign worker has to have a medical examination and disease diagnosis at a medical centre of each province and receive a health insurance before work permit is issued. The level of sanitation of labor camps is low, which is associated with many diseases and illnesses (Thai Health, 2014). As a result, the government incurs more obligations in providing healthcare compensation. To solve these problems, the government should strengthen the foreign worker's medical examination, and open more channels to disseminate knowledge about spreading of disease, health care, and how to protect themselves from infection. Then, medical survey and medical insurance for foreign workers should be organized yearly. Moreover, the government should increase the number of health personnel sufficient for an increasing number of migrant workers in the country. Finally, the government should impose a measure to enforce employers to provide better living standards and welfare to foreign workers.

### **5.2 Economic and Labor Problems**

As Thailand attracts more foreign workers, there is the fear that migrant workers might lead to job poaching. Regarding the results from this study, the first recommendation is that Thai labor should enhance their skills to prevent job poaching by workers from

neighboring countries. Then, it is suggested that the government should develop the database of labor market for both Thailand and ASEAN countries. Also, there should be a plan to develop the quality of labor force in every working field to fit in the labor market of ASEAN (Bangkokbiznews, 2013).

Finally, as local women have tendency to have negative attitudes toward economic problems associated with migrant workers, it is recommended to establish the women union in Khon Kaen. The women union is the place for women in the province to share information on every issue related to their lives and to introduce new ideas for the development of community. Hence, the women union is expected to provide local women with feeling of security.

### **5.3 Crime and Drug Problems**

For crime and drug problems associated with low-skilled migrant workers, it is recommended that Thai government should take a strict measure along the border and establish more multilateral and bilateral cooperation with neighboring countries to prevent illegal workers. Additionally, strict law is unavoidable and should be implemented against drug smuggling into the kingdom of Thailand (Traivej, 2008).

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