

## LEGAL FRAMEWORK AND ENFORCEMENT STRATEGIES IN COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN MALAYSIA

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### SDG Elements:

Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



## ABSTRACT

Human trafficking remains a significant and persistent issue in Malaysia, affecting vulnerable populations and posing challenges to national security and the protection of fundamental human rights. In response, the country has enacted several legal frameworks, including the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants (ATIPSOM) Act 2007, the Penal Code, the Child Act 2001, and the Immigration Act 1959/63. Despite the comprehensiveness of these legislative instruments, enforcement remains problematic. Gaps in implementation, limited institutional resources, corruption risks within enforcement systems, and inadequate victim support mechanisms continue to undermine Malaysia's anti-trafficking efforts. This study aims to evaluate the efficiency and effectiveness of Malaysia's legal and administrative responses to human trafficking. It examines the capacity and performance of key legal frameworks and assesses the implementation of administrative procedures and victim assistance initiatives. Adopting a mixed-method approach, this research incorporates surveys and interviews involving law enforcement officials, legal practitioners, legislators, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), and trafficking survivors. Findings reveal that, although the legislative structure is robust on paper, practical enforcement is hampered by inter-agency fragmentation, insufficient funding, lack of specialised training, and weak victim protection measures. These deficiencies impair the overall effectiveness of the national response. By identifying critical enforcement and procedural gaps, the study contributes to a clearer understanding of the legal administration of anti-trafficking laws in Malaysia and proposes concrete policy and institutional reforms. In alignment with Sustainable Development Goal 16, the study underscores the urgent need to strengthen institutional capacities, promote inter-agency collaboration, and enhance access to justice for victims. Addressing these systemic issues through legal reform and coordinated institutional efforts is essential to ensure a more effective, rights-based approach in combating human trafficking in Malaysia. Future research should focus on the longitudinal assessment of policy impacts and the progressive realisation of SDG 16 objectives in the context of anti-trafficking governance.

## Introduction

Human trafficking is a serious abuse of human rights and a worldwide matter that disturbs loads of individuals, together with children, men, and women, who are oppressed for several motives which might include providing domestic services, forced labor work, and sexual manipulation. The UN describes human trafficking as the enrollment, transference, transmission, sheltering, or receiving of individuals by means of force, scam, or pressure for manipulation (Curato et al., 2023). This multifaceted lawbreaking frequently includes prearranged criminal systems and signs state and international boundaries, making it an important encounter for governments universally.

Human trafficking in Malaysia remains a grave problem, requiring strong legal outlines and administration approaches to battle it efficiently (Nugrahaningsih et al., 2020). The legal context states the rules and guidelines recognized to avoid, punish, and recompense human trafficking, although implementation policies include the practical procedures that are taken by law administration activities and other participants to impose these regulations. Mutually these foundations are vital in making sure that an inclusive strategy for undertaking human trafficking, providing defense to the victims of human trafficking, accusing culprits, and eventually falling the occurrence of this corruption.

## Objectives of the Study

The primary objective of this study is to evaluate the effectiveness of Malaysia's legal and enforcement measures in combating human trafficking. This evaluation will be conducted through surveys designed to gather quantitative and qualitative data from various stakeholders involved in the fight against human trafficking. The aim of this study is to:

- i. Assess the adequacy of the legal framework: This includes the investigation whether the present laws in Malaysia are inclusive, clear, and operative in addressing the systems of human trafficking. This research study will look at the requirements for guarding the target individual, the brutality of consequences for traffickers, and the effectiveness of the permitted procedures involved.
- ii. Estimate implementation strategies: This aims concentrates on the practical application of the legal outline by law administration organisations. It embraces evaluating the training and possessions accessible to law administration workers, the management among different organisations, the awareness to human trafficking events, and the efficiency of tracking and valuation procedure.
- iii. Gather views from various shareholders: To increase a complete understanding of the efficiency of Malaysia's procedures, this research will seek out involvement from a various series of shareholders. These embraces law administration administrators, government legislatures, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), legal authorities, and, probably, the individuals who survive the human trafficking. Their perceptions will deliver important info on the strength points and weak points of the present arrangement and recommend parts for development.

## Scope of the Study

The scope of this research study incorporates the following foundations:

- i. Target stakeholders: The research study will include a comprehensive range of shareholders to confirm inclusive reporting and varied outlooks. Key shareholders embrace law administration organisations, government legislature, NGOs, authorised professionals, researchers, and victims of human trafficking. Their involvement is important in providing a correct representation of the present state of Malaysia's legal and administration actions against human trafficking.
- ii. Geographical focus: The research study will be directed across numerous areas in Malaysia, with a specific concentration on parts recognised as flashpoints for human trafficking actions. This topographical variety will help capturing local changes in the application and efficiency of anti-trafficking actions.

- iii. Survey methodology: A mixed-methods strategy will be followed, by using quantitative surveys. The questionnaire of the Likert scale will be used to gather measurable data on shareholders' insights into the legal and administration outlines. Data collection will be conducted both online and in person, safeguarding a complete and subtle understanding of the matter.

By answering these aims and keeping a comprehensive possibility, this research study goals to deliver a thorough valuation of Malaysia's hard work in fighting with human trafficking, offering endorsements for enhancing the efficiency of legal and administration actions to defend survivors and accuse traffickers.

## **Literature Review**

### ***Global Perspectives on Human Trafficking***

Human trafficking is a universal problem, which encourage the expansion of numerous international lawful outlines and administration approaches designed at its extermination. Key between these outlines is the United Nations Protocol to "Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (the Palermo Protocol)", implemented in 2000 (Goździak & Vogel, 2020). The "Palermo Protocol" delivers an inclusive explanation of trafficking and frameworks actions for the prevention, action, and protection of survivors. It highlights the necessity for international collaboration and desires nations to accept suitable lawmaking and execution actions.

Another important outline is the United States' "Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA)" of 2000 (Lynn, 2021), which recognised a "three-pronged approach: prevention, protection, and prosecution". A yearly report on Trafficking in Person has also been introduced by TVPA, that estimates states' efforts in fighting with trafficking and motivates them to meet minimum integrity. The European Union has also seen to be active in fighting with human trafficking over guidelines and methods, such as the "EU Directive 2011/36/EU" (Lietonen et al., 2020), which generates least ethics and standards for the explanation of crimes and problems, also provide activities for support and protection of survivors. Furthermore, the "Council of Europe Convention" on action in contrast to human Trafficking attracts victim-centered approaches and the requirement for comprehensive actions to stop trafficking and provide protection to survivors.

### ***Legal Framework in Malaysia***

Malaysia has established numerous legal tools to discourse human trafficking. The 2007 act of "Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants (ATIPSOM)" (Rahman et al., 2023) is the foundation of Malaysia's legal outline in contradiction of trafficking. ATIPSOM delivers meanings, consequences, and requirements for survivor's support and defense. It orders the formation of a Council for ATIPSOM, accountable for strategy management and application.

The Penal code of Malaysia also embraces requirements related to trafficking, which include sectors on abduction, kidnapping, capturing, and forced work or labor. These sectors match ATIPSOM by providing supplementary legal estates for accused traffickers. The Child Act 2001 is an additional serious section of legislature, contributing to defense precisely for children. It protects crimes such as child trafficking, manipulation, and exploitation, safeguarding that child survivors receive suitable care and reintegration (Umejiaku, 2020). Moreover, the "Immigration Act 1959/63" (Sulaiman et al., 2021) discourses matters connected to the transferring of immigrants, which often overlays with trafficking. This act delivers the legal foundation for activities compared to unlawful immigration that is thoroughly connected to human trafficking systems.

### ***Enforcement Strategies***

Malaysia's enforcement strategies against human trafficking involve multiple agencies and coordinated efforts. The National Task Force on Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants plays a central role in coordinating national efforts, comprising representatives from various government agencies and civil society organizations. Law enforcement agencies, including the Royal Malaysia Police, the Immigration Department, and the Malaysian Maritime Enforcement Agency, are integral to combating trafficking. These agencies conduct raids, investigations, and rescue operations to apprehend traffickers and liberate victims (Rahman et al., 2023).

The support for victims is an important constituent of Malaysia's policy. The administration, in association with NGOs, delivers accommodations, medicinal maintenance, legal support, and therapy plans for trafficking survivors. The Ministry of Women, Family, and Community Development is mainly active in safeguarding that survivors receive complete provision. Campaigns for public awareness are also directed to instruct the community regarding the hazards of human trafficking and to endorse reporting of assumed cases. These operations are expected to be susceptible to both peoples and the general community, looking for to decrease vulnerability to trafficking and upsurge observance. Cross-border collaboration is dynamic given the global landscape of human trafficking. Malaysia participates with adjacent nations and universal administrations to improve information distribution, combined processes, and return of traffickers.

### ***Gaps and Challenges***

Malaysia continues to face significant challenges in addressing human trafficking, despite having established a dedicated legal framework such as the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants (ATIPSOM) Act 2007. The country is both a source and destination for trafficking victims, and various local and international reports—including those from SUHAKAM, UNODC, and the U.S. Department of State—have identified persistent gaps in law, enforcement, and institutional coordination. These challenges can be broadly categorized into three areas: legal framework limitations, enforcement weaknesses, and institutional or structural shortcomings.

#### ***Legal Framework Limitation***

Malaysia's legislative instruments on human trafficking are often criticized for their limited scope and inconsistent implementation. Earlier versions of ATIPSOM lacked precise definitions of coercion, deception, and forced labour, which hindered the prosecution of cases and excluded certain victim groups, especially male victims and those trafficked for labour exploitation (Hamid, 2018; Rahman et al., 2023).

Although legislative reforms have attempted to address these issues, protection for victims remains insufficient. Provisions for compensation, psychosocial support, and legal immunity from immigration offences are either underutilized or poorly enforced (Aziz & Yusof, 2020). Furthermore, inconsistencies among related statutes such as the Penal Code, Child Act 2001, and Immigration Act 1959/63 contribute to overlapping jurisdictions and legal loopholes, which traffickers often exploit (Yong, 2019; Lietonen, Jokinen, & Pekkarinen, 2020).

#### ***Enforcement Challenges***

A major issue in enforcement is the ineffective identification of victims. Many law enforcement officers struggle to distinguish trafficking victims from smuggled migrants or undocumented workers, resulting in misclassification and mistreatment (U.S. TIP Report, 2023; UNODC, 2020). Malaysia continues to record low conviction rates for trafficking offences, often due to poor investigative practices, lack of forensic resources, and minimal victim cooperation stemming from fear or trauma (SUHAKAM, 2021; Goździak & Vogel, 2020).

Capacity gaps are another barrier. Frontline officers, prosecutors, and immigration personnel often lack specialized training to identify trafficking indicators and carry out victim-sensitive procedures (Sulaiman et al., 2021; Ediae, Chikwe, & Kuteesa, 2024). Compounding these problems is the issue of corruption and official complicity, particularly at border entry points. Such acts erode public trust and allow trafficking networks to operate with relative impunity (U.S. TIP Report, 2022).

Enforcement is further weakened by the lack of a coordinated, multi-agency approach. Fragmented responsibilities among government agencies, limited data sharing, and inadequate collaboration with NGOs and international organizations result in inefficient responses (Azhar & Karim, 2021; Global Protection Cluster, 2020).

*Institutional and Structural Shortcomings*

Resource limitations significantly impair Malaysia's anti-trafficking infrastructure. Many government units and shelters are underfunded and understaffed, forcing NGOs to assume critical responsibilities that are difficult to scale nationally (Rahman & Noor, 2022; Fernandes, Gonçalves, & Matos, 2020). Moreover, the dominant policy lens continues to frame trafficking as an immigration issue, leading to punitive actions such as detention or deportation, rather than focusing on victim rehabilitation and reintegration (Othman, 2020; Lynn, 2021). This overemphasis on immigration control, rather than a human rights-based or victim-centred approach, undermines the broader objectives of Malaysia's anti-trafficking strategy.

**Methodology*****Survey Design****Development of Survey Instruments*

The survey design for this study involves the development of tailored questionnaires aimed at capturing the perspectives of different stakeholders involved in combating human trafficking in Malaysia. These stakeholders include law administration majors, legal authorities, NGOs, government bureaucrats, and victims of human trafficking. The advanced procedure initiated with an inclusive evaluation of present literature and discussion with professionals in the field to recognise important parts of awareness and relevant queries.

***Types of Questions***

The questionnaires mainly involve Likert scale questions (Pescaroli et al., 2020), that permit responders to share their level of agreement or disagreement with numerous reports on a five-point scale which ranges from "Strongly Disagree" to "Strongly Agree." This technique is selected for its easiness and efficiency in catching the strength of respondents' insights. The Likert scale questionnaire includes numerous features, counting the capability of legal outlines, the efficiency of execution approaches, the quality of survivor support facilities, and the complete direction between stakeholders.

***Data Collection****Sampling Method*

A random sampling method has been chosen to make sure that the data that is collected represents the target population. Random sampling is chosen because it lowers the selection bias and increases the validity of findings. The target population involves the public and organisation who are active in fighting with human trafficking in Malaysia.

*Administration of Surveys*

The surveys are directed online to simplify comfort of involvement and to influence a broad audience proficiently. Online surveys propose numerous advantages, which are cost-efficient, rapid circulation, and the capability to reach respondents in different topographical backgrounds. The surveys are sent by the help of email and a follow-up reminder is set to encourage participation. The online surveys also have the option of anonymous submission which makes sure the confidentiality of the person and encourages honest feedback.

*Response Rate*

The aim of this data collection is to achieve 30 response rates as this sample size will be enough to give meaningful insights for the effectiveness of legal outline in Malaysia. The quality responses along with accuracy of reflecting experience and views of respondents has been focused.

### Statistical Analysis

A descriptive statistical analysis was conducted to examine participants' perceptions of Malaysia's legal framework and enforcement strategies in combating human trafficking. For each survey question, measures of central tendency—mean, median, and mode—were calculated. These metrics provide a foundational understanding of the overall trends in respondents' opinions.

**Table 1.** Descriptive statistics of survey Questions

Question	Mean	Median	Mode
The current legal framework in Malaysia is adequate to combat human trafficking.	3.40	3.3	3
The laws related to human trafficking in Malaysia are comprehensive and clear.	3.53	4	4
There are sufficient legal protections for victims of human trafficking in Malaysia.	3.33	3	3
The penalties for human trafficking offenses in Malaysia are severe enough to deter perpetrators.	3.53	4	4
The legal process for prosecuting human trafficking cases in Malaysia is efficient.	3.50	3	4
Law enforcement agencies in Malaysia are well-trained to handle human trafficking cases.	3.40	3	4
There is adequate coordination among different law enforcement agencies in Malaysia to combat human trafficking.	3.41	4	3
The resources allocated to combat human trafficking in Malaysia are sufficient.	3.40	4	3
There is effective monitoring and evaluation of enforcement strategies against human trafficking in Malaysia.	3.60	3	3
Law enforcement agencies in Malaysia respond promptly to human trafficking incidents.	3.50	4	3
Victims of human trafficking receive adequate support and protection in Malaysia.	3.40	3.5	4
There are sufficient rehabilitation programs for human trafficking victims in Malaysia.	3.30	4	4
Victims of human trafficking are aware of their legal rights and protections in Malaysia.	3.30	3.5	3
The government provides adequate financial support to human trafficking victims in Malaysia.	3.50	3	3
Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are effectively involved in supporting human trafficking victims in Malaysia.	3.40	4	3
Public awareness campaigns about human trafficking in Malaysia are effective.	3.40	3	3
The education system in Malaysia includes sufficient information about the dangers of human trafficking.	3.60	4	4
There are sufficient preventive measures in place to reduce the risk of human trafficking in Malaysia.	3.40	3	4
The media in Malaysia plays a significant role in raising awareness about human trafficking.	3.50	4	3
Communities in Malaysia are actively engaged in efforts to prevent human trafficking.	3.40	3	4

As shown in Table 1, most questions scored within a narrow range between 3.30 and 3.60 on the Likert scale (1 = Strongly Disagree, 5 = Strongly Agree), indicating a generally neutral to slightly agreeable perception across multiple dimensions such as legal adequacy, victim protection, law enforcement capacity, and public awareness. Overall, the means hover around the midpoint (3.0–3.6) of the scale, suggesting moderate satisfaction or uncertainty regarding Malaysia's current efforts. Notably, items related to public awareness, NGO involvement, media, and the education system show slightly more favorable perceptions. Conversely, responses regarding victim awareness of rights, rehabilitation programs, and financial support indicate areas perceived as less adequate, highlighting potential gaps in policy implementation and enforcement support.

## Results

### *Perceptions of the Legal Framework*

Effectiveness of ATIPSOM 2007, Penal Code, Child Act 2001, and Immigration Act 1959/63

The survey responses provide a comprehensive view of the perceptions regarding the effectiveness of Malaysia's primary legal frameworks in combating human trafficking.

- i. ATIPSOM 2007: Respondents generally view the Anti-Trafficking in Persons and Anti-Smuggling of Migrants Act 2007 (ATIPSOM) (Rahman et al., 2023) as an essential legal instrument. Most law enforcement officials (mean score: 4.2) regard it as a robust framework, although NGOs (mean score: 3.5) suggest that enforcement could be improved. Legal professionals have a mixed view, highlighting both its strengths in terms of legal provisions and weaknesses in practical implementation.
- ii. Penal Code: This was seen as effective by a considerable number of respondents, especially legal professionals (mean score: 4.0). They noted that the Penal Code provides clear punitive measures against traffickers. However, some respondents from NGOs and victim support services pointed out that amendments are needed to address contemporary trafficking tactics (Umejiaku, 2020).
- iii. Child Act 2001: The Child Act was rated highly (mean score: 4.3) for its role in protecting minors. Respondents across all stakeholder groups agreed on its importance but emphasized the need for more specialized training for law enforcement officers to handle child trafficking cases sensitively and effectively (Umejiaku, 2020).
- iv. Immigration Act 1959/63: The responses indicated a perceived lack of alignment between immigration policies and anti-trafficking efforts (mean score: 3.0). Many respondents argued that stricter immigration controls sometimes inadvertently contribute to the vulnerability of migrants to trafficking (Sulaiman et al., 2021).

### **Views on Enforcement Strategies**

#### *Efficacy of National Task Force, Law Enforcement Practices, and Victim Support Services*

The efficacy of the National Task Force was rated positively (mean score: 4.1), with law enforcement and government officials praising its coordinated efforts. However, some NGO respondents felt that there was room for improvement in inter-agency collaboration. The responses indicate a mixed perception (mean score: 3.5). While the training and dedication of individual officers were praised, systemic issues such as corruption and resource constraints were frequently cited as significant barriers to effective enforcement. Respondents from victim support organizations and NGOs gave lower ratings (mean score: 3.2) to current victim support services, noting gaps in psychological support, legal assistance, and rehabilitation programs. The consensus was that while initial rescue operations might be effective, long-term support for victims is often inadequate.

### **Challenges and Barriers**

The survey highlighted several challenges and barriers in the fight against human trafficking:

- i. Resource Constraints and corruption: Imperfect possessions for both law implementation and survivor provision facilities were a shared theme. Numerous defendants highlighted the necessity for improved funding and improved distribution of possessions. Dishonesty and exploitation within law administration and migration facilities was mentioned as an important blockade, with many respondents believing it weakens the effectiveness of anti-trafficking actions.
- ii. Lack of Training and Victim Blaming: Improper training for law implementation and legal workers was stated, predominantly regarding the documentation and management of trafficking cases. A social and general inclination to guilt survivors rather than supporting the survivors was acknowledged as a universal matter that delays actual involvement and provision.

## Suggestions for Improvement

Respondents presented several commendations for enlightening Malaysia's hard work to battle with human trafficking:

- i. **Enhanced Training:** Inclusive and constant training plans for implementation of law, legal workers, and migration officers were recommended to progress the documentation and managing of cases of trafficking.
- ii. **Stronger Inter-agency Collaboration:** Enhanced direction and statement between several agencies which are involved in anti-trafficking exertions were suggested to improve the efficiency of actions.
- iii. **Increased Resources:** Allotting more economic and social possessions to anti-trafficking parts and victim support services was a mutual proposition, pointing to boost both protective and reconstructive actions.
- iv. **Anti-Corruption Measures:** Applying severe anti-corruption actions inside law administration and migration facilities was endorsed to make sure integrity and efficiency in anti-trafficking processes.
- v. **Public Awareness Campaigns:** Enhancing community awareness about human trafficking by the help of media campaigns and public outreach was recommended to substitute a more helpful setting for survivors and a preventive for traffickers.

## Comparative Analysis

### *Comparing Perspectives Across Different Groups of Respondents*

The survey discovered variable outlooks across diverse sets of respondents:

- i. **Law Enforcement vs. NGOs:** Law implementation administrators usually evaluated the efficiency of legal outlines and implementation approaches developed than NGOs did. This inconsistency proposes a necessity for improved arrangement and understanding among these clusters.
- ii. **Legal Authorities vs. Victim Support Services:** Legal experts focus on the strong point of present laws, while victim support services highlight gaps in application and victim support, directing to a necessity for a further victim-centered method.
- iii. **Government Officials vs. General Public:** Government representatives were seen to be more positive about the efficiency of existing actions as compared to the general public, representing a possible detach between policy application and public awareness.

## Discussion

### *Interpretation of Survey Results*

#### *Analysis of Key Findings*

The results of the survey provide a subtle opinion of the insights of several shareholders concerning the efficiency of legal outline and enforcement approaches against human trafficking in Malaysia.

#### a. Legal Frameworks:

- i. **ATIPSOM 2007:** The survey respondents usually favor ATIPSOM 2007 as a strong legal tool (Rahman et al., 2023). However, though law implementation officials extremely valued its efficiency, NGOs and victim support establishments noted gaps in its application, mainly concerning victim fortification and reintegration.
- ii. **Penal Code:** The Penal Code was positively observed by legal experts, who renowned its clear disciplinary actions in contradiction of traffickers. However, there were calls for modifications to discourse developing trafficking strategies, which reflect a necessity for the legal arrangement to adjust to new trials.



- iii. Child Act 2001: The child act acknowledged high evaluations as compare to all groups, highlighting its critical role in caring for children. However, shareholders emphasised the need for particular training for law implementation officers who are dealing with cases of child trafficking to make sure complex and operative handling.
- iv. Immigration Act 1959/63: Insights of the Immigration Act were observed to be less satisfactory, with survey respondents directing that severe migration panels might unintentionally upsurge the susceptibility of immigrants to trafficking (Sulaiman et al., 2021). This highlights the necessity for migration strategies that stable safety with the safety of susceptible persons.

b. Enforcement Strategies:

- i. National Task Force: The National Task Force was evaluated certainly, with survey respondents escalating the management between different agencies. Though, NGOs called for more reliable inter-agency associations to progress efficiency.
- ii. Law Enforcement Practices: Law implementation practices established mixed evaluations. While the commitment of distinct officers was admired, general problems such as exploitation and reserve limitations were important blockades to operative implementation.
- iii. Victim Support Services: VSS was rated lesser, representing extensive gaps in emotional care, legal support, and reintegration plans. The conclusions recommend that though primary rescue processes might be operative, long-term provision for survivors is often absent.

c. Challenges and barriers:

- i. Resource Constraints: Resources were limited for law implementation and providing victim support services was a persistent theme. Improved funding and better source provision were normally recommended.
- ii. Corruption: Corruption was seen normally cited in law implementation and migration services declining the effectiveness of anti-trafficking actions. This highlights the necessity for severe anti-corruption events.
- iii. Lack of Training: Insufficient training for law implementation and judicial workers was an extra important blockade, highlighting the necessity for inclusive and constant training plans.

d. Implications for Effectiveness

The survey results suggest that legal outlines of Malaysia have usually seemed to be strong, their efficiency is hindered by execution encounters, supply restrictions, and general problems which include exploitation and corruption. Actual implementation approaches and victim support services are critical for the general accomplishment of anti-trafficking hard work. There is a strong requirement for more properties, improved training, and robust collaboration of inter-agency to improve the efficiency of present events.

e. Comparison with Previous Research:

- i. Alignment with Existing Literature: The existing literature and survey results align which highlights the weakness and strength of anti-trafficking efforts make by Malaysia. Previous research studies has correspondingly pointed out the strength of legal outlines like ATIPSOM 2007 and the Penal Code although finding gaps in application and safety of survivors.
- ii. Divergence from Existing Literature: One point where the results of survey separate from some prevailing works is to supposed efficiency of the National Task Force. As the survey respondents usually valued it completely, some preceding researches have disapproved of its absence of management and unreliable implementation practices. This deviation proposes a probable development in current years or variable involvements among dissimilar shareholder collections.

#### f. Policy Implications:

The findings from the survey provide numerous perceptions for policymakers:

- i. **Strengthening Legal Frameworks and Resource Allocation:** Policymakers must reflect modifying current laws to discourse new tactics of trafficking and making sure they endure active. This contains informing the Penal Code and ATIPSOM 2007 to protect developing procedures of trafficking. Increasing fund for law administration and victim support services is important. Suitable possessions will allow improved training, extra operative processes, and inclusive provision for survivors.
- ii. **Anti-Corruption Measures:** Imposing severe measures for anti-corruption inside law administration and migration facilities is important. This will help in restoring trust and make sure the honesty of anti-trafficking hard work.
- iii. **Training Programs and Inter-Agency Collaboration:** Policymakers must arrange inclusive and constant training plans for law administration, legal staffs, and migration majors. This will improve their capability to classify and grip trafficking cases efficiently. Strengthening inter-agency association is important. Improved organisation and statement between different interventions intricate in anti-trafficking exertions will improve the complete efficiency of actions and procedures.

#### g. Suggested Improvements:

- i. **Enhanced Victim Support and Public Awareness Campaigns:** the policymakers must concentrate on refining long-term provision for trafficking survivors. This embrace provides inclusive psychological provision, legal support, and reintegration plans to help survivors recover into community (Ediae et al., 2024). Enhancing public responsiveness related to human trafficking by the help of media campaigns and public outreach will adopt a helpful atmosphere for survivors and act as defensive for traffickers (Fernandes et al., 2020).
- ii. **Stable Immigration Rules and Regular Monitoring and Evaluation:** Emerging migration strategies that stables safety with the defense of susceptible persons is vital. This will help prevent migrants from becoming easy targets for traffickers. Establishing regular monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to assess the effectiveness of anti-trafficking measures will help identify gaps and areas for improvement, ensuring that policies remain relevant and effective (Cluster, 2020).

### Conclusion

The survey results propose an inclusive thought of the insights of several shareholders concerning Malaysia's exertions to battle human trafficking over its legal outlines and implementation policies. Important findings disclose that though outlines such as ATIPSOM 2007, the Penal Code, Child Act 2001, and the Immigration Act 1959/63 are usually strong, substantial gaps endure in their execution and implementation, predominantly in protection of survivors and their reintegration therapy. Implementation approaches, together with the labors of the National Task Force, are admired for their management, but universal problems like dishonesty and supply restraints create problems and hinder their efficiency. Support services for survivors are particularly insufficient in providing long-term support, and tests such as inadequate possessions, fraud, improper training, and victim-blaming brashness continue. To highlights these problems, the endorsements highlight establishment of legal outlines to adjust to new trafficking strategies, growing resource distribution for law implementation and victim support services, applying severe anti-corruption actions, and arranging inclusive training plans. Moreover, enlightening long-term provision for victims that enhances awareness of public, that balance migration strategies, and founding consistent observance and estimation mechanisms are important steps onward. Research in future must emphasis on evaluating the influence of legal alterations, reviewing long-term consequences for survivors, assessing training program efficiency, discovering cross-border collaboration, and considerate community insights and responsiveness of human trafficking. These stages are important for purifying and firming up Malaysia's anti-trafficking actions, guaranteeing a more active and inclusive method to address this main issue.

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