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Punjab's Zero-Tolerance Stance on Human Trafficking

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On July 30, 2025, Punjab Chief Minister (CM) Maryam Nawaz Sharif declared that the Punjab government is implementing a strict zero-tolerance policy against human trafficking, emphasizing child protection. In her World Day Against Human Trafficking message, she condemned the practice as modern slavery and urged collective action to eliminate it, as reported by Nation.com.pk.

Addressing the public, Sharif described human trafficking as a heinous violation of human rights, particularly targeting the illegal exploitation of children. She stressed that protecting children is her administration's top priority, stating, "No child in Punjab should face trafficking or exploitation," according to The Express Tribune. The Punjab government's strategy includes robust enforcement, public awareness campaigns, and

inter-agency coordination to dismantle trafficking networks. Sharif also urged parents to safeguard children seeking employment and warned against illegal migration routes, citing a tragic boat capsizing incident that killed dozens en route to Europe, per Pakistan Today.

The Chief Minister's resolve aligns with Punjab's broader efforts to strengthen law enforcement and protect vulnerable populations. She called human traffickers ruthless criminals who exploit lives for profit, emphasizing that her government will not tolerate such acts, as noted by the Associated Press of Pakistan (APP). Sharif encouraged citizens to report suspicious activities and adopt legal travel channels to prevent further tragedies. Posts on X, such as those by @pmln_org, echoed her message, highlighting public support for the zero-tolerance stance.

Sharif's administration has prioritized child safety through legislative reforms and institutional measures, reinforcing Punjab's commitment to human rights. The focus on child protection reflects a broader national push to combat trafficking, with Punjab leading through targeted policies. Her appeal for vigilance and legal migration underscores the need for societal responsibility in tackling this global menace. The government's firm stance aims to ensure justice and safety for all, particularly the most vulnerable, setting a strong precedent for anti-trafficking efforts in Pakistan.