



सत्यमेव जयते

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

INDIA COUNTRY REPORT

TO PREVENT AND COMBAT
TRAFFICKING AND
COMMERCIAL
SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF
CHILDREN AND WOMEN

World Congress III

Against Sexual Exploitation of
Children and Adolescents

(Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, November 2008)



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime

Ministry of Women and
Child Development





सत्यमेव जयते

Government of India

India Country Report

To Prevent and Combat Trafficking and Commercial
Sexual Exploitation of Children and Women

World Congress III
Against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents
(Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, November 2008)



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime

Ministry of Women and
Child Development



Disclaimer and Ownership from the Government of India

The Report quotes data and information from both Government and Non-Government sources. The intellectual rigour, accuracy and precision of such data had not been endorsed or authenticated. Also, the views expressed in the report may not necessarily be that of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), Government of India.

Published by the MWCD, Government of India with assistance from the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Regional Office of South Asia.

Collation and Compilation by Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children (ATSEC), India.

Photo Credits:

Anindit Roy Chowdhury, Independent Consultant

These are randomly taken pictures. These do not necessarily depict children who are trafficked or abused.

Ministry of Women and Child Development

Government of India

Shastri Bhavan

New Delhi - 110001

UNODC ROSA

EP 16/17 Chandragupta Marg

Chankyapuri

New Delhi -110021

Designing and Printing:

New Concept Information Systems Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi

www.newconceptinfo.com

Foreword

There has been a significant shift in the perception of the problem of sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, especially through devious means of trafficking, by seeing it not just as a law enforcement issue, but as a heinous crime which violates basic human rights, including their right to live with dignity and self-respect.



While cultural, traditional and historical patterns differ from country to country, a common thread which runs through all exploitative trafficking situations is the implicit and explicit economic and social deprivation and discrimination that disadvantaged sections especially women and children, face. Poverty, lack of access to education, nutrition, health, prevalence of violence and abuse against these groups compound their vulnerabilities to trafficking.

The Government of India has accorded the highest priority to combating trafficking and in this process adopted a multi pronged, multi stakeholder approach to tackle a problem which is primarily multi dimensional in nature. The Country Report, specially prepared for the World Congress reflects this collaborative effort. The Report is a compendium of the major innovative initiatives undertaken by different stakeholders in tackling trafficking in the country and contains resource material on legislation, policies, programmes, best practices and public private participation. I have no doubt that the Country Report will be very useful to our global partners as a good example of how different actors can join together in an inclusive and participatory mode working harmoniously and judiciously, for the greater good of all concerned.

As commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking is a transnational global organized crime, international collaborations, co-operation and sharing of knowledge and information are key to address their global ramifications. The World Congress III, 2008, in Brazil, against sexual exploitation of children and adolescents is an ideal forum where participants from all over the world share their collective wisdom and knowledge to discuss ways and means to eradicate this menace globally. I am sure that the deliberations of the Congress will point the way for long term practical strategies to combat sexual exploitation and trafficking.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Renuka".

Renuka Chowdhury
Minister of State (Independent Charge)
Ministry of Women and Child Development
Government of India

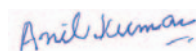
Preface

The sexual exploitation of children and adolescents especially in the form of trafficking is a concern that has engaged global attention in the last few decades. There is a felt need to analyze the new emerging dimensions of the problem and the challenges it presents in order to undertake integrated inter stakeholder action to combat the crime. As such the World Congress III Against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents, 2008 Brazil takes place at an opportune time when world wide partnerships are being reinforced to protect children and youth from all forms of sexual exploitation.

The problem of trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation is especially challenging due to its myriad complexities and variations, especially with new trends of incidence in paedophilia. The Government of India along with it's partners has taken a pro-active role in combating trafficking and sexual exploitation with a multi faceted strategy of laws, policies, schemes and most importantly enabling a protective environment within the community to help them safeguard their children from evils of trafficking and to enable rescue, rehabilitation and re-integration of the trafficked victims.

To enable an understanding of the range of activities undertaken in India to tackle sexual exploitation of women and children, the India Country Report has been prepared with inputs from stakeholders such as Government, both at the Centre and States, civil society, NGOs, international organizations and corporate sector. Thus the Country Report offers a glimpse into some of the major interventions and best practices which have gone a long way in confronting the problem. The Government has recently launched Ujjawala – a comprehensive scheme on to combat trafficking. On the anvil is the Integrated Child Protection Scheme which provides a protective umbrella for children in distress. Realizing that public private partnerships is the most effective method of collaboration a Think Tank for this purpose has been specially constituted.

While much has been accomplished to combat sexual exploitation, there is realization that more needs to be done to eradicate this menace from our midst. The way forward is through international cooperation and social responsibility where all actors participate in a harmonious manner to make the world a better place for our children.



Anil Kumar
Secretary

Ministry of Women and Child Development
Government of India

Acknowledgement

I would like to place on record my sincere thanks to Smt. Renuka Chowdhury the Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India for her guidance and direction which has made the Country Report possible. I would like to thank Shri Anil Kumar, Secretary of Ministry of Women and Child Development for his continuous support and encouragement in undertaking the Report.

The preparation of this Report would not have been possible without the valuable contribution received from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Indian Overseas Affairs, State Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Goa, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Jammu and Kashmir, Orissa, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat and Dadra and Nagar Haveli, international organizations such as International Organization for Migration (IOM), UNICEF, UNIFEM and UNODC and NGOs working in the field of Anti-Trafficking. I would like to thank colleagues from the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Mr. Pradip Bolina, Joint Secretary and Ms. Vinita Agarwal, Director, MWCD for significant contribution in the preparation of the report.

I would like to sincerely thank Ms. Ashita Mittal, Deputy Representative, UNODC, ROSA, Ms. Bidisha Pillai, Officer In-charge, UN-GIFT, (South Asia), Ms. Marie Erickson, Consultant, UNODC and Ms. Nandita Bharua, ex-UN-GIFT Coordinator (South Asia), ROSA for their continued support in the preparation of this Report. I would like to thank Ms. Radha Kamath, Consultant, UNODC for providing the technical support in the preparation and finalization of this Report.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development would like to thank ATSEC particularly, Mr. Anindit Roy Chowdhury (Consultant) for assisting the Ministry in collating, compiling and editing the content of this Report.



Economic Advisor
Ministry of Women and Child Development
Government of India

From UNODC's Desk

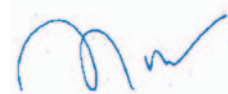
Human trafficking is an offence against humanity and is a crime that shames us all. 2008, is also the year marking the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In reiterating the basic rights of human beings in this year, the year which is marking 'dignity and justice for all of us', it shames us that this crime of human trafficking makes a mockery of the rights of the vulnerable. It makes human beings, particularly disadvantaged women and children, the objects of financial transactions through the use of duress or deception for various purposes, chief among them being, commercial sexual exploitation and exploited labour. The exploitation may also be for many other reasons including begging, forced marriages, adoption, transplantation of human organs, etc.

Virtually every country in the world is affected by trafficking for sexual exploitation or forced labour. Trafficking is increasingly recognized as a complex process, a systematic, economic phenomenon, involving the interplay of several contributing factors and vulnerabilities. The need is also to focus on the most vulnerable women and children who are often commodified due to socio cultural factors.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA) has been actively involved in combating and preventing human trafficking through its programmes and initiatives in collaboration with the National Governments, particularly the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) and the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) in India. The Government of India's commitment to address and prevent human trafficking is evident from the serious efforts made towards initiation and implementation of the several schemes and initiatives in partnership with civil society.

The India Country Report is an excellent process documentation, which marks the journey in India to address issues of human trafficking in women and children from World Congress II (WCII – Yokohama, 2002) to World Congress III on Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents (WCIII – Rio de Janeiro, 2008). The report highlights the good and emerging practices in the area of anti human trafficking, acknowledging the efforts of the Government, civil society organizations, international, bilateral and multilateral agencies, survivors groups, and dedicated individuals, in the process.

We hope that this report will emerge not only as a tool for presenting the anti-human trafficking efforts in India at the WCIII, but will also facilitate sharing of good practices and help us protect the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children worldwide.



Ashita Mittal
Deputy Representative and
Officer-in-charge
UNODC ROSA

CONTENTS

Chapter 1	
Introduction and Background	1
Chapter 2	
Government of India Initiatives	5
Chapter 3	
State Governments' Initiatives	21
Chapter 4	
International Organizations' Initiatives	35
Chapter 5	
Public Private Partnerships	47
Chapter 6	
Civil Society Organizations' Initiatives	53
Chapter 7	
Way Forward	67





CHAPTER 1

Introduction and Background

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

Trafficking of human beings, especially of women and children, is an organized crime that violates basic human rights. As per the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, trafficking is defined as any activity leading to recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of threat or use of force or a position of vulnerability. Trafficking as a crime has seen an increasing trend especially in the last two decades globally.

Human trafficking has been identified as the third largest source of profit for organized crime, following arms and drug trafficking, generating billions of dollars annually at the global level. Trafficking takes places for various purposes such as labour, prostitution, organ trade, drug couriers, arms smuggling etc. However, these cannot be seen in isolation as they have a crosscutting nexus and linkage, which compounds the constraints faced in tackling the problem. It is also seen that while the methods used for trafficking such as coercion, duping, luring, abducting, kidnapping etc. are commonly cited, it is the social and economic constraints of the victims that make them most vulnerable.

With growing globalization and liberalization, the possibilities and potential for trafficking have also grown. People tend to migrate in search of better opportunities. Though this is a positive trend, it has also led to the emergence of other complex issues such as smuggling of people across borders and unsafe migration by unscrupulous touts and agents.

While trafficking has severe implications on the psycho-social and economic well-being of the victim, highly adverse ramifications are also seen on the society and the nation. By denying the victims their basic rights to good health, nutrition, education and economic independence, the country loses a large number of women and children as victims to this crime, who otherwise would have contributed productively to its growth. A growing concern is that trafficking has an adverse impact on the problem of HIV/AIDS too. Some studies have revealed that the longer the confinement in brothels, the greater is the probability of the victims contracting HIV/AIDS due to poor negotiation for safe sex methods. The country has to incur huge costs for health and rehabilitation as well as for law enforcement.

Human trafficking has been identified as the third largest source of profit for organized crime, following arms and drug trafficking, generating billions of dollars annually at the global level.

Trafficking – Situation in India

India is a Republic comprising 28 States and seven Union Territories, and has a population of more than one billion. The Constitution of India envisages a parliamentary form of government and is federal in nature, with unitary features. The States of India vary greatly in terms of language, culture, religion and tradition.

Over the years, India has emerged as a source, destination, and transit country for trafficking for varied purposes such as for commercial sexual exploitation and labour. While intra-country trafficking forms the bulk of the trafficked victims, cross-border trafficking also takes place, especially from Nepal and Bangladesh. Women and children are also trafficked to the Middle Eastern countries and other parts of the world for purposes of cheap labour and commercial sexual exploitation.

The number of trafficked persons is difficult to determine due to the secrecy and clandestine nature of the crime. However, studies and surveys sponsored by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) estimates that there are about three million prostitutes in the country, of which an estimated 40 percent are children, as there is a growing demand for very young girls to be inducted into prostitution on account of customer preferences.

A few alarming trends that have emerged in recent years are sexual exploitation through sex tourism, child sex tourism, paedophilia, prostitution in pilgrim towns and other tourist destinations, cross-border trafficking (especially from Nepal and Bangladesh) etc.

Substantial efforts have been made in the last decade or so in the area of Anti-Human Trafficking by government institutions/state machinery, the civil society organizations, the judiciary and the law enforcement authorities. The purpose of this India Country Report is multi-pronged:

- Primarily, it documents the journey traversed by India in addressing the issues of trafficking in women and children from World Congress II (WCII – Yokohama, 2002) to World Congress III on Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents (WCIII – Rio de Janeiro, 2008)¹.
- It elucidates the good practices in the area of anti-human trafficking in the country and also acknowledges the efforts of the government, civil society organizations, international, bilateral and multilateral agencies, survivor groups, as well as dedicated individuals in the country to combat this heinous crime.
- Finally, the document also explicates the processes through which prevention, protection and prosecution efforts, towards anti-human trafficking, have evolved in India.

The report will not only be a tool for presenting the anti-human trafficking efforts in India at the World Congress III (Rio de Janeiro, November 2008), but also act as an advocacy document to identify and influence future programming.

¹ For more information on World Congress III, please visit the official website <http://www.iiicongressomundial.net/>

Substantial efforts have been made in the last decade or so in the area of Anti-Human Trafficking by government institutions/state machinery, the civil society organizations, the judiciary and the law enforcement authorities.

A black and white photograph showing a group of people, including children, holding up the Indian national flag. The flag is prominently displayed in the upper center of the frame. The background shows a building with a tiled roof and a window. The overall scene suggests a public event or a school activity.

CHAPTER 2

Government of India Initiatives

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA INITIATIVES

Drawing strength from the Constitution of India where trafficking of human beings or persons is prohibited under Article 23 (1), the mandate for prevention and combating trafficking in persons has received significant attention from the Government. In view of the multi-faceted issues associated with trafficking, the task and responsibility to fight this crime cut across different Ministries/Departments and also State Governments as the subject of trafficking falls within the purview of both the Centre and State mandates.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), Government of India, is the nodal ministry, which deals with the subject of prevention of trafficking in women and children for commercial sexual exploitation. In its efforts, MWCD works very closely with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Law enforcement is primarily a state subject. However, the MHA deals with all the matters related to Law Enforcement, especially the provisions of The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act (ITPA) and specific provisions of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). In addition, the MHA has under its aegis, special enforcement agencies such as Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Border Security Force (BSF), and the National Bureau for Crime Records, which compiles crime statistics. The MEA handles issues related to international treaties and protocols dealing with trafficking, and also the care and support to victims of trafficking across borders, while the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs deals with the issues relating to migration, with a special focus on prevention of unsafe migration. The Ministry of Labour and Employment focuses on all matters related to the enforcement of labour laws, and rehabilitation and repatriation of child labour.

The Government of India has built strong linkages and partnerships with various stakeholders including civil society, NGOs, corporate sector, international organizations etc, in all its endeavours to build an integrated response to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, especially of women and girl children.

As the problems related to trafficking are varied, a multi-pronged holistic approach has been adopted to prevent and combat this evil. These include:

- Legislations
- Law enforcement
- Special measures for prevention of trafficking

The Government of India has built strong linkages and partnerships with various stakeholders including civil society, NGOs, corporate sector, international organizations etc., in all its endeavours to build an integrated response to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, especially of women and girl children.

- Rescue, rehabilitation and re-integration of victims
- Repatriation of cross-border trafficking victims

Salient features of the amendments to ITPA

- Re-define the age of the child from 16 to 18 years.
- Deletion of sections, which re-victimize the victims.
- In-Camera proceedings in Courts to safeguard privacy of victims.
- Enhanced punishment for traffickers, brothel keepers, pimps etc.
- Punishment for persons who visit brothels for commercial sexual exploitation.
- Definition of ‘trafficking’ adopted from the UN Protocol.
- Setting-up of Centre and State nodal authorities in the States for preventing and combating offence of trafficking through coordination, investigation, rescue, rehabilitation, judicial support, research and training.

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA) is the premier legislation for prevention of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.

Legislative Measure

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA) is the premier legislation for prevention of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. To further strengthen the Act, amendments have been proposed to widen its scope, focus on traffickers and perpetrators of crime, and prevent re-victimization of victims.

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Bill, 2006 was introduced in the Parliament in May 2006 and the report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee (PSC), which went into all the provisions of the amendments, was submitted in November 2006. Presently, the Bill is under approval of competent authority before it is sent back to the Parliament for consideration and passing.

- **The Indian Penal Code** – The Indian Penal Code lays down a number of provisions, which are related to trafficking. Some of these include:
 - ◆ Kidnapping, abducting or inducing woman to compel her for marriage, etc (Section 366).
 - ◆ Selling minors for purposes of prostitution, etc (Section 372).
 - ◆ Buying minors for purposes of prostitution, etc (Section 373).
 - ◆ Wrongful restraint (Section 339).
 - ◆ Wrongful confinement (Section 340).
- **Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJA)** – It is the primary law relating to juveniles in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection. The Act seeks to provide care/ protection to children by catering to a child’s development needs, adopting a child friendly environment and approach for adjudication of cases related to juveniles/children, keeping the child’s “best interest” in mind and rehabilitation of the child as the goal.
- **Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act** – Prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in notified hazardous occupations and

processes. The Act also regulates, the employment of children in non-hazardous occupations and processes. Some of the important prohibited occupations and processes are carpet weaving, building and construction work, brick kilns, production of hosiery goods, work as domestic servants, and in tea-shops, road side eateries, etc. The Act also regulates the working conditions of children in other employments, which are not prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.

- **The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976** – The Act provides for the abolition of bonded labour system with a view to prevent economic and physical exploitation of the weaker sections of the people.

International Instruments

India has reiterated its commitment to prevent and combat trafficking by being a signatory to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. It has also ratified, other related Conventions such as Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and its optional protocols, and the SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking among Women and Children.

India has reiterated its commitment to prevent and combat trafficking by being a signatory to the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially women and children.

Institutional Mechanisms

- **The National Commission for Women (NCW)** – It was constituted on 31st January, 1992 as a statutory body at the national level, to safeguard the interests of women. It has a wide mandate covering almost all aspects of women's development, such as to investigate and examine the legal safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws; review the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments to meet any lacunae, inadequacies or shortcomings in such laws; look into complaints and take suo moto notice of matters relating to deprivation of women's rights and take up the issues with appropriate authorities; take up studies/research on issues of relevance to women; and participate and advise in the planning process for socio-economic development of women.
- **The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** – It was established on 12th October, 1993. Its statute is contained in the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. The Commission is an embodiment of India's concern for the promotion and protection of human rights. The Commission has a wide mandate including civil and political rights, economic, social and cultural rights, and group rights. The function of the Commission includes inquiring on petitions, presented to it by the victims, or any person on their behalf, into complaints of; violation of human rights, or negligence in the prevention of such violation, by a public servant; intervening in any proceeding involving any allegation of violation of human rights pending before a Court, with the approval of such Courts; undertaking and promoting research in the field of human rights; spreading human rights literacy amongst various sections of society; and promoting awareness

of the safeguards available for the protection of these rights, through publications, the media, seminars and other available means.

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, examines and reviews the safeguards provided by or under any law for the protection of child rights and recommends measures for their effective implementation.

- **The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights** – It is a statutory body set up in March 2007 to protect, promote and defend child rights in the country. The functions of the Commission include to examine and review the safeguards provided by or under any law for the protection of child rights and recommend measures for their effective implementation; to examine all factors that inhibit the enjoyment of rights of children and recommend appropriate remedial measures; to look into the matters relating to children in distress, marginalized and disadvantaged children without family and children of prisoners and recommend appropriate remedial measures; to spread child rights literacy among various sections of the society and promote awareness of the safeguards available for protection of these rights; and to inquire into the violation of child rights and recommend initiation of proceedings in such cases.

The State Governments also have such institutional mechanisms at the State level.

- **Central Advisory Committee (CAC) for Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation**
The Ministry of Women and Child Development has constituted a Central Advisory Committee (CAC) which functions under the chairpersonship of Secretary, MWCD, Government of India. The members include representatives from central ministries such as Home Affairs, External Affairs, Tourism, Health and Family Welfare, Social Justice and Empowerment, Law and Justice, State Governments, autonomous bodies such as National Human Rights Commission, National Commission for Women, Central Social Welfare Board, National Institute for Public Cooperation and Child Development, Law Enforcement Agencies such as National Crime Records Bureau, Border Security Force, Intelligence Bureau and Central Bureau of Investigation, international agencies such as UNICEF, UNIFEM and UNODC and reputed NGOs and experts. The CAC meets every quarter to discuss major issues and strategies for preventing and combating trafficking of women and children.

Policies and Protocols

- **Integrated Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking with special focus on Children and Women** – The Ministry of Women and Child Development had formulated a National Plan of Action (NPA) to combat trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children in 1998, with the objective of mainstreaming and re-integrating women and child victims of commercial sexual exploitation in to the community. To formulate a more holistic policy and programme for trafficking in persons which will incorporate all forms of trafficking (such as sexual exploitation, child labour, bonded labour, organ trade etc.) and enable an integrated approach to tackle the problem, the MWCD, in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), Ministry of Labour and Employment, National Human Rights Commission and National

Commission for Women, is developing an “Integrated Plan of Action to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking with Special Focus on Children and Women”. Three regional consultations were organized to solicit inputs and recommendations from various stakeholders. A national consultation was convened in August 2007 and a draft integrated plan of action has been formulated, and which is now being examined by relevant Ministries/ Departments for their feedback.

- **The National Plan of Action for Children, 2005** – Prepared by the MWCD, it commits itself to ensure that all rights of all children up to the age of 18 years are protected. Further it plans to undertake all measures and create an enabling environment for survival, growth, development and protection of all children, so that each child can realize his or her inherent potential and grow up to be a healthy and productive citizen. This calls for collective commitment and action by all sectors and levels of governments and partnership with families, communities, voluntary sector, civil society and children themselves.
- **National Policy for Empowerment of Women, 2001 of the MWCD** – The goal of this Policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women. Some of the objectives include creating an environment through positive economic and social policies for full development of women to enable them to realize their full potential; the de-jure and de-facto enjoyment of all human rights and fundamental freedom by women on equal basis with men in all spheres – political, economic, social, cultural and civil; equal access to participation and decision making of women in social, political and economic life of the nation; equal access to women to health care, quality education at all levels, career and vocational guidance, employment, equal remuneration, occupational health and safety, social security and public office; strengthening legal systems aimed at elimination of all forms of discrimination against women; elimination of discrimination and all forms of violence against women and the girl child; and building and strengthening partnerships with civil society, particularly women’s organizations.
- **Protocol for Pre-rescue, Rescue and Post-rescue Operations of Child Victims of Trafficking for the Purpose of Commercial Sexual Exploitation** – A special protocol developed by MWCD provides guidelines for enforcement agencies and NGOs involved in the rescue of victims from their place of exploitation, medical and legal procedures to be followed and rehabilitative measures to be provided to the victims.
- **Protocol on Prevention, Rescue, Repatriation and Rehabilitation of Trafficked and Migrant Child Labour²** – To ensure smooth rescue, repatriation and rehabilitation of trafficked and migrant child labour,

The National Plan of Action for Children, 2005 commits itself to ensure that all rights of all children up to the age of 18 years are protected.

² Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India

the Ministry of Labour and Employment has developed a protocol on prevention, rescue, repatriation and rehabilitation of trafficked and migrant child labour, for all stakeholders.

The Government of India is implementing a large number of programmes to protect vulnerable persons, especially women and children from trafficking, and provide them economic and social empowerment.

The CAC members under MWCD developed a blue print of action in the following areas:

- **Protocol on Inter-State Rescue and Post-rescue Activities Relating to Trafficked Persons** – It provides guidelines to the State Governments on the inter-state rescue operations, the modalities involved, precautions to be undertaken and responsibility of various stakeholders in providing services to the rescued victim.
- **Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children** – It provides for various steps to be undertaken to prevent trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation and includes formation of adolescent groups and community vigilance groups, anti-trafficking regional networks, appropriate interventions that should be taken up in brothel areas to prevent second-generation prostitution, special measures targeting those communities traditionally involved in commercial sex work and rehabilitation of women who have become old to carry on the profession and are in need of care and protection.
- **Rehabilitation of Victims of Trafficking** – It provides for action points related to areas of rehabilitation such as care and support programmes, community based rehabilitation, custody of victims, education and skill building of victims and their ultimate rehabilitation in the society.
- **Health inputs** – It highlights the special medical care, both physical and psychological, that is required by the victims of trafficking, the long-term impacts and the steps to be undertaken to provide holistic health services to the victims of trafficking.
- **Legal Measures related to Trafficking** – The blue print of action calls for a composite legislation addressing trafficking for all purposes such as begging, organ trade, labour, drug-peddling etc.
- **Human Trafficking Management Information System (HTMIS)** – It provides a format for enforcement agencies to collect data on trafficked victims and traffickers.

Schemes and Programmes

The Government of India is implementing a large number of programmes to protect vulnerable persons, especially women and children from trafficking, and provide them economic and social empowerment. Some of these schemes are given below:

- **'Ujjawala'** – The MWCD till November, 2007 had decided to implement three pilot projects, to combat trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation under the sanction of tradition in source areas and in destination areas. It was decided to convert these three projects into a comprehensive scheme in the Eleventh Five Year Plan (2007-12) of the Government. Thus, 'Ujjawala', a new "Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention

Salient features of Ujjawala

The scheme comprises 5 components:

- Prevention, which consists of formation of community vigilance groups/adolescents' groups, awareness and sensitization of key functionaries.
- Rescue, safe withdrawal of the victim from the place of exploitation.
- Rehabilitation, which includes providing safe shelter for victims with basic inputs of food, clothing, counselling, medical care, legal aid, vocational training and income generation activities etc.
- Reintegration, which includes restoring the victim into the family/ community (if she so desires).
- Repatriation, to cross-border victims for their safe repatriation to their country of origin.

of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-Integration of Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation" was launched on 4th December, 2007.³

- **'Swadhar' and Short Stay Homes** – The MWCD runs shelter based homes, such as short stay homes and 'Swadhar' homes for women in difficult circumstances. These schemes also cater to trafficked women/girls rescued or runaway from brothels or other places. The schemes provide for shelter, food, clothing, counselling, clinical, medical, and legal and other support, training and economic rehabilitation and helpline facilities. Many of these homes are equipped with women helplines for emergency response. At present, there are 380 short stay homes and 240 'Swadhar' homes functioning in the country. State Governments also separately run shelter homes for women and children in distress. Many of these homes are equipped with women helplines for emergency response.
- **Child Line Services** – Child Line, the toll-free number 1098, is a 24-hour telephone service run under the aegis of MWCD, available to all children in distress or to adults on behalf of children in distress. The basic objectives of Child Line are:
 - ◆ To respond to the emergency needs of the children in difficulty and provide referral services.
 - ◆ To provide a forum for networking among Government and non-government agencies.
 - ◆ To sensitize medical personnel, police, municipal corporations etc. towards the needs of children.

At present, the Child Line is working in 82 cities and towns in the Country. Child line India has responded to more than 1, 35, 51, 134 (up to March, 2008) calls from 71 cities and towns since its inception in 1998.

Child Line is a 24-hour telephone service run under the aegis of MWCD, available to all children in distress or to adults on behalf of children in distress.

³ The Scheme is now formally being rolled out into action through NGO partners across the nation. This once again shows the Government's commitment in working in partnership with civil society organizations.

- ◆ To ensure protection of rights of the child.
 - ◆ To provide an opportunity to communities to respond to the needs of children in difficult circumstances.
- **Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS)**⁴ – The MWCD has formulated an umbrella scheme called Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) with a view to provide a safe and secure environment for the overall development of children who are in need of care and protection as well as children in conflict with law, including children in difficult circumstances. The Scheme aims to improve access to and enhancement in quality of child protection services. The proposed scheme is submitted for approval from competent authorities.

Objectives of ICPS

The objectives of the scheme is to improve the well being of children in difficult circumstances, as well as to reduce the vulnerabilities that lead to abuse, neglect, exploitation, abandonment and separation of children from parents.

This will be achieved by:

- Improved access to and enhancement in quality of child protection services.
- Enhancement of capacities at all levels on child protection.
- Raising public awareness on child rights situation and protection in India.
- Creating a knowledge and information database for child protection services.
- Clearly articulating responsibilities and enforced accountability for child protection.
- Establish functional structures at all government levels for delivery of services to children in difficult circumstances.
- Evidence based monitoring and evaluation.

A Central Monitoring Committee has been set up for the overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the National Child Labour Projects.

National Child Labour Project Scheme (NCLP)⁵ – The Ministry of Labour and Employment is implementing the NCLP, which is a project-based action programme. Working children are withdrawn from work and put into special schools for a period of maximum three years. In these special schools, they are provided with accelerated bridging education, pre-vocational training, stipend, mid-day meal, and health care facilities etc. A Central Monitoring Committee has been set up for the overall supervision, monitoring and evaluation of the National Child Labour Projects. Respective State Governments have also been advised to set up State level monitoring committees similar to the Central Monitoring Committee. The Government is presently implementing the NCLP Scheme in 250 districts of the country and it is proposing to expand it to 600 districts in the Eleventh Plan (2007-12).

⁴ Child Welfare Bureau, Ministry of Women and Child Development

⁵ Information provided by Ministry of Labour and Employment for Integrated National Plan of Action

It has been observed that the social and economic status of the marginalized groups, especially those living in areas vulnerable to trafficking, needs to be ameliorated so that they are no longer prey to traffickers. The Government is implementing a number of schemes for poverty alleviation and economic empowerment, which will go a long way in reducing the incidence of trafficking in the country. Some of these include special schemes for the protection of the girl child – the most vulnerable of all groups. Further, there are interventions which allow safe migration of working women and their children. Some of the schemes are:

- **‘Dhanalakshmi’**, conditional cash transfer scheme for girl child with insurance cover was launched by the MWCD in January 2008 as a pilot project in select districts of select States. The scheme provides for cash transfers to the mother of the girl child on performance of certain conditionality such as birth of the girl child and registration of her birth, immunization, enrolment, retention in school and her remaining unmarried till the legal age of marriage, 18 years. It is expected that the scheme would ensure that the girl child is not only born but also that she is enrolled and retained in school which would decrease her vulnerability to trafficking, child labour, child marriage etc.
- **Kishori Shakti Yojana (Adolescent Empowerment Scheme)** which is being implemented by MWCD, targets adolescent girls in the age group of 11 to 18 years, to address their needs of self development, nutrition and health status, literacy and numerical skills, vocational skills etc.
- **Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls** addresses the problem of under-nutrition among adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers. Nutrition Programme for Adolescent Girls (NPAG) was launched in the year 2002-03. Under this scheme, which was implemented by the MWCD, foodgrains were given to under nourished adolescent girls, pregnant women and lactating mothers. A proposal to integrate Kishori Shakti Yojana and the NPAG, and expand its coverage nationally is under preparation . The new scheme called the Rajiv Gandhi Scheme for Adolescent Girls will provide inputs for holistic empowerment of these girls.
- **Working Women’s hostels** to provide safe and affordable housing for women working away from their homes. The Government runs working women’s hostels with facilities of crèches for their children so that these children are in a protective environment.

The Government is implementing a number of schemes for poverty alleviation and economic empowerment, which will go a long way in reducing the incidence of trafficking in the country.

Economic Empowerment

The Government of India is implementing a number of poverty alleviation programmes, which would also reduce vulnerabilities of women and children to trafficking. These programmes include Swarnajayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojana (SGSY), Sampurna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY), National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), mobilization of Self Help Groups (SHGs) and providing skill building training and linkage with micro-credit institutions, vocational training organizations, etc.

The SHG is a silent but powerful movement that is revolutionizing and revitalizing remote corners of the country, bringing together poor and women without assets, giving them a face and a voice. The strategy of linking these

groups to micro credit facilities and providing them with skills for employability has proved effective in restoring their self esteem, value and more importantly their economic independence and decision making powers. In areas where the SHG movement has bloomed, informal surveys reveal that women have become more assertive, domestic violence, alcoholism and drug abuse has seen a decline and incidence of trafficking of women or their children has reduced. The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh or the National Women's Credit Fund (an autonomous organization under MWCD) is a premier micro-credit agency for economic empowerment of women which extends micro-finance services for livelihood activities, micro-enterprises, family needs and other activities to bring about the socio-economic development of poor women, in vulnerable areas. Special interventions are being made to extend the service to trafficked victims residing in 'Swadhar', short stay homes as well as those living in areas vulnerable to trafficking.

Special interventions are being made to extend the service to trafficked victims residing in 'Swadhar', short stay homes as well as those living in areas vulnerable to trafficking.

The ultimate empowerment of women and their children will happen when all programmes and policies are engendered, leading to gender responsive budgeting. Fifty-six central level Ministries/Departments have set up Gender Budgeting Cells and are reporting allocations of funds flowing to women and girl children in the Union Budgets. The MWCD has embarked on regional workshops for State Governments as well as one to one training of individual Ministries/Departments/State Governments to ensure effective gender budgeting. The Government has also introduced Child budgeting in the Union Budget of 2008-09, with a view to improve the allocations of funds flowing to children under the various Ministries/Departments.

Research and Studies

The MWCD, from time to time, undertakes research, studies and surveys on issues related to trafficking. There have been many studies and surveys on various aspects of sexual exploitation and trafficking of children in the country. Some of the recent studies include:

- In collaboration with UNICEF and Nirmala Niketan, MWCD had undertaken a study on "Rescue and Rehabilitation of Child Victims Trafficked for Commercial Sexual Exploitation" (2005). The objectives of the study were to obtain better understanding of the existing rescue and rehabilitation processes and take pro-active steps to bridge the gaps.
- MWCD also supported a study (2007) on "Girl and Women in Prostitution in India" conducted by Gram Niyojan Kendra, an NGO in Uttar Pradesh.
- A national study on sex tourism is being conducted by Gram Niyojan Kendra and supported by the MWCD.

Training and Capacity Building

The MWCD has developed a series of handbooks and manuals for various stakeholders such as social workers, medical officers, judicial officers and counsellors. These have been widely disseminated to various agencies for use at the grass root levels.

In collaboration with National Institute for Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD), MWCD organizes a number of trainings and programmes

to prevent and combat trafficking. In addition, training programmes for international delegates are also organized. NIPCCD has been declared the nodal training agency for SAARC Nations in 2007 and since then has been organizing a series of training and capacity building workshops for stakeholders from SAARC countries.

The MWCD is in the process of developing tailor-made training and capacity building programmes for NGOs, especially those receiving grants under Ujjawala.

Awareness Generation

Awareness generation and sensitization is an in-built component of the Ministry's programme and various models have been formulated for tackling different stakeholders through a multimedia campaign. A communication strategy for prevention of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation of children was also developed with creatives for specific target groups such as parents, Panchayat members (local Governance body), police, teachers and others. Various poverty alleviation programmes and women's SHGs too have specially designed information packages to prevent sexual exploitation and trafficking.

Awareness generation and sensitization is an in-built component of the Ministry's programme and various models have been formulated for tackling different stakeholders through a multimedia campaign.

Ministry of Home Affairs

Enforcement⁶ – While the Ministry of Home Affairs is responsible for ensuring the enforcement of the various legislations and conventions related to the criminal activity of trafficking, "Police" and "Public Order" are state subjects.

Anti-Trafficking Nodal Cell – The Ministry of Home Affairs has set up an Anti-Trafficking Nodal Cell. The respective States have also nominated Anti-Trafficking Nodal Officers to coordinate inter-state trafficking cases.

Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) – In partnership with UNODC, a two-year project titled "Strengthening the Law Enforcement Response to Trafficking in Persons in India through Training and Capacity Building" in select States (Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar) was undertaken in April 2006. The project has made remarkable progress and so far 290 training programmes have been carried out and 10,194 police officials and prosecutors have been trained⁷. Integrated Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) involving Government officials and NGOs have been set up and are functioning in the states of Goa, West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar. A comprehensive scheme has been developed by the Ministry of Home Affairs to strengthen the law enforcement response to trafficking through "Training of Trainers" (ToT) programmes and by establishing AHTU. The first National level ToT workshop was organized in June 2008.

Training and Capacity Building Programme – In July 2004, the Ministry of Home Affairs constituted a working group, comprising the Director Generals of Police of some of the affected States to study issues relating to cross-border

⁶ Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India

⁷ This is the first time in the history of law enforcement in India that such a large scale Police Training Programme has been conducted to prevent and combat trafficking.

trafficking and make suitable recommendations for combating the problem. The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) has developed a training manual titled “Human Trafficking-Handbook for Investigators” for police training institutes. BPR&D has organized 35 regional workshops for sensitizing police personnel at various levels.

The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs administers the Emigration Act, 1983 to protect the interests of emigrant Indian workers, promote legal migration and protect the migrant workers from exploitation.

Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs

Protection of Emigrants⁸ – The Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs administers the Emigration Act, 1983 to protect the interests of emigrant Indian workers, promote legal migration and protect the migrant workers from exploitation by private recruiting agents and foreign employers. It has been seen that women employees immigrating to ECR countries as Household Service Workers are more vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. The Ministry has issued detailed guidelines, which includes a minimum age restriction of 30 years, employment contract to be drawn between the worker and the employer, prescribed minimum wages and pre-paid mobile facility to be provided by the employer to each Household Service Worker.

The Ministry has further proposed amendments to the Emigration Act, 1983 for strengthening legislative framework to prevent exploitation of emigrants, including women emigrants. The Ministry is also proposing to formulate a National Plan on International Migration, revamp the existing recruitment system, introduce e-governance and is also finalizing a bi-lateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on labour deployment issues with major labour receiving countries. The Ministry has introduced a compulsory Insurance Scheme “Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana” (Overseas Indian Insurance Scheme) to provide insurance cover to emigrant workers. In addition, the Ministry has requested the Indian missions to set up shelter homes for runaway or rescued women so as to provide temporary accommodation to Household Service Workers while redressing their grievances, which would also act as a transit home before the worker is repatriated back to India.

Cross Border Trafficking – The incidents of cross-border trafficking, especially women and children trafficked between India-Bangladesh and India-Nepal have been growing in recent years. One of the major problems faced in addressing the issue, is the repatriation of cross-border victims to their country of origin. To further streamline the procedures that would enable a humane and quick repatriation of the victims, MWCD in collaboration with UNICEF, undertook a rapid assessment of the existing processes and mechanisms concerning rescue, recovery and re-integration of victims of cross-border trafficking between India and Bangladesh, in consultation with stakeholders from both the countries. A meeting with the representatives from Government and NGOs of both countries was held in Kathmandu in December 2006. Subsequently, a draft Joint Plan of Action and road map was developed and discussed in the second meeting held in Goa in June 2007. The draft Joint Plan of Action and roadmap was shared with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry of External Affairs, State Government of

⁸ Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India

West Bengal and Maharashtra. In a recent Indo-Bangladesh Home Secretary level talks, it has been decided that the Joint Secretary would be the nodal officer for the Government of India for dealing with matters related to trafficking in women and children vis-à-vis Bangladesh.

SAARC Convention on 'Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children in Prostitution' (SAARC Convention) – The Ministry of External Affairs was requested by the SAARC Secretariat to organize Regional Task Force Meetings for operationalizing the provisions of the SAARC Convention on 'Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children in Prostitution.' The first regional task force meeting of the SAARC countries was held in July 2007 where India offered to undertake an exercise on dissemination of best practices, development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for implementing the provisions of the SAARC Convention, and training and capacity building programmes for stakeholders from SAARC countries. NIPCCD was identified as a nodal agency for training and capacity building of SAARC functionaries to combat trafficking. Since then, NIPCCD has held two training workshops so far. The second regional task force meeting was held in May 2008.⁹ The deliberations led to the setting up of a common helpline number, adoption of SOPs and enhancing and up-gradation of regional training and capacity building programmes.

The first regional task force meeting of the SAARC countries offered to undertake an exercise on dissemination of best practices, development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for implementing the provisions of the SAARC Convention, and training and capacity building programmes for stakeholders from SAARC countries.

⁹ India has taken a leadership role amongst the SAARC countries with regard to the **SAARC Convention on 'Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children in Prostitution'**.



CHAPTER 3

State Governments' Initiatives

STATE GOVERNMENTS' INITIATIVES

The State Governments have been undertaking pro-active steps to prevent and combat trafficking of women and children in commercial sexual exploitation. Initiatives being undertaken by some of the State Governments are given below:

ANDHRA PRADESH

The Women Development Child Welfare and Disabled Welfare Department (WDCW&DW Department), Government of Andhra Pradesh has undertaken a number of pro-active steps to prevent and combat trafficking.

These include:

Law Enforcement – A number of anti-trafficking measures have been undertaken by the Police Department to prevent and combat trafficking. Advisory boards in all districts of the States have been formed. Since 2003-04, 1573 cases have been registered, around 4721 persons including traffickers, brothel owners, pimps, clients/customers were arrested, more than 600 victims were rescued and 110 cases have ended in conviction and 1996 persons were convicted.

Support to Victims of Trafficking and Vulnerable Children – The WDCW&DW Department has established 29 'Swadhar' homes for women in distress. Furthermore, with support from UNDP, ten 'Swadhar' homes in nine districts were provided funds to develop infrastructure facilities and skill-development training facilities.

The WDCW&DW Department also provides immediate relief to the rescued victims of trafficking by providing Rs.10,000/- to each victim.

"AASARA" is a project launched by the police in coordination with Government and other NGOs in Nalgonda District to prevent second generation trafficking. Seventy-seven girls were identified and prevented from being trafficked, forty children were provided care and support, and 361 school dropout girls were identified and supported to join residential bridge schools. Three family counselling centres were established in Anantapur District.

Ten 'Swadhar' homes in nine districts were provided funds to develop infrastructure facilities and skill-development training facilities.

Measures to prevent trafficking in persons – Initiatives by AP Police Department

In May 2006, Andhra Pradesh was selected as a project State by the Ministry of Home Affairs for the Anti-Human Trafficking project of UNODC along with four other States (West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra and Goa). Under this project, a series of empowerment programmes were held at AP Police Academy, which resulted in 'attitudinal' and 'behavioural' change among the police officers. The 3 Ps – Prevention, Protection and Prosecution became the strategy and 3 Rs i.e., Rescue, Rehabilitation and Reintegration the operational plan. In the year 2007 and up to July 2008, 898 cases were registered against traffickers, 1945 traffickers were arrested, 757 "customers /clients" were arrested to reduce the 'demand' factor in the supply-demand distribution chain and 1355 victims including 143 minors were rescued.

The Nodal NGOs – Prajwala, Ankuram, SHTREE, REEDS and HELP – provided support for pre-rescue and rescue assistance and post-rescue rehabilitation.

In August 2007, a Judicial Colloquium held in Andhra Pradesh, attended by the Honourable Chief Justice of AP and 10 Senior High Court Judges set into motion 'Speedy Justice Delivery' process that ensured speedy trial of sessions cases. In January 2007, three AHTUs were set up at Eluru, Anantapur and Telangana in Andhra Pradesh with MHA-UNODC interface. Sub-Divisional Magistrates in Guntur, Rajahmundry and Kadapa closed 11 places of exploitation. Thirty-two traffickers in 10 cases were convicted and awarded 10 years rigorous imprisonment within a year and a half of registration of FIR, which is a conclusive proof of synergy.

Due to concerted efforts of the State Government, the number of trafficked victims rescued increased from 142 in 2003 to 300 in 2007; the number of victims rehabilitated rose from 40 in 2003 to 152 in 2007.

An insurance based "Girl Child Protection Scheme (GCPS)" was introduced to support girl children. Around 123, 049 girls are benefiting under the Scheme. In addition, housing and civic amenities were provided to victims — 370 victims were sanctioned land Pattas (ownership documents), 768 houses were sanctioned and 120 Jogins (victims of traditional prostitution) were given white ration cards.

Anti-Trafficking Regional Network – The WDCW&DW set up a Regional Network (pilot project) in July 2004 with the participation of District Collectors, Superintendents of Police, other relevant officials from Government Departments, UNICEF and NGOs to combat the problem of trafficking in three districts. The exercise has now been replicated in other districts.

Anti-Trafficking Cell – An Anti-Trafficking Cell has been established at the Directorate with support from UNDP's Anti-Trafficking and HIV/AIDS (TAHA) Initiative.

Community Mobilization – The Department issued a Government order for constituting District level committees with the Collector as Chairperson. The State level co-ordination committee under the chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary meets every quarter to review the functioning of District level Coordination Committees. 31,465 Community Vigilant Groups (CVGs) have been formed all over Andhra Pradesh. The capacities of the CVG were built and trainings were provided on issues relating to trafficking and HIV/AIDS. 13,451 Balika Mandals (Adolescent Girls Groups – AGG) have been formed. Sensitization workshops and training programmes were provided to the adolescent girls on issues related to trafficking, HIV/AIDS, reproductive health and nutritional counselling, skill development training on tailoring, embroidery etc. 12,408 adolescent girls were trained as ‘Change Agents’ who provide information on trafficking related issues such as prevention, identifying the traffickers and protecting peers from traffickers etc. to their Balika Mandal members.

Workshops and Trainings – A number of workshops and training programmes, in collaboration with State and District Authorities, UNICEF and NGOs have been organized on issues related to trafficking. A two-day training on “Trafficking and Quality Care Standards for Swadhar Homes” has been provided to relevant officers and NGOs. A Master Trainers’ Toolkit on anti-trafficking and related issues has been developed in Telugu (the local language) and English.

BIHAR

‘Astitva’ – The State Government of Bihar has formulated ‘Astitva’, the Bihar action plan for preventing and combating trafficking of human beings and rehabilitation of the victims and survivors of trafficking. It is in its final stage of approval. Vulnerable areas to trafficking in Bihar have been mapped through a consultative workshop.

The Government is proposing the formation of an advisory body (as mandated under ITPA) at District level. The Prevention of Immoral Traffic (Bihar) Rules 2007 has been drafted and is in the process of approval. Three AHTUs have been formed in the State by Bihar Police in which the District Welfare Officer from the Department of Social Welfare has been notified as one of its members. In addition, the Government of Bihar is implementing various schemes and programmes to prevent and combat trafficking in women and children. Some of them are highlighted below:

‘Nari Shakti Yojana’ – It is a comprehensive plan designed with the aim of supporting women to achieve social, cultural and economic empowerment. The main components of the scheme are economic empowerment, social empowerment, cultural empowerment; Women State information and resource centre and innovative schemes. The social empowerment component contains a number of programmes for prevention and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

Helplines and Short Stay Homes – The short stay homes and helplines provide immediate support structure to the women in distress. It is proposed to set up short stay homes in all districts to provide protection to the victims, meet their

The Government of Bihar is implementing various schemes and programmes to prevent and combat trafficking in women and children.

basic needs like food, clothing, shelter, legal Advice, psychological counselling and provide them vocational training. All the districts will have helplines linked with short stay homes.

Protective Homes – Establishment of one protection home in the State capital, Patna, has been sanctioned. It will be equipped to cater to the needs of the victims of trafficking and would also provide trainings to promote social and economic rehabilitation of the residents.

Social Awareness Programmes – Various awareness generation programmes are being organized to create awareness on prevention of trafficking and other related social issues like child marriage, female foeticide etc.

Social Rehabilitation Fund – To provide interim relief and financial support for social and economic rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking and domestic violence, the social rehabilitation fund has been created.

Women State Information and Resource Centre – To conduct studies, evaluations and monitoring of the women related schemes that are being implemented in the State, to organize capacity building programmes on a regular basis and to prepare a resource base on various women related issues, a women state resource and information centre will be established.

‘Mukhyamantri Kanya Vivah Yojna’ – The Hon’ble President of India, Mrs Pratibha Patil launched the Mukhyamantri Kanya Vivah Yojna (Chief Minister Girl Marriage Scheme). The Scheme will be implemented by the Department of Social Welfare, Government of Bihar and would address child marriage, fake marriage and trafficking.

Psychosocial Support Programme (PSS) – In 2007, PSS programme was undertaken by the Directorate of Social Welfare in collaboration with UNICEF in two districts of Bihar as a pilot project. This programme resulted in bringing a number of children back to normalcy, increased enrolment in schools and led to the prevention of trafficking.

‘Sambal’ – In the aftermath of the Bihar floods, 2008, the Directorate of Social Welfare, Government of Bihar, has undertaken ‘Sambal’ as an emergency response. The major components of the programme are reunification of separated families and children, prevention of trafficking, monitoring protection issue and psychosocial support to the victims of flood. Through IEC material, large scale awareness on the issue of trafficking is being spread for prevention of trafficking.

CHHATTISGARH

The State Government has set up District level Committees for Prevention of Atrocities against Women and Trafficking in all 16 Districts of the State. Further, a women’s home, Nari Niketan has been set up in the Districts of Raipur, Sarguja and Dantewada, which provide shelter and livelihood training to trafficked victims. Also, three short stay homes have been set up wherein trafficked victims are provided shelter for immediate relief.

Various awareness generation programmes are being organized to create awareness on prevention of trafficking and other related social issues like child marriage, female foeticide etc.

For effective implementation of ITPA, 1956, and also to oversee and monitor various measures being undertaken to prevent trafficking of women and children, the State Government has set up a State Level Advisory Committee under the Chairpersonship of Principal Secretary, Department of Home, State Government.

GOA

The growing incidences of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation is the major concern of the Government of Goa. The State Government has enacted the Goa Children's Act, 2003 to promote and protect the best interests of children, including those who are victims of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

The State Government is implementing a scheme 'Shelter Home for Women' for victims of trafficking. In addition, the State Government through the Goa State Commission for Women, runs a rehabilitation scheme for trafficked women. Rescued children and women are provided shelter, food, clothing and skills training in the protective homes. Medical facilities are provided through Goa Medical College, Bambolim, in Goa.

The State Government, in coordination with 'ARZ', an NGO, provides counselling and training in various disciplines to the rescued trafficked persons. The State Government has also constituted a five-member panel to suggest ways to help rescued children and women. Special trafficking officers have also been appointed to maintain strict vigil in their respective areas to check child prostitution. In collaboration with NGOs and UNODC, training programmes for police officers and public prosecutors have been conducted on matters relating to trafficking of women and children.

The Government of Goa has also shown its commitment by formulating an Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2008-09). The Action Plan enlists action points pertaining to the areas of protection, prevention, rescue and prosecution.

GUJARAT

For effective implementation of the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1956, a training programme on garment making has been conducted for 26 victims of trafficking by National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), a premier fashion design training institution in the country. A sewing machine each has been given to the 26 victims. Forty victims in Surat, Gujarat have been provided training in making soft toys. To prevent the second generation from being trafficked, 98 children of women in prostitution have been admitted in children's homes and are provided shelter, care, protection, education, medical treatment, vocational training and rehabilitation.

The Government of Gujarat has also set up protective homes to provide care and protection for victims of trafficking. These include observation homes, children's homes, after-care homes, shelter homes, reception centres for women, short stay homes and prevention and rescue institutions. In order to ensure

The Government of Goa has also shown its commitment by formulating an Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings (2008-09). The Action Plan enlists action points pertaining to the areas of protection, prevention, rescue and prosecution.

The Government of Gujarat has also set up protective homes to provide care and protection for victims of trafficking. These include observation homes, children's homes, after-care homes, shelter homes, reception centres for women, short stay homes and prevention and rescue institutions.

that these homes are functioning effectively, the State Government undertakes regular inspection to ensure their adherence to minimum standards of care and protection. The State Government also provides a financial assistance of Rs.10,000/- each to trafficked persons for self-employment.

HIMACHAL PRADESH

The State Government of Himachal Pradesh constituted a State level Advisory under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary, Government of Himachal Pradesh and also a State level Interactive Committee under the Chairmanship of Director, Social Justice and Empowerment as mandated under the National Plan of Action to Combat Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children in 1998.

The State Government has set up a cell headed by Inspector General of Police, Crime Investigation Department to monitor the crime of immoral trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and children in Himachal Pradesh. At the District level, the Additional Superintendent of Police heads the cells. The police department through Mahila Mandal and the Community Policing Scheme conducts awareness generation programmes amongst women and children on issues relating to trafficking. The State Government has notified Special Police Officers as stipulated under ITPA, 1956. Community Surveillance Groups are being set up at District, Block and Village level.

KARNATAKA

Karnataka has been focusing on the eradication of the 'Devadasi' system (traditional practice of dedication of young girls to temple) in certain selected districts of the State. To eradicate the practice of the 'Devadasis', the Government implemented the Karnataka Devadasis (Prohibition of Dedication) Act, 1982. It is an Act to prevent dedication of women as 'Devadasis' in the State of Karnataka, since this practice of dedicating women as 'Devadasis' to deities, idols, objects of worship, temples and other religious institutions or places of worship exists in certain parts of Karnataka.

Action Plan for Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Women and Children – The Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Karnataka, has formulated an action plan with the involvement of other relevant departments such as Police, Education and Labour, NGOs and other stakeholders.

Anti-Trafficking Committees – State Government has constituted State/District/Taluk and Village level Anti-Trafficking Committees.

Care and Protection of Trafficked Victims

- Twenty-eight Child Welfare Committees and eight Juvenile Justice Boards have been set up in 27 districts under the provisions of J.J. Act 2000.
- Eight State homes, six reception centres, eight observation homes, and 44 children's homes have been set up for children. 34 Fit institutions are run by NGOs to provide education, training and rehabilitation for children.
- 29 short-stay homes and 30 Swadhar shelter homes are run by NGOs.

- Forty-two hostels for girls have been set up. Attendance scholarships are also being provided to vulnerable girls in rural areas.
- Under the Kishori Shakti Yojana (Adolescent Empowerment Programme), training is being provided to adolescent girls wherein trafficking as an issue has been included in the curriculum.
- Child Line Services have been functional with the support of Department of Telecom and Police in the Districts of Bangalore and Mangalore.

Schemes and Programmes

- A scheme titled 'Santwana', to assist women who are victims of domestic violence, rape, sexual abuse and dowry harassment is being run. Eighty six such centres are being run through the NGOs.
- 'Devadasis' Rehabilitation Programme is being implemented in the State which provides training in income generating activities, linkages to financial and credit institutions, formation of SHGs, support for construction of dwelling houses and purchase of land along with a pension of Rs. 400/- per month to former 'Devadasis' who have completed 45 years of age.
- Bhagyalakshmi Scheme seeks to change the attitudes of the society towards girl children by providing them scholarships and insurance benefits along with Rs. 10,000/- payable with interest on their attainment of 18 years.
- Integrated District Protection Plan is run to ensure that children are protected from exploitation and violation of their rights through access to universal elementary education and basic health care facilities.

A scheme titled 'Santwana', to assist women who are victims of domestic violence, rape, sexual abuse and dowry harassment is being run. Eighty six such centres are being run through the NGOs.

Child Tracking System – An effective Child Tracking System has been launched (2007-08) by the Department of Women and Child Development to track children from their birth until attainment of 18 years of age.

Public Private Partnerships – The State Government in collaboration with NIPCCD organized a multi-stakeholder public private partnership workshop to combat trafficking with an aim to seek partnerships in providing economic empowerment to victims of trafficking.

MADHYA PRADESH

Support to Victims of Trafficking and Vulnerable Children – The Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Madhya Pradesh is implementing the Rajkiya Mahila Uddhar Griha Scheme to prevent trafficking of women and prostitution. The beneficiaries and their children below seven years old are provided rehabilitation, education and vocational training services.

Since 1992-93, the Department is implementing Jabali Yojana for eradication of prostitution, under which 'Ashramshalas' for children are specially run by NGOs to promote social development of communities, education and other development activities particularly at the grassroots level. The programme also includes income generating activities, health check-up and treatment facilities for women and IEC activities to generate awareness among people; it also provides scholarships to children belonging to communities that traditionally practice prostitution.

Seven short stay homes are being run in the State and are equipped with appropriate rehabilitation facilities that are being provided to the beneficiaries in the home.

The family counselling centres (helplines), run by the police have proved to be very helpful to the victims of domestic violence.

Eight Ashray Grihas (Shelter Homes) under 'Swadhar' and 65 helplines are being run in different parts of Madhya Pradesh to cater to women in difficult circumstances including trafficked victims. The family counselling centres (helplines), run by the police have proved to be very helpful to the victims of domestic violence.

ORISSA

State Level Coordination Committee to Combat Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Women and Children

– The State Government of Orissa, under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary has constituted a State level Coordination Committee to combat trafficking and sexual exploitation of women and children in 2001.

Prevention – A number of preventive steps have been undertaken by different departments to prevent trafficking. These include:

- Steps for enrolment of children into primary education under the 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan' (Education for All).
- Effective implementation of "Stop Child Labour" and prevention of child labour.
- Empowerment of women under Mission Shakti with formation of more than 332,000 SHGs in the State.
- Formation of 35,000 Balika Mandals by the Anganwadi workers in the State.
- Skill-based training to women under the Employment Mission.
- Formation of Child Welfare Committees in 25 districts and Juvenile Justice Boards in 30 districts. Notification has been issued for setting-up of District Juvenile Police units in 17 districts, authorizing the respective collectors to attach social workers to different police stations along with 'Mahila and Shishu' (women and child) desks for effective implementation of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000.
- Notification of Protection Officer and Service Providers in all 30 Districts under the Domestic Violence Act. Training has also been organized through State Mahila Commission (State Commission for Women) and an NGO titled "We Can" in September '2007.

The Department of Home, Government of Orissa has proposed to set up AHTUs in select districts and a proposal to this effect has been sent to the Government of India. It has also agreed to start special women's cells at the district level in collaboration with the TATA Institute of Social Science (TISS), Mumbai, funded by UNIFEM.

Mahila and Shishu Desks (Woman and Child Desk) – The Government of Orissa has set up Mahila and Shishu desks in all 460 police stations in the State. For improving the effectiveness of the Mahila and Shishu desks, a State level Task Force has been constituted under the Chairpersonship of the Principal

Secretary, Home. A compendium of laws relating to women and children has been published and circulated to all police stations. The Department of Women and Child Development, in collaboration with the NGOs has organized State level Workshops (January, 2008) for prevention and rescue of trafficked women.

TAMIL NADU

Committees – A State level Co-ordination Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary to Government has been constituted. The Committee meets regularly to discuss various issues pertaining to trafficking and means to address the same. District level advisory committees for combating trafficking/migration and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children have also been constituted under the Chairpersonship of District Collectors. Similarly, Village level watch-dog committees have been constituted in every panchayat under the Chairpersonship of village panchayat presidents.

Nodal Officers and Specially Designated Officers – The Director of Social Defence has been nominated as the nodal officer for prevention of trafficking and combating commercial sexual exploitation of women and children. The Additional Director General of Police, CB-CID, of Chennai has been nominated as the Nodal Officer, Police Department at state level and for the district/city levels, all Commissioners of Police and District Superintendents of Police have been designated as nodal officers. All Inspectors of Police including women Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors have been designated as Special Police Officers under Section 13 of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. To deal with persons, less than 18 years of age, the Police Department has designated one police officer in every police station as Child Welfare Officer as per the provisions under Section 63 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000.

Efforts of the Police Department – One hundred and ninety seven All-Women Police Stations have been established across the State to address the problems and issues relating to crime against women. Railway police have installed 30 help-booths in 27 railway stations across the State. An Anti-Trafficking Cell to combat trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children has been established in Chennai under the CB-CID with jurisdiction across the State. An anti-vice squad has also been established. The police department has mapped areas that are prone to commercial sexual exploitation of women and children and an action plan has been drafted based on the mapping. Vigilance Committees headed by District Collectors have been formed in tourist centres throughout Tamil Nadu.

Institutional Care – Women and children who are victims of trafficking are provided protection and care in the Government Vigilance/Protective Homes. Children vulnerable to trafficking and child victims of trafficking are also admitted in the child care institutions run by the Government.

Orientation and Sensitization – Sensitization programmes on issues relating to trafficking and child rights have been organized. The staff in protective homes, vigilance institutions, children's homes and observation homes are

District level advisory committees for combating trafficking/migration and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children have been constituted under the Chairpersonship of District Collectors.

Partnership with Non-Governmental Organizations – The Department of Women and Child Development has ensured that NGOs who are pro-actively involved in protecting the women and children from abuse, exploitation and ill treatment, are included as members in the District level Committees as mandated under the Juvenile Justice (care and protection of children) Act, 2000.

Implementation of Government of India schemes – In Tamil Nadu, there are 20 'Swadhar' homes run by NGOs for women in distress including victims of trafficking.

The Border Security Force (BSF) has also been engaged to prevent trafficking at border areas. Mobile parties have been formed for checking the entry and exit points at important railway stations and bus stands for suspicious movements of women and children.

being oriented periodically. All members of District level Advisory Committees on combating trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children have also been given necessary orientation. The Department has also conducted orientation programmes for the Chairpersons and Members of Juvenile Justice Boards and Child Welfare Committees on the salient features of Juvenile Justice (care and protection of children) Act, 2000. With UNDP's assistance, 3000 village level watch dog committees have been given orientation.

Financial Assistance – Tamil Nadu Social Defence Fund for the Welfare of Women and Children has been constituted to provide financial assistance of Rs.5,000/- or material assistance worth Rs. 10,000/- to each woman and child in distress including trafficked victims.

WEST BENGAL

The Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare has set up a State Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of the Chief Secretary for combating trafficking in West Bengal. For effective implementation of ITPA, all Police Officers above the rank of inspectors in the districts have been designated as Special Police Officers. In Kolkata, 48 police inspectors have been designated as Special Trafficking Police Officers. The Border Security Force (BSF) has also been engaged to prevent trafficking at border areas. Mobile parties have been formed for checking the entry and exit points at important railway stations and bus stands for suspicious movements of women and children.

The State Government is also running a number of 'Swadhar' homes and short stay homes, where trafficked victims in difficult circumstances are being provided with shelter, vocational training and counselling for their rehabilitation and re-integration in the society. The Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare has requested the Department of Technical Education for reserving some seats in polytechnics and industrial training institutes for trafficked victims. In addition, the children of trafficked victims are provided both non-formal education as well as formal education.

Awareness generation programmes on trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation are organized in the districts by the NGOs. At present, a 24-hour helpline has been provided for helping women and girls in distress. Six NGOs and Kolkata Police are providing this service.



CHAPTER 4

International Organizations'
Initiatives

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS' INITIATIVES

UNODC

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, through its Regional Office for South Asia, has undertaken several Anti-Human Trafficking initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking.

Programmes and Projects

“Strengthening the law enforcement response in India against trafficking in persons, through training and capacity building” was launched as a joint initiative between the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and UNODC in April 2006. The major achievement in the design of the Project has been the harmonious coordination of Government and Non-government agencies as partners in the implementation of the Project.

The major achievements of the project initiative are as follows:

1. Through 316 training programmes, 10,910 law enforcement personnel have been trained on preventing and combating trafficking.
2. Nine Anti-Human Trafficking Units have been set up in four Project States.
3. Networking between Law Enforcement Agencies and NGOs has been effectively established.
4. Eight Nodal Police Training Cells have been set up.
5. During the period January 2007 – March 2008, the trained police personnel have registered 896 crimes in 369 operations, rescuing 1583 persons (girls and young women mostly), including 257 minors, arrested 1908 traffickers and 801 customers leading to the conviction of 30 traffickers and closing down 33 places of exploitation.
6. The project also created the Standard Operating Procedure and a number of documentations related to Anti-Human Trafficking initiatives in the country.

“Strengthening the law enforcement response in India against trafficking in persons, through training and capacity building” was launched as a joint initiative between the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and UNODC in April 2006.

Based on the evaluation and success of the project, the Ministry of Home Affairs, government of India has developed a proposal to set-up 297 Anti-Human Trafficking Units through out the country. The Government is also in the process of scaling up and continuing the police training initiatives as well in all States of the country.

The UNODC has set in motion a Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN-GIFT) to create a turning point in the worldwide fight against human trafficking.

Key outcomes of this project initiative...

- Community protection systems strengthened through the project activities, and vulnerability of 5,000 “at-risk” children reduced through counselling provided under the project.
- Vulnerability of “at-risk” population (2,000 beneficiaries) decreased through livelihood skills trainings imparted under the project.
- A psychological support and care programme for children integrated into the programmes of six organizations that provide institutional care to approximately 500 children annually.
- Child protection structures in North East India established in pilot locations in two districts in two states – Mizoram and Tripura.

Building the capacity and expanding Anti-Human Trafficking Networks for improved support to victims of trafficking – This project aims to provide greater assistance to victims of trafficking, in close coordination with national and regional NGO networks such as the Alliance against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children (ATSEC). ATSEC is a network of over 500 NGOs operating mainly in India but also having chapters in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

Reducing children’s vulnerability to abuse and rehabilitation of survivors – This initiative proposes to provide quality care and support services to vulnerable children at risk of physical and sexual abuse and to provide comprehensive rehabilitation opportunities to trafficked victims. It will strengthen community structures and build institutional capacity of non-governmental and Governmental organizations working with children, and undertake training on child protection for care providers.

The UNODC has set in motion a **Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UN-GIFT)**. The process, formally launched in London on 26 March, 2007, is designed to have a long-term impact, to create a turning point in the worldwide fight against human trafficking.

The Ministry of Home Affairs, in collaboration with MWCD and UNODC organized the South Asia Regional Conference on UN-GIFT in October 2007, New Delhi. The Conference culminated with the adoption of the **“Delhi Declaration”**.¹⁰

The objectives set for the Global Initiative will contribute to achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals of empowering women, improving maternal health, combating HIV/AIDS, eradicating poverty, improving education and developing a global partnership for development.

Research and Studies

UNODC has researched and developed an extensive number of publications on anti-human trafficking. The SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) and Protocols

¹⁰ More information on the **UN.GIFT Forum** and the **Delhi Declaration** is available on the website: www.unodc.org/india

Delhi Declaration

Recognizing that being trafficked for exploitation goes against basic human rights;

Acknowledging that each of our countries has to work in a unified way towards eradicating human trafficking in all its exploitative manifestations;

And also acknowledging the relevance in this context of the United Nations Trans-national Organized Crime Convention and its supplementary Protocols to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling in Migrants;

And concerned that the awareness of all sections of society on the extent and nature of the problem needs to be enhanced;

To this end declare as follows:

1. To call upon all concerned, including police, prosecutors and the judiciary, to undertake concerted action in law enforcement so that offenders are punished quickly, certainly and severely and in a time-bound manner;
2. To make all efforts towards evolving a synergistic approach in dealing with trafficking issues;
3. To work towards systemic training and capacity-building of all stakeholders;
4. To strengthen the legal processes wherever required, including the protection of the victims;
5. To protect all children from sexual exploitation and take all stringent measures against sex selection and violence against the girl child;
6. To reduce demand for prostitution, use of child labour and forced labour and to strengthen the collaborative efforts of NGOs, local governments, and other institutions to prevent all forms of trafficking for this purpose;
7. To recognize the role of youth as change agents and to promote education of the girl child, and the social and economic empowerment of women leading to their full participation in the economic life and in decision making;
8. To identify vulnerable areas, including the study of migration and trafficking trends and patterns, and to undertake focused programmes to target trafficking through planned and evidence-based interventions;
9. To ensure the availability of proper protocols and legal processes for rescue and repatriation procedures which are oriented towards victim care and protection;
10. To devise sustainable processes for victim reintegration into society in alignment with the work of voluntary agencies, local bodies and community leaders;
11. To identify inter-State and intra-State source, transit and destination routes for forced labour and to cooperatively work out modalities to prevent labour exploitation in concert with trade unions and employers' associations;
12. To prevent brokers and intermediaries from indulging in trafficking for forced labour and other forms of illegal purposes, including, specifically, domestic child labour;
13. To promote safe migration and discourage irregular migration;
14. To integrate HIV strategies into anti-trafficking strategies and mitigate the health hazards of trafficked victims through inter-sectoral collaboration;
15. To promote the prevention of commercial sexual exploitation in close alignment with community leaders, health workers and NGOs;
16. To recognize patterns between trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation;
17. To build a business coalition against trafficking and to develop appropriate codes of conduct and ethical trade practices for business;
18. To encourage awareness campaigns to prevent trafficking by way of public private partnerships;
19. To build a coalition of media partners and popular personalities to advocate for the prevention of trafficking.

are used as operational tools for law enforcement agencies and the manuals are being utilized for imparting training at the field. Some of these documents have been developed in-house, while the others have been developed in partnership with NGOs/ academic institutions.

UNICEF

UNICEF, India, in close collaboration with MWCD, Government of India, and also with respective State Governments has undertaken a number of initiatives. Some of them are highlighted below:

Research and Studies

Rescue and Rehabilitation of Child Victims Trafficked for Commercial –

Nirmala Niketan, Mumbai had undertaken this research study (in 2005) on behalf of MWCD and UNICEF.

Action Research and Communication Strategy for Prevention of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children –

This involved creative messages for stakeholders, media plan, District level implementation plans based on assessment through action research.

Development of Manuals – A series of manuals and handbooks were developed for various stakeholders dealing with child victims of trafficking, some of which are:

- A Judicial handbook on combating trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation in collaboration with MWCD and the National Human Rights Commission.
- A manual for medical officers dealing with medico-legal cases of victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse in collaboration with MWCD.
- A manual for counsellors in collaboration with MWCD and National Institute for Public Cooperation and Child Development (NIPCCD).
- A manual for social workers: Guidelines for community workers for prevention of child trafficking and rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked victims in collaboration with MWCD.

Programmes and Projects

Indo-Bangladesh Initiative on Cross-Border Victims of Trafficking – At the behest of MWCD, UNICEF undertook a rapid assessment of existing practices and mechanisms concerning rescue, recovery and re-integration of child victims of trafficking between India and Bangladesh. In the framework to further bilateral relations between India and Bangladesh on the recovery, return and integration of Bangladeshi trafficked children, several activities have been undertaken. Task Forces for Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Integration (RRRI) of trafficked children have been created in Bangladesh and in West Bengal. The West Bengal Task Force has drafted Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), for repatriating child victims of trafficking of Bangladeshi origin. A similar draft SOP, for Maharashtra, India is under development.

UNICEF undertook a rapid assessment of existing practices and mechanisms concerning rescue, recovery and re-integration of child victims of trafficking between India and Bangladesh.

UNICEF supported Regional Anti-Trafficking Network – Andhra Pradesh

In 1997, a local NGO working with the youth was intrigued by the number of girl children and young women going to cities like Mumbai and Pune in Maharashtra “for work”. Most of these girls and women were reported to be sent to brothels in these cities, mostly under the pretext of employment. In order to have an idea of the extent of the problem, UNICEF supported a pilot project undertaken by the NGO STHREE and the district administration in Kadirī block, in Anantapur District. Findings of the study revealed that most of the girls and women who went out for work belonged to tribal communities and that they were as young as 14. It was established that the children were being trafficked for sexual exploitation and the practice was widespread in 24 blocks in three districts, namely Anantapur, Kadapa and Chittoor.

It soon became evident that it was necessary to build on and consolidate the lessons learnt from this initiative. A meeting with the administration, the police and some important officials of all three districts was held in July 2001 and the regional network was formally launched. The UNICEF strategic framework of community mobilization, convergence, enforcement, and partnerships was used as a key strategy. The network for the first time not only brought together administrative and enforcement heads of three districts but it also brought in convergence the different sectors like revenue, police, education, women and child development and rural development to look into the issue and take action collectively.

The objectives of the network were to identify key vulnerability indicators of families and communities that lead to trafficking of children and women; support community based activities in the districts; facilitate safe migration of women when possible; strengthen communities to become financially self-sufficient through development programmes and micro credits linkages; mobilize youth into community support and surveillance committees; orient the police on trafficking and on how to deal with rescue in a more sensitive and child friendly way; and sensitize the judicial officers on trafficking of women and children. The regional network focuses on prevention as its key feature and has evolved strategies and activities, which facilitate the prevention of trafficking from the region.

Anti-Trafficking Programmes at the State Level

- *Andhra Pradesh* – UNICEF has played a key role in Andhra Pradesh on building community awareness, forming community vigilance groups and promoting child participation in anti-trafficking programmes.
- *Karnataka* – UNICEF conducted a series of trainings and capacity building programmes on anti-trafficking legislations, gender sensitization etc. for the police and the judicial officers.
- *Maharashtra* – UNICEF supported the DWCD, Government of Maharashtra in setting up a Resource Centre.

- *Uttar Pradesh* – UNICEF supports Railway Children Protection Booths in Lucknow in collaboration with NGOs.
- *West Bengal* – The Government of West Bengal and UNICEF jointly conducted a research study on trafficking, child marriage and dowry.

Others – UNICEF also provides technical inputs in the development of the Integrated Plan of Action to prevent and combat human trafficking with special focus on children and women, by the MWCD, Government of India, Protocol on Prevention, Rescue, Repatriation and Rehabilitation of Trafficked and Migrant Child Labour, by the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India, Inter-Departmental State Plan of Action against Trafficking, by the Department of Women and Child Development and Social Welfare, Government of West Bengal and State Action Plan against Trafficking, by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Bihar.

UNIFEM

UNIFEM’s interventions (since 2000) to combat trafficking of women and children at the national as well as the South Asian Regional level, have focused on three major areas – Prevention, Protection and Prosecution. UNIFEM works closely with NGOs in project implementation processes and also focuses on building networks and alliances. It engages in training NGOs and the police on using appropriate victim care interventions and responses. UNIFEM has conducted trainings in several states in order to provide a framework for people working on development issues and for communities to participate in the decision making processes. It continued its partnership with the Government to ensure the priority of the Government’s commitment to combat trafficking and its community advocacy and awareness programmes. UNIFEM’s cross border (India-Bangladesh and India-Nepal borders) interventions range from prevention and protection to safe exit and rehabilitation.

Research and Studies

UNIFEM has carried out a number of research studies to generate a knowledge base on anti-trafficking and to enhance understanding on the issue. These include “Trafficking of Women and Children in India, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) and Institute of Social Sciences India, 2005; the “Effectiveness of the Law Enforcement and Law Adjudication Machinery”, Lawyers Collective; “Study

Coalitions supported by UNIFEM

UNIFEM created a multi-partner national coalition of media persons against gender violence, trafficking and HIV in India, based on the synergy between the media and the civil society with a membership of more than 800 journalists from major electronic and print media agencies. UNIFEM’s anti-trafficking programmes have sought to create various networks and alliances such as South Asia Forum against Human Trafficking (SAFAHT), South Asia Professionals against Trafficking (SAPAT), the National Network of Lawyers for Rights and Justice, Cross Border anti-trafficking Network, and the Eastern Himalayan Regional Network against Gender based Violence, Trafficking and HIV/AIDS (EHARTHNET).

UNIFEM has conducted trainings in several states in order to provide a framework for people working on development issues and for communities to participate in the decision making processes.

UNIFEM's partnering with religious leaders

UNIFEM's work with IRLF is innovative, wherein religious leaders are involved in sensitizing the community on an individual's personal and organizational behaviours, gender sensitivity to curb trafficking of, and violence against women.

UNIFEM started building partnership with the religious leaders in Bihar as a pilot project. Thus, Inter-faith Religious Priest Forum (IRPF), Bihar was formed and today religious leaders from various faiths are working on the issues of Violence Against Women (VAW), trafficking and other related issues.

The partnership that was initiated with IRLF in Bihar to address trafficking, VAW, and HIV/AIDS, has been replicated in Jharkhand, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Uttarakhand.

on Trafficking of Women in ORISSA"; Institute of Socio Economic Development, a coastal enumeration study of women in the sex trade.

IOM – International Organization for Migration

IOM started its operations in India in the year 2001 to provide emergency relief in Gujarat when it was hit by an earthquake.

Widening of IOM Operations in India (the counter-trafficking mandate)–

While implementing the project in Gujarat, IOM was planning to expand its operations in India; It decided to work on the counter trafficking issue which was one of its mandated service areas. IOM felt that any attempt to restore survivors back into their families and societies would prove to be a farce and would only lead to their re-trafficking unless efforts are put in place to change the circumstances, which have led to their trafficking.

IOM realized thus and then chose to capitalize in a positive manner the latent potential and the survival instinct of most of these women and young girls who have been trafficked and forced into prostitution.

Programmes and Projects

IOM implemented the Economic Rehabilitation of Trafficked Victims (ERTV) in India project (2003) and subsequently the Economic Rehabilitation of Survivors of Trafficking (ERST) project (2005).

Project Activities

- Partnerships with multi-stakeholders.
- Economic rehabilitation activities.
- Psychosocial, functional literacy, vocational training and entrepreneurship development.
- Process documentation.

International Organization for Migration started its operations in India in the year 2001 to provide emergency relief in Gujarat when it was hit by an earthquake.

The approach

Multi-sectoral and participatory approach with involvement of survivors, civil society organizations NGOs, corporate houses and the local, state and central Governments.

Achievements

- 304 survivors of trafficking received training on entrepreneurship development and soft skills and were rehabilitated through 28 different micro-enterprise units.
- 212 survivors of trafficking were involved in the process of their economic rehabilitation and re-integration into the mainstream of the society.
- 10 corporate houses motivated to get involved in the economic rehabilitation of survivors of trafficking in realization of their corporate social responsibility policies.

Prevention and Assistance to Survivors of Trafficking (PAST), ongoing since 2007– The lessons learnt from the previous two projects ERTV and ERST led to the evolution of the current project (PAST). This project has been designed to capitalize on the work and the field level experiences of the NGOs and take forth the continuum of services both by complementing and supplementing the activities of NGOs, and by taking a lead from where the NGOs' interventions end.

The IOM – ARZ Partnership... 'SWIFT WASH'

Swift Wash is the most appropriate model of public-private partnership and community rehabilitation that showcases the clarity in terms of roles and responsibilities of each stakeholder contributing to prevention and rehabilitation of the survivors of trafficking. This was initiated by IOM in collaboration with an NGO called Anyay Rahit Zindagi (ARZ) in Goa. ARZ is a well-established NGO working for the rescue, protection, prevention, rehabilitation of survivors and victims of trafficking and prosecution of their perpetrators. ARZ was looking after rehabilitation of victims of trafficking in the community after the demolition of the red light area at Baina.

Concept and approach

IOM and ARZ had conducted a joint market survey for providing livelihood options to the victims and survivors of trafficking along with the beneficiaries (survivors of trafficking) themselves. IOM's concept of a multi-stakeholder approach involving the beneficiaries' right from the start of the process of economic rehabilitation till the establishment of the enterprise along with support of other stakeholders creates ownership among the beneficiaries working in the unit.

Success

Swift Wash started with 25 beneficiaries from the Baina community. The group named the enterprise as Swift Wash. Continuous support of psycho-social counselling along with the EDP trainings was provided by

ARZ in consultation with IOM. Resource persons from business schools provided the business specific skills on need based time intervals. The basic accountancy skills to handle the day-to-day business were provided. IOM approached the Government of Goa to extend possible support for the establishment of the unit, in terms of either infrastructure or space for accommodating the unit. After a series of meetings with the Government regarding this innovative rehabilitation project, the Government of Goa, keeping in mind the political scenario, started showing keen interest in the rehabilitation of survivors of trafficking. The courts gave orders so that the rescued victims could undergo training and join the Swift Wash economic rehabilitation programme. The group of beneficiaries were trained on the technical operations of the laundry machineries, corporate communication skills for taking orders and delivering the goods before deadlines. The quality standards and professional management of this unit under the guidance of ARZ has mobilized different corporate houses from TAJ Hotels to pharmaceuticals, hospitals, and beauty clinics etc. who provide business to this unit. The key aspect of the management of the unit is that the beneficiaries are involved in all aspects of the business – from corporate communication, institutional marketing, order procurement, to task implementation and delivery of the goods and services offered. They have got a crèche support for their kids during working hours. They work in shifts and in uniforms which gives them dignity of labour, confidence and high self esteem. All of this together helps in their self-identification as empowered individuals.



CHAPTER 5

Public Private Partnerships: To Prevent and Combat Trafficking of Women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS:

To Prevent and Combat Trafficking of Women and Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

One of the challenges faced in the rehabilitation and re-integration of the victims is that of providing them with sustainable livelihood options. It is often seen that imparting traditional skills such as tailoring and embroidery, candle making, doll making, block printing etc, do not always provide them with steady markets or income and thus increases their vulnerability of being re-trafficked. With the spread of globalization and liberalization, a large number of creative and innovative as well as more lucrative livelihood options are emerging which factor in the market dynamics.

In the recent past, there is a growing perception that public private partnerships are not just a charitable venture, outside of the company, but one where socially responsible processes, whether for developing human capital, especially women and children, or to put in place a gender friendly mechanisms, or to supplement and complement the Government's efforts to benefit the disadvantaged and marginalized are an inherent part of the ethos of the company.

The need for this is all the more relevant today with growing globalization, de-regulation, and privatization where development of human capital and enhancing income generating activities and entrepreneurship amongst the poor and vulnerable are important determinants of sustainable poverty reduction. Such economic empowerment, especially of women, leads to the creation of wealth for those at the bottom of the economic pyramid, and also can act as a powerful deterrent to social evils such as trafficking, violence and abuse of women and children.

Thus, an important partner is the corporate sector, which under the broad spectrum of public private partnerships can play a greater role in preventing and combating trafficking by supplementing and complementing the Government's efforts. The public private partnership would be effective in areas such as prevention of trafficking, especially in vulnerable areas, by creating awareness and providing skill building and livelihood options to potential victims and rehabilitation to survivors of trafficking.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development, as part of the International Women's Day Celebrations, in collaboration with UNODC, organized a workshop on Combating Trafficking on 4th March, 2008. One of the issues that were strongly advocated at the workshop was that of public private partnerships and suggestions were made to carry forward the collaborative efforts in a systematic manner.

In the recent past, there is a growing perception that public private partnerships are not just a charitable venture, outside of the company, but one where socially responsible processes are an inherent part of the ethos of the company.

In this connection Gap Inc, a leading corporate sector organization, intensively involved in tackling the problem of trafficking especially in the supply chains in the garment industry where women and children are trafficked and exploited, organized in collaboration with MWCD and UNODC a Summit on 'Issues of Trafficking in Garment Supply Chain' on 15th March, 2008 in New Delhi. Representatives of top international brands sourcing from India, their key suppliers in the country, Apex Apparel Export Bodies and the civil society groups, attended the Summit. One of the recommendations received at the Summit from among the others, was to constitute a multi stakeholder 'Think Tank', which will have members representing the garment and textile industry, Government, UNODC, international organizations and NGOs.

To strengthen infrastructure and programmes of homes, MWCD, in collaboration with UNODC, will engage the corporate sector in improving the condition of homes (e.g. homes under schemes such as 'Swadhar', short stay homes and 'Ujjawala').

As follow-up to the above Summit, in June 2008, MWCD set up a 'Think-Tank' on public private partnerships to prevent and combat trafficking of women and children with the objective of developing short, medium and long term strategies to prevent trafficking of human beings the especially women and children, and to explore the possibility of training and skill building of persons from SHGs and women in vulnerable areas. The members of the 'Think Tank' include line Ministries such as the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Home Affairs, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights, corporate houses such as Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM). Special representatives from apparel and garment industry, tourism industry and international organizations such as IOM and UNODC are also part of the 'Think Tank'.

In the first meeting of the 'Think Tank' held on 23rd July, 2008, it was decided that core groups (industry-wise) would be set up to develop long term, medium term and short term action plans. MWCD, in collaboration with UNODC and corporate sector, would undertake an awareness campaign on trafficking. Rashtriya Mahila Kosh (RMK), in collaboration with UNODC, would develop and implement pilot projects for skill building and training of vulnerable women. On successful implementation, the projects will be expanded to other parts of the country. To strengthen infrastructure and programmes of homes, MWCD, in collaboration with UNODC, will engage the corporate sector in improving the condition of homes (e.g. homes under schemes such as 'Swadhar', short stay homes and 'Ujjawala').

As a follow-up, the core group on Apparel and Garment Industry has been formed and has held its first meeting. The apparel and garment industry representatives have agreed to collaborate with MWCD and UNODC to develop 'Guidelines for Monitoring Ethical Production Processes in the Garment Supply Chain'. Further, pilot projects would be taken up in vulnerable districts for promoting sustainable livelihood through skills up-gradation and employability linked training for identified vulnerable groups. The RMK would be the key partner in this endeavour. The Apparel Export Promotion Council (APEC) expressed its interest to support a nation wide media awareness campaign on anti-human trafficking.

On the instance of MWCD, many State Governments have shown keen interest to develop a public private partnership in their State. In this context, a series of workshops are being organized to create awareness on trafficking among the corporate sector and seek areas of collaboration. The Department of Women and Child Development, State Government of Karnataka organized the first workshop in the series. State Government of Tamil Nadu and Madhya Pradesh have also shown keen interest to organize such workshops.

It is hoped that vibrant public private partnerships would emerge out of the deliberations and dialogues, and pave way for a concrete action plan for preventing and combating trafficking of women and children.



CHAPTER 6

Civil Society Organizations'
Initiatives

CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS' INITIATIVES

For the past decade and a half, substantial efforts have been made by civil society organizations in their efforts to prevent and combat trafficking in women and children. It is impossible to cover the good work of all these organizations, but the following is an effort to document some of the most innovative and appropriate ones.

ATSEC... Networking Initiatives

Trafficking is an organized crime and it requires an equally organized counter force to combat it. There are quite a few active, sustained networks that fight trafficking in India. ATSEC or Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children is one of the oldest and most sustained anti-trafficking networks that has been functional since 1998 in the South Asian Region.

ATSEC¹¹ is the first network in South Asia to come up exclusively against trafficking. It has a formidable legion of NGOs and community based organizations (more than 500 in all) from across the country supported by several international agencies and inter-governmental organizations that fight trafficking through extensive networking on prevention, protection and prosecution from the macro to the micro scale. ATSEC is also a network of networks, i.e. there are several smaller networks that are in turn ATSEC members. ATSEC is spread over five countries – Bangladesh, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and India, with two more to be added soon – Afghanistan and Mauritius.

ATSEC India has been the most effective network against trafficking in the country and is headquartered in Kolkata with an NGO called Socio Legal Aid Research and Training Centre (SLARTC).

ATSEC India has been the most effective network against trafficking in the country and is headquartered in Kolkata with an NGO called Socio Legal Aid Research and Training Centre (SLARTC).

Some ATSEC Achievements

- **ATSEC in West Bengal** – As one of the pro-active members of the network, SLARTC is doing prosecution work on behalf of the State Judiciary that normally is an exclusive right of State Appointed Public Prosecutors. This is an extraordinary achievement where an NGO has been given the authority of substituting the State Machinery's specific

¹¹ For more information on ATSEC India please visit: www.atsecindia.org

role. The transfer of responsibility from the Government Prosecutors to the NGO lawyers took place during deliberations and subsequent judgement by the High Court on a Public Interest Litigation.

- **ATSEC in Bihar** – The achievements of ATSEC Bihar are wide ranging. It has trained and oriented 55 lawyers on the issue of child trafficking; organized training of trainers for heads of NGOs, sensitized police, the state selection board and government functionaries on the issue, given orientation to priests of different religions and established the Inter Religious Priest Forum in Bihar. It has established vigilance cells in eight Districts of Bihar that lie across the Indo-Nepal border to check trafficking and created mass awareness through innovative mechanisms. The network in Bihar has actually rescued as many as 265 children and repatriated 125 children through its 115 partners across the State. 209 legal cases have been filed against traffickers of children.
- **ATSEC in Jharkhand**– Formed in 2001, ATSEC Jharkhand has as many as 64 partner organizations. It works closely with the Social Welfare Department, Labour Department and Education Project Council. It has been successful in sensitizing the Police Department on issues of trafficking. ATSEC Jharkhand also started its transit shelter home, “Kishori Niketan”, in 2003, with the sole aim of providing care and protection to survivors of trafficking. From 2006 onwards, it is also running two similar shelter homes in Bijupara and Burmu, Ranchi District.

ARZ

ARZ¹² is a social development organization working in Goa for the last 11 years. ARZ has been appointed by the Government of Goa as the “nodal organization” to combat human trafficking in the State. ARZ has been working against abuse and exploitation amongst the victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The organization has been collaborating with the Government, philanthropists, corporate houses and other NGOs to combat human trafficking related to commercial sexual exploitation. ARZ has defined the trade of commercial sexual exploitation as a “market”, wherein the victims are “commodity”, who are sold by the perpetrators to the “marketers”. ARZ believes that to have any impact on the business of commercial sexual exploitation, it is important to weaken the demand. The weakening of the demand is possible only by involving the affected population, the victims, the members of civil society and the State.

ARZ Interventions

- MUKTI – Combating trafficking of persons for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.
- ANKUR – Prevention of delinquency sexual abuse and commercial sexual exploitation of juveniles.
- PRABHAT – Rehabilitation of rescued victims at the government rescue homes.

¹² ARZ is the abbreviation for ANYAY RAHIT ZINDAGI and can be contacted at arzindia@gmail.com

- Voice – Resource centre for research, documentation and audio-visuals on trafficking of persons for commercial sexual exploitation.
- WISH – Economic rehabilitation of victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

Gram Niyojan Kendra

Gram Niyojan Kendra's work on women in prostitution started in 1981. It conducted a study on "Prostitutes and Prostitution" merely as an issue of research interest. During that period, studies on prostitution were difficult to conduct even by way of getting researchers for data collection because of the stigma attached to the issue. Initiation of action connected with experiment in prevention and control of the problem of prostitution at the places of origin was started from 1993-94. This was neither an ad hoc affair, nor a result of mere availability of resources. It was a planned action based on the conviction that something should be done to mitigate or arrest the problem of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and girl children. Prostitution and trafficking prevention action is presently being taken in four areas by the organization. All of these places have been marked as the points of origin of girls and women in prostitution. This action was a pioneering project during the early 90s. There were only a few organizations working there on rescue, rehabilitation, and welfare of women in prostitution and prevention of the problem of prostitution. As per a national study conducted by Gram Niyojan Kendra¹³, at the initiative of National Commission for Women in 1988, there were a total of 53 organizations working on different dimensions of the problems of prostitution but only five were found to be engaged in preventive action. Of these five, only one organization was working at the community level and that was Gram Niyojan Kendra. There is also no effort in facilitating girls and women in prostitution, who are involved in it by virtue of their caste and culture. To disassociate them from the traditional practice of prostitution, the organization uses multiple activities, which can be divided into two groups, namely social and economic development activities. Social development includes education, awareness generation, health, counselling, group formation, games and sports, creativity, linkage and networking. Economic development includes vocational training (farm and off farm activities), training in entrepreneurship development, assistance in marketing and resource mobilization, formation of SHGs and co-operatives, preservation and management of natural resources.

As per a national study conducted by Gram Niyojan Kendra, at the initiative of National Commission for Women in 1988, there were a total of 53 organizations working on different dimensions of the problems of prostitution.

Impulse NGO Network

Impulse NGO Network¹⁴ developed the Meghalaya model to combat child trafficking in North East India as a single comprehensive strategic plan, to be adopted by all state agencies and citizen's organizations in the Region. Meghalaya and the rest of Northeast India have emerged as a new supply zone for human traffickers. Due to the region's porous international borders with neighbouring countries, Northeast India is also vulnerable to cross-border human trafficking. Impulse conceived of the Meghalaya model. The Meghalaya model

¹³ Please visit www.gramniyojankendra.org for more information about the organization.

¹⁴ For more information on IMPULSE please visit www.impulseasia.org

addresses the issue of child trafficking and consists of a comprehensive tracking system that brings together the State Government, security agencies, legal support, the media, and civil service organizations. Currently, each of the eight states of North East India is integrating the strategy.

The Meghalaya State Government has now accepted the model as an integral part of its anti-trafficking operations. Impulse is in the process of signing Memorandums of Understanding with various State departments to ensure appropriate implementation of the model.

NEDAN Foundation

NEDAN Foundation's joint rescue operations in the last few years have clearly raised an alarm on the issue of the increasing number of missing women and girl children who are being trafficked by recruitment agents. NEDAN Foundation¹⁵ is working with home-based weavers in Kokrajhar district. They have designed cotton fabric as per the demand and market need, both nationally and internationally, using women's weaving (handloom) skills. NEDAN'S model of creating alternative livelihood for the vulnerable and at risk women and girl children in Kokrajhar and Chirang has been replicated by the Bodo Territorial Council (BTC) in three other districts within its jurisdiction. This economic empowerment not only decreases the vulnerability of women and children to various forms of exploitation but also empowers them towards their rights.

Odanadi

"Odanadi" in Kannada language means one who walks hand in hand with you through life's long journey. Translating this ethos of human bonding into action in Karnataka is the Odanadi Seva Samsthe. Odanadi¹⁶ undertook a ten-month

Achievements

- With a special focus on Mysore, Odanadi has gone a long way in eradicating the social stigma attached to prostitution and in sensitizing the society.
- Organized victims of commercial sexual exploitation into a vocal and powerful group, the Vimochana Mahila Sangha, the Mysore group being the strongest, having 1020 members.
- Several young women have been rescued and rehabilitated with alternative livelihood options in the mainstream society through Manavi Mahila Sangha created by Odanadi.
- In 1995, in partnership with CRY (Child Relief and You), Odanadi established a successful permanent residential school and rehabilitation centre ('Prayoga Patha') for the children of the women in commercial sexual exploitation.

¹⁵ For more information on NEDAN Foundation please visit www.nedan.in

¹⁶ Learn more about ODANADI SEVA SAMSTHE at <http://www.geocities.com/odanadisevatrust/>

NEDAN Foundation's joint rescue operations in the last few years have clearly raised an alarm on the issue of the increasing number of missing women and girl children who are being trafficked by recruitment agents.

pilot study (“Bodies for a Meal”) on the socio-economic conditions of women prostitutes and their children in Mysore district, Karnataka. Since then, Odanadi has been making pioneering efforts to empower and rehabilitate victim of commercial sexual exploitation.

PLAN International – India

Plan India¹⁷ is a child-centred development organization that aims to promote child rights and improve the quality of life of vulnerable children. Plan works in 13 States in India and has directly impacted lives of over a million children and their families since 1979. The organization’s child centred community development interventions focus on child protection and child participation, children in difficult circumstances, education, HIV/AIDS awareness, health, early childhood care and development, water and environment, sanitation, disaster preparedness, household, economic and social security and community governance. The focus of Plan and its partners is to ensure that “children in India, especially vulnerable children, live in a safe and enabling environment where their rights are recognized, realized and respected”.

Plan India is a child-centred development organization that aims to promote child rights and improve the quality of life of vulnerable children.

Child Trafficking and HIV/AIDS Prevention

Anti Child Trafficking and HIV/AIDS prevention project is being implemented in 10 districts of Andhra Pradesh. The project aims to reduce incidences of child trafficking and HIV/AIDS in 300 communities by 2009 by focusing on the critical areas of nutrition, health, education, testing, psychosocial counselling, vocational training and skill development of the vulnerable groups such as traditional women in prostitution like Dommara, Mathammas, Joginis and others, Dalits, migrant labourers, women and girl child workers in the tobacco processing industry, fisher folk, tribal population, domestic servants, traditional handloom weavers and rural artisans.

Prajwala

Prajwala is an anti-trafficking organization based in Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh. Prajwala started by establishing a small transition centre for the prevention of second-generation prostitution, but today deals with all aspects of anti-trafficking.

As an organizational policy, Prajwala¹⁸ believes in working with survivors of trafficking who are full time partners in the day-to-day functioning of the

Rehabilitation through Prajwala Industries

Social and economic re-integration through self-employment opportunities, enterprise building, and employment in Amul Pizza Parlours, as house keeping staff members and as Home Nurses and also in the collective enterprise of Prajwala Industries is one of the core areas of success for Prajwala. Girls are being gainfully employed and are successfully sustaining their livelihood through sheer hard work and effective social networking.

¹⁷ To learn more about PLAN International, India please visit http://www.planindia.org/new_plan/index.html

¹⁸ More information on PRAJWALA is available at www.prajwalaindia.org

Adopting a rights based approach, Prerana initiated every kind of intervention that was needed to protect the children and women victims of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking (CSE&T)

organization. Interestingly, about 60 percent of the organization comprises survivors of trafficking themselves not just as mere staff members at the lowest rung but also as decision makers and programme monitors.

Prerana

The anti-trafficking intervention of Prerana, a non-profit making voluntary organization started in 1986 right in the midst of Kamathipura, one of the largest red light districts of the Asian continent and a dreaded one. Adopting a rights-based approach, Prerana initiated every kind of intervention that was needed to protect the children and women victims of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking (CSE&T) and those directly, inescapably, and closely exposed to the danger of CSE&T. Prerana globally pioneered the intervention 'Elimination of Second Generation Trafficking' (ESGT), piloted it successfully, replicated, standardized, and mainstreamed it. The component programmes of ESGT namely the Night Care Centre, Institutional Placement Programme, Educational Support Programme were adopted by the Government of India in 1998 in its first Plan of Action with due recognition. PRERANA believes that the model has undisputed global replicability.

Today, directly as a result of PRERANA'S intervention thousands of children born to prostituted women in the red light districts who would have otherwise been prostituted, or made to pimp, peddle drugs, arrange for blue films and run errands for the comfort of the customers are completing higher standards of formal education on a record number besides discussing child rights in their collective EKTA (lit. Unity).

PRERANA completed training of over 1000 police officers on behalf of UNODC in 2007-08 with significant success.

PRERANA believed in socializing its initiatives and made untiring efforts to disseminate its success stories and help many more partners to undertake ESGT. The ESGT Model is picking up very fast in India. PRERANA'S intervention to rescue the child victims of CSE stops only at successful social reintegration immediately preceded by economic rehabilitation.

Rescue Foundation

Rescue Foundation¹⁹ operates in the State of Maharashtra but has also spread its work in other parts of Western India. Rescue Foundation runs a protective home (shelter) for the rescued girls. Their work focuses on eradication of trafficking; rescue of minors from trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation; running of the protective home with facilities such as counselling, training (vocational and life-skills), legal assistance, health care services (physical and psychological) and consequent repatriation. The organization not only provides pragmatic, practical and informed solutions to the victims to make better choices for their future but also vocational guidance and counselling to rehabilitate them and

¹⁹ For more information about the organization, please visit www.rescuefoundation.net

to give them a valued chance to live respectable life as law-abiding citizens. Assisting victims to prosecute their traffickers and the persons involved in their sexual abuse and repatriation services are also provided by the organization.

Saarthak

Saarthak²⁰, a voluntary organization based in Delhi, focuses on mental health in the community and has worked with the mission of providing support to the victims of trafficking in South Asia. The aim has been to facilitate victims of trafficking and other vulnerable groups to trafficking through creating mental health friendly resources and processes. The mental health training and interventions have been designed within a rights based framework ensuring autonomy, dignity and choice as defining fundamentals.

Saarthak has done this through:

1. Developing minimum standards of care for rescue, repatriation, rehabilitation and re-integration.
2. Mainstreaming mental health frameworks into the agenda of Anti-trafficking service providers including the criminal justice system, voluntary organizations providing care and protection and livelihoods, voluntary organizations working in post-tsunami scenario to prevent trafficking, government schemes and policies.
3. Creating mental health capacity building resources by developing a certificate level and a diploma level training programmes for mental health interventions for survivors of trafficking. Nearly 1,000 people from 50 organizations in South Asia have been trained through the Saarthak training programmes.
4. Developing tools and processes to assure the quality of care and protection.
5. Creating service delivery models for mental health interventions using a cost effective mobile mental health team. Nearly a thousand survivors have been met and supported.
6. Ongoing documentation of mental health needs of survivors of trafficking and gender based violence.
7. Developing self-help tools for recovery of survivors of violence and trafficking.

Saarthak is working to seek support to institutionalize the training programmes so as to ensure a sustainable rights-based anti-trafficking response.

Sanlaap

Founded in 1987, Sanlaap is a non-government of organization. Sanlaap works to combat human trafficking and prevent second generation prostitution. Over time, Sanlaap has evolved as a pioneering organization to holistically address the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. The organization has broadened its horizon to encompass “prevention and protection” initiatives as well. Sanlaap²¹ walks through the life of a “victim” to her being a “survivor” of trafficking through the mechanism of institutional care and protection. The journey thus starts from the time of her

Saarthak, a voluntary organization based in Delhi, focuses on mental health in the community and has worked with the mission of providing support to the victims of trafficking in South Asia.

²⁰ To learn more about SAARTHAK please write to saarthakmembers@yahoo.co.in

²¹ For more information on SANLAAP and its initiatives, please visit www.sanlaapindia.org

SANLAAP is considered as a pioneer and resource organization in South Asia in the area of institutional care provision for victims/survivors of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

The organization has not only attained quality care standards in its care facility, but has also trained several Governmental and non-governmental institutional care set-ups and is working towards achieving minimum standards of care and protection in all shelter homes in the region.

“rescue” to her “re-integration within the community”, through the stages of psychosocial rehabilitation and socio-economic re-integration.

Sanlaap – Core Programmes

- Institutional Care and Protection Programme – The Shelter Homes – SNEHA (*lit. affection*).
- District based Prevention and Protection Programme – A child protection initiative.
- Community based Prevention and Protection Programme (Red Light Area Intervention) – Community based rehabilitation programme.
- Youth Partnership Programme (Youth Led Advocacy and Action Initiative).
- Empowering Law Enforcement Agencies and Judiciary through Capacity Building.
- Advocacy and Networking.
- Research and Documentation-The Information Activism Initiative.
- SALAH-The Legal Assistance Programme

Save the Children India (STCI)

STCI is a non-profit organization established in the year 1988. It has been working towards the empowerment of the underprivileged women and children through its many health, vocational training and education programmes. Today, over 250 children, who are either intellectually, hearing, or speech impaired, study at the Special Care Centre. More than 1825 boys and 12368 girls have successfully availed of the Balwadi pre-primary education programme, and more than 7175 children have benefited from the comprehensive school programme run by STCI. One of the proudest accomplishments of the organization includes bringing health & education to nearly 200,000 children across the State of Maharashtra. The Save Our Sisters (SOS) unit is an initiative for combating trafficking and was set up in 2001. The SOS programme focuses on the: (i) prevention of human trafficking in the vulnerable areas; (ii) rehabilitation of trafficked survivors so as to prevent re-trafficking; and (iii) advocacy for

Fund Raising Initiative of STCI...

Jet Airways launched its in-flight fund collection programme the ‘Magic Box Programme’ in association with Save The Children India (STCI) on January 7, 1997. This fund-raising programme, unique to Jet Airways, has been implemented on all its flights on the domestic network, thereby allowing its passengers to participate in this cause.

Sanlaap has evolved as a pioneering organization to holistically address the issue of trafficking in persons, particularly for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.

supportive policies. Additionally, STCI has created a special focus on training of the Law Enforcement Agencies and Judiciary to ensure appropriate action to combat and prevent trafficking in girl children and young women. STCI²² is an organization that envisions India as a child friendly nation. It is driven by a vision of a country in which every child is aware of his/her rights and is able to access these rights.

Shakti Vahini

Shakti Vahini²³ is active in the fields of human rights activism, anti-human trafficking, bonded labour, HIV/AIDS, education, environment, legal aid and advocacy, research and documentation, networking, volunteerism, community development etc. Within the ambit of anti-human trafficking initiatives, especially focussing on women and children, the major areas of operation are: (i) advocacy on anti-human trafficking issues; (ii) research, data collection and dissemination of information; (iii) advocacy for legislation and appropriate enforcement of existing laws; (iv) prevention efforts through awareness programmes; and (v) rehabilitation and re-integration work. 'NCAT - Network of Citizens Against Trafficking' provides opportunity to citizens wishing to volunteer and contribute their services against trafficking. NCAT aims at involving the concerned and willing people from society and provides them with a platform to contribute their time and services at their own convenience.

STOP

STOP, a Delhi based organization, ensures that the empowerment of girl children and women is recognized as a strategy to create a gender sensitive society. STOP²⁴ aims to re-integrate trafficked survivors by restoring their self-esteem and confidence by providing them marketable job opportunities for self-sustenance. The Institutional Care and Protection Facility, run by STOP is the core programme of the organization. Besides this, the organization in partnership with State Law Enforcement Mechanism, focuses on rescuing of minors from being trafficked or from places of sexual exploitation and also engages itself in national, regional and international level advocacy on the issue of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation.

Sthree

Sthree was founded in the year 2000 and has been a pioneering force in grassroots interventions in the Districts of Anantapur and Kadapa, in the State of Andhra Pradesh in South India. These two aforementioned districts being high supply zones for trafficked minors, the organization placed itself strategically in Anantapur itself and not in the State Capital of Hyderabad. Over the last eight years of existence of Sthree, there have been 23 Anti-Trafficking committees identified and institutionalized. The organization has rescued and intercepted nearly 900 girls from returning or being sold to the brothel houses of Mumbai, Delhi, and Pune. Many of these survivors have availed of rehabilitation packages comprising land Pattas (deeds of ownership), as well as housing and livelihood loans that are provided by the Government and facilitated by Sthree. Some have been provided shelter at the Sthree rescue home, whilst others have

Shakti Vahini is active in the fields of human rights activism, anti-human trafficking, bonded labour, HIV/AIDS, education, environment, legal aid and advocacy, research and documentation, networking, volunteerism, community development etc.

²² Please visit www.savethechildrenindia.net for more information about the organization

²³ For more information about the organization, please visit www.shaktivahini.org

²⁴ For more information about the organization, please visit www.stopindia.org

Sthree believes that there needs to be a “Mix & Match” system in alternative livelihoods. This has led to many success stories of the survivor’s re-integration into mainstream society. They have spread out into multiple ventures such as, employment with the corporate houses, micro-credit for small loans like petty shops, vegetable vending, individuals rearing sheep or buffaloes, tiffin centres, provision stores, fancy shops/stores, income through crafts and even working as “security checking” for women at a Corporate BPO in Bangalore city, ... so many varied jobs and businesses, following the new age mantra of “Each to his/her own” spelling a final coming to terms with their own lives, poised for a worthy future.

Sthree was founded in the year 2000 and has been a pioneering force in grassroots interventions in the districts of Anantapur and Kadapa, in the State of Andhra Pradesh in South India.

been re-integrated with their families at the village level. They have been strengthened through the formation of SHGs. Sthree has 53 such SHGs in the districts that it works in and many of who have availed Government institutional loans for various economic activities. The NGO, though based in Anantapur, has one branch office in Kadapa district as well for easy access for the restored survivors. It runs programmes for strengthening the capacity of such victims and community members through trainings, ensures options for alternative livelihood measures and runs a successful handicraft manufacturing unit. Sthree has trained 60 girls in fashion technology/garment construction in partnership with the ace National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT) and Ministry of Textiles. Sthree²⁵ had also pioneered micro-enterprises in partnership with Governments and international donors.

Vimochana Development Society

Vimochana²⁶, a Karnataka based organization, functions in three major thematic areas: (i) education for mainstreaming; (ii) socio-economic development initiatives; and (iii) people’s mobilization and struggle for justice. Vimochana has pioneered in protecting children of women in prostitution from becoming second generation victims. The organization uses education as a key tool in mainstreaming children of women in prostitution and victims of trafficking into the society. Computer education and other livelihood education programmes are its key focus. Employment opportunity generation is another key strategy that the organization focuses upon for the socialization of rescued survivors and children of ‘Devadasí’ women.

Youth Participation and Partnership Initiatives

The Youth Partnership Project (YPP) for child survivors of commercial sexual exploitation in South Asia is a unique initiative that endeavours to have a positive psychosocial impact and improve the lives of affected children in India, Bangladesh and Nepal. Young survivors of trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation and at-risk youth living in red light districts, on the street or in other dangerous places, such as railway platforms, are the key participants in this Project. Through peer support programmes, community awareness

²⁵ Please visit www.sthreeindia.org for more information about the organization

²⁶ For more information about the organization, please visit www.vimochana.org

campaigns and public advocacy, survivors and at-risk youth are using their expertise and knowledge to protect and advocate for the rights of the children.

YPP²⁷ has been in operation for three years and is being implemented by Sanlaap, in India, Maiti-Nepal in Nepal and Aparajeyo Bangladesh in Bangladesh. The Project is coordinated at the regional level by ECPAT International.

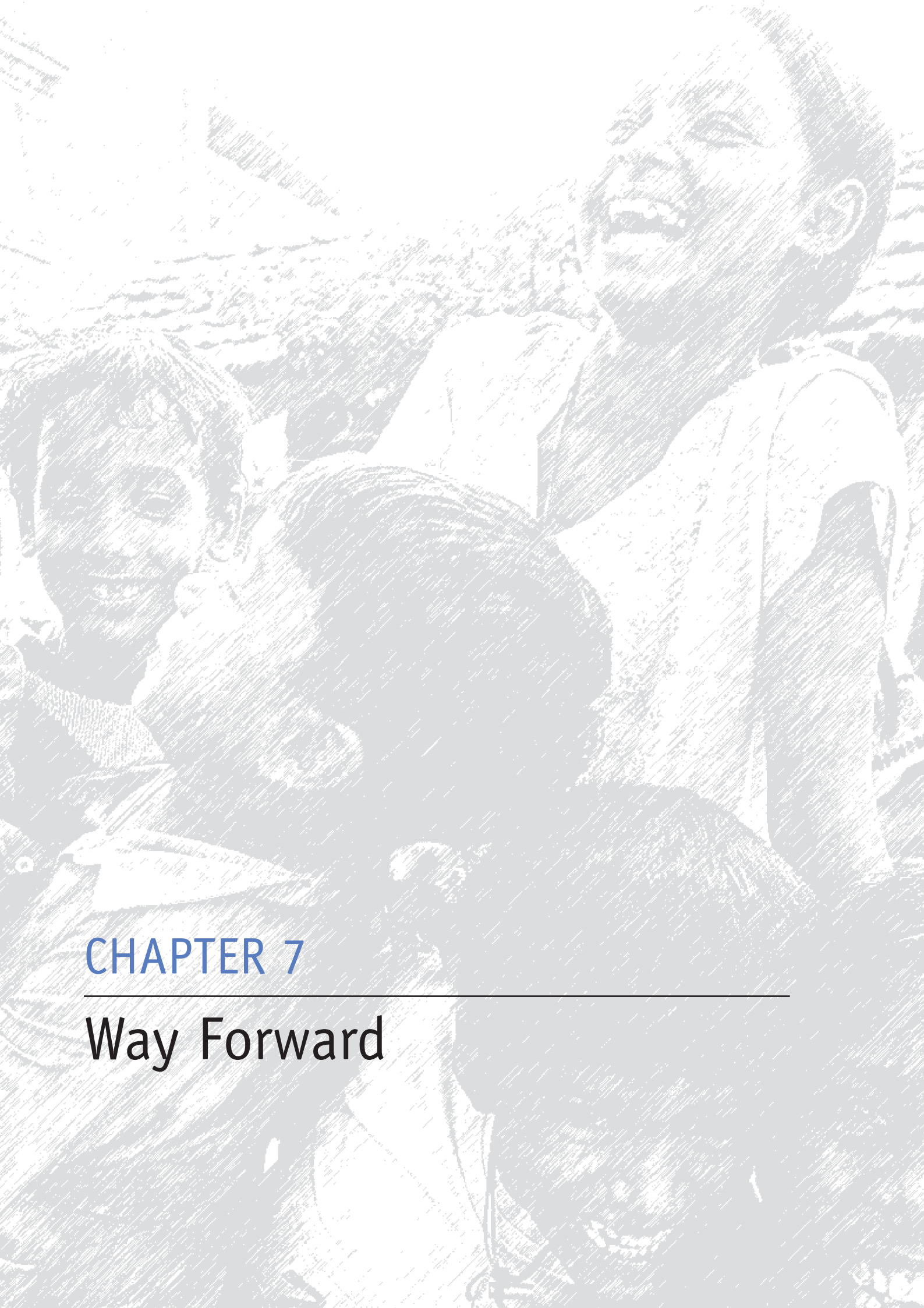
YPP works to help child victims of commercial sexual exploitation undergo a psychological shift in their perception of themselves from passive beneficiaries to active citizens. YPP facilitates peer support groups that operate in vulnerable and high-risk communities, sharing and disseminating information, and raising awareness on key issues related to trafficking and CSEC. YPP Peer Supporters also provide individualized support to prevent their peers from becoming victims of exploitation and violence. Experiential youth also offer peer support to child victims of trafficking, who are trying to adjust to their new life and shelter home environment of institutional care. They advocate to influence local and national policy in terms of prevention, protection and rehabilitation of commercially sexually exploited children through lobbying and advocacy initiatives.

The Government and non-governmental actors must consciously ensure and engage into meaningful child and youth partnership models as it ensures best results for the design and implementation of anti-trafficking programmes. The participation of children and youth is increasingly being recognized as an essential part of development programmes and policies. *“Always involve the target group from the very beginning”*²⁸ is a principle that makes sense. Policies and programmes focusing on children and young people can only be successful if they are fully involved in the process. Children and young people know their specific problems, needs and solutions the best. They know the best way to address their peers.

The Youth Partnership Project (YPP) for child survivors of commercial sexual exploitation in South Asia is a unique initiative that endeavours to have a positive psychosocial impact and improve the lives of affected children in India, Bangladesh and Nepal.

²⁷ To learn more about the Youth Partnership Project please visit: www.ypp-sa.org

²⁸ Excerpts from the Paper on Child and Youth Participation... Road to Rio; Mr. AGNIVA LAHIRI, Executive Director, PLUS (People like Us), AGNIVA was the only Youth Participant in the World Congress II in Yokohama representing India.



CHAPTER 7

Way Forward

WAY FORWARD

The journey from World Congress II (Yokohama, 2002) to World Congress III (Rio de Janeiro, 2008) for India has been one of proactive collaboration and cooperation of all stakeholders in the fight against trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children. The Ministry of Women and Child Development, Government of India has spearheaded many of the initiatives with enthusiastic support from the respective line Ministries, State Governments, International Organizations and Civil Society Organizations.

In the continuing efforts against sexual exploitation, the emphasis will be to focus on key areas of concern and maximize outputs by innovative and effective programmes and strategies.

Some of the thrust areas, which would be optimized in coming years, include:

- Prevention of trafficking of women and children would be a major focus area. Emphasis will be laid on creating a protective environment for children, social mobilization, providing skill training and sustainable livelihood options to vulnerable women.
- Public private participation would continue to receive thrust under the aegis of the 'Think Tank' by providing an enabling platform for private sectors to play a larger role in preventing and combating trafficking of women and children.
- Advocacy and awareness of all sections of society on the various evils of trafficking and sexual exploitation would also receive prime attention. Special efforts are on to sensitize law enforcement agencies through setting-up of child friendly police stations and helplines in all Districts. Women's help desk would also be constituted in the police stations.
- A National Policy to address trafficking for all purposes is also being formulated which will enable the formulation a holistic policy and programmes.
- Convergence and networking between all stakeholders will be further strengthened through capacity building and training programme for all stakeholders such as NGOs and civil society, judicial officers, social workers, counsellors, medical officers, enforcement agencies and Government officials at all levels.

The Global Summit of World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents in Rio de Janeiro in November 2008 is an opportunity for India as a country to share its good emerging practices with its global partners through the Country Report.

The journey from World Congress II (Yokohama, 2002) to World Congress III (Rio de Janeiro, 2008) for India has been one of proactive collaboration and cooperation of all stakeholders in the fight against trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of women and children.



Collation and Compilation by:

ATSEC, Action against Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation of Children, India