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Child trafficking: Perspectives of the non-government organisations

Harshita Harshu

Abstract

Child trafficking is a problem which has grown over the years despite all kinds of treatments tried to curb it. It is a global issue and round the world many legislations, rules, International Conventions have been taken up to curb this problem but all in vain. It consists of many kinds of crimes under one term like child labour, child prostitution, child sex tourism, bonded labour, adoption and many more.

Child trafficking is a type of crime where the Government and Non-government Organisations both are working hand in hand to help the victims. In the recent past government has taken many initiatives just because the Non- Government organisations have played a very effective role in creating pressure and awareness in the authorities to understand the gravity of the problem. These Organisations and their staffs have worked day in and day out without caring about the risk involved to rescue the children from the hands of the traffickers. These Activists have not left any stone unturned to ensure that the children are saved, counselled, rehabilitated and repatriated back to their families.

Thus, the present study focuses on the perspectives of these Organisations to understand child trafficking and the children suffering at the hands of traffickers. The present study tries to understand the route of trafficking and whether the gender of the child matters to the traffickers or all are forced to serve the same path. The study takes into consideration the recommendations of these Activists to suggest ways to prevent and protect from being trafficked. A few cases have been incorporated to understand the plight of the trafficked children. The study is a primary research and with the help of graphs the research findings have been explained. The study is concluded with the findings that Government, Non- Government Organisations all need to work in close proximity along with the support of the common public for the greater good of the children.

Keywords: Child, human trafficking, source station, destination station, victimisation

Introduction

In India, children are born into debt bondage for debts taken centuries ago by their great grandparents or even before. Human trafficking is the trade in humans, most commonly for the purpose of sexual slavery, forced labour or commercial sexual exploitation for the trafficker or others; or for the extraction of organs or tissues, including surrogacy and ova removal; or for providing a spouse in the context of forced marriage. Human trafficking is wider in its scope as compared to slavery but in a similar pattern, victims are paid little or nothing and made to do chores against their will without caring for them in return at all. They are similarly confined but under the threat of violence or death of them and their families.

Child trafficking is name of a huge phenomenon which is flourishing with full vigour nationally as well as internationally. The whole world is trying to fight this termite which has eaten into our society's roots. The opinion of the machinery dealing with this issue is the biggest example to prove how our country is lacking the zeal and passion to even understand this grave problem. The Guardian newspaper in an article has quoted Aradhana Singh, head of the anti-human trafficking unit in Khundi district, Jharkhand "the police lack both the funds and the will to tackle the problem. We simply don't have resources," she says. "Our phones don't work; power cuts are so frequent that we cannot use a computer or a fax machine. There is not even office space to offer counselling services. Most [police] don't see trafficking as a crime. They just see it as poor children migrating for a better livelihood and don't take these issues seriously. They think I'm dealing with a petty issue."

The impunity enjoyed by those running trafficking rings in these tribal areas is increasing the power and influence of local criminal gangs^[1]. It can thus be seen that trafficking is a huge phenomenon and a grave problem which need to be studied in detail.

Let us first understand the term child trafficking in detail.

Child is any person below the age of 18 years according to international laws and policies. In India however, age of child is also a point of debate and discussion as the age barrier differs from Act to Act.

A child is a human between the stages of birth and puberty. The legal definition of "child" generally refers to a minor, otherwise known as a person younger than the age of majority. It is however defined as any person under the age of 18 years in the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015.

This can also be taken as the major loophole in the justice system of a democratic country where crime related to children has always shown an increasing trend. However in this study the working definition of a "Child" would be "any person who has not completed eighteen years of age at the time of rescue".

According to Crime in India, 2015 "Human trafficking is a group of crimes involving the exploitation of men, women and children for financial gains which is violation of fundamental human rights. Victims are lured or abducted from their homes and subsequently forced to work against their wishes through various means in various establishments, indulge in prostitution or subjected to various types of indignities and even killed or incapacitated for the purposes of begging and trade in human organs."^[2]

In international circle commonly followed definition is that of United Nations Commission on Human Rights; "Trafficking in persons means the recruitment, transportation, purchase sale, transfer, harbouring or receipt of person by threat or use of violence, abduction, force deception or coercion (including the abuse of authority) or debt bondage, for the purpose of placing or holding such person, whether for pay or not, in forced labour or slavery like practices, in a community other than the one in which such person lived at the time of original act described."

Victims comprise of children as young as new-borns to teenagers, men and women. Victims of human trafficking are subjected to force, fraud, or coercion to compel them to engage in commercial sex or involuntary labour.

Victims of child trafficking are exploited at every imaginable and unimaginable place and situations. They trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation including prostitution, pornography and sex tourism. They are also exploited for labour, including domestic servitude, migrant farming, landscaping and hotel or restaurant work – to name just a few potential trafficking situations.

Child trafficking is kept under the same category as forced labour in International Labour Organisation Convention 182^[3]. This convention identifies four categories of child trafficking which need to be eliminated immediately:

- "All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children; debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour;

including force or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;

- The use, procurement or offering of a child for prostitution, production of pornography or pornographic performances;
- The use, procurement or offering of a child for illicit activities in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;
- Work which by its nature or by the circumstances, by which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children."

The victims of child trafficking are engaged in one or more than one form of above mentioned labours. The children being vulnerable are abused in all possible forms. The children being distanced from their families end up in various destinations and work fields like prostitution and other exploitative forms of work, such as agriculture, mining, manufacturing, fishing, begging and domestic service since they are defenceless against abuse and exploitation and trauma.

It is estimated that millions of children in many countries are trafficked, but the exact number of victims is unknown. Often the children who are victims of trafficking come from impoverished or rural areas/countries and go to urban areas of the same country, or to wealthier countries. Trafficking involves a series of actions and actors (including recruiters, intermediaries, transporters, employers, and family members) at different points, from point of origin to final destination. The final outcome is the exploitation through work of the child being relocated, and a serious compromise of the child's access to education and other aspects of healthy human development. The exploitation is manifested through the abusive conditions to which the child is subjected, including physical and mental abuse, confinement, inadequate or non-existent health care, poor accommodation, and hazardous work.

Causes

There are number of causes responsible for a child being trafficked. Many a times a child's own family is responsible for him ending up in a trade which gets him nothing but pain and suffering for life. Being a complex issue it involves a series of motivations and aspirations some of the families and some of the children that are both benevolent and malevolent. The victims and their families are drawn into trafficking through persuasion and/or deception:

1) Economic Factors: This is a major reason for child trafficking but it is not the only cause. The root of all such practices is money. The gap between the rich and the poor is becoming increasingly larger. Lack of local prospects, unemployment and a large number of children make parents susceptible to the promises of money or education for their children given by the traffickers. The parents may also sell their children to traffickers in order to pay off debts or gain income or they may be deceived concerning the prospects of training and a better life for their children. The young boys and girls leave their village to escape the miserable living conditions.

2) Cultural, Religious and Social Factors: The UN suggests that religious practices like the 'Devdasi' and 'Jogin' encouraged the priests to traffic girls for prostitution.

¹<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2015/apr/28/child-trafficking-india-domestic-labour-chhattisgarh> at 12.16 on 01.04.2016

²<http://ncrb.nic.in/StatPublications/CI/CI2015/chapters/Chapter%206A-15.11.16.pdf> on 3.12.2016

³http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C182 on 02.5.2017

This factor is mainly evident in India. There is also a myth that having sex with a virgin girl will cure men of STD and HIV/AIDS

3) Geo-political Factors: Countries share borders which are not fenced. This is another cause of child trafficking. Children can be easily trafficked through such borders.

4) Inefficient Government forces: The political instability in any nation first affects its citizens. If there is political instability in any nation it obvious that the traffickers cannot be stopped. Inefficient laws also let the accused get through long trials. Hence the government is responsible for the crime too.

5) Children without caregivers: Children without caregivers or caretakers tend to be more susceptible to trafficking. When there are parents they provide complete safety to their offspring (in most of the cases) and hence this is a crucial factor of Child Trafficking.

6) Lack of birth registrations: When Birth registrations are not regular; the government does not understand the loss of children happening. This is very important for understanding Child Trafficking because traffickers and hide them easily without the government even coming to know. This makes it difficult to trace these children and even if they are traced it is difficult to identify them because their birth is not registered.

Review of literature

Child trafficking is both a result and a cause of violation of child rights. This is because it is the children who are poor and marginalized, whose basic rights are violated that are most vulnerable to child trafficking. Children are trafficked for various purposes including labour, sexual exploitation, sports and entertainment, adoption, marriage or illegal activities, drug peddling etc.

Trafficking in children is a global phenomenon affecting large numbers of children. Trafficking is not committed only by large organized crime networks but may involve friends, relatives and even parents of children. Child trafficking is lucrative and linked with criminal activity and corruption. Trafficking always violates the child's right to grow in a family environment along with hundreds of other rights.

Trafficking is a ghastly reality that stares in the face of the civilized global community. India is not free from the clutches of the social vice. Child trafficking is rampant in India and the Indian Government despite undertaking several measures have not been able to root out this horrible social menace completely. (S.K. Bhagat, 2009)

Trafficking in women and children is the most abominable violation of Human Rights. Trafficking in women and children is a violation of several human rights, including the very right to life, right to liberty, human dignity and security

of a person, the right to freedom from torture or cruelty, inhumane or degrading treatment, the right to a home and family, the right to education and proper employment, the right to health care and everything that makes for a life with dignity.

Since law enforcement has a critical role to play in combating trafficking, it is unfortunate that in India, the number of law enforcement officials who fully comprehend the human dimension and practice the rights based approach to the problem are few and far between.

Trafficking is defined as a trade in something that should not be traded for various social, economical or political reasons. Human trafficking refers to the criminal practice of exploiting human beings by treating them like commodities of profit. (P.M. Nair And Shankar Sen, 2005)

Child trafficking is a hot and very important topic to discuss but not much literature is available on the problem under study as much research work has not been done in this regard so it was necessary to understand the victimization of children from NGOs perspectives as they are the ones who mainly deal not only with trafficked children but also with their families and also counsel them so that they can have a better future ahead of the trafficked life.

Objectives of the study

- To study the roots of Trafficking in children.
- To study the trends of crimes involving trafficked children.
- To study how are children victimized because of trafficking.
- To suggest some measures to help prevent child trafficking.

Magnitude of the problem

Since 2015 the National Crime Records Bureau started to publish child trafficking data separately in order to understand and analyse the patterns on child trafficking in the country. Crime in India 2015 is the latest publication of Crime statistics available. The data is made available under various heads.

A total of 3490 cases had been registered under child trafficking during 2015.

- 2 Cases under the Importation of girls from Foreign Country has been registered.
- 58 Cases has been registered under the Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act.

221 cases of Human Trafficking (Sec 370 & sec 370A IPC) has been registered Majority of such cases were reported in Delhi (57 cases) followed by Bihar (27 cases), Madhya Pradesh (22 cases), Odisha (20 cases), West Bengal (15 cases), Chhattisgarh (12 cases) and Telangana (11 cases). These States together accounted for 72.4% of total such crimes during 2015.

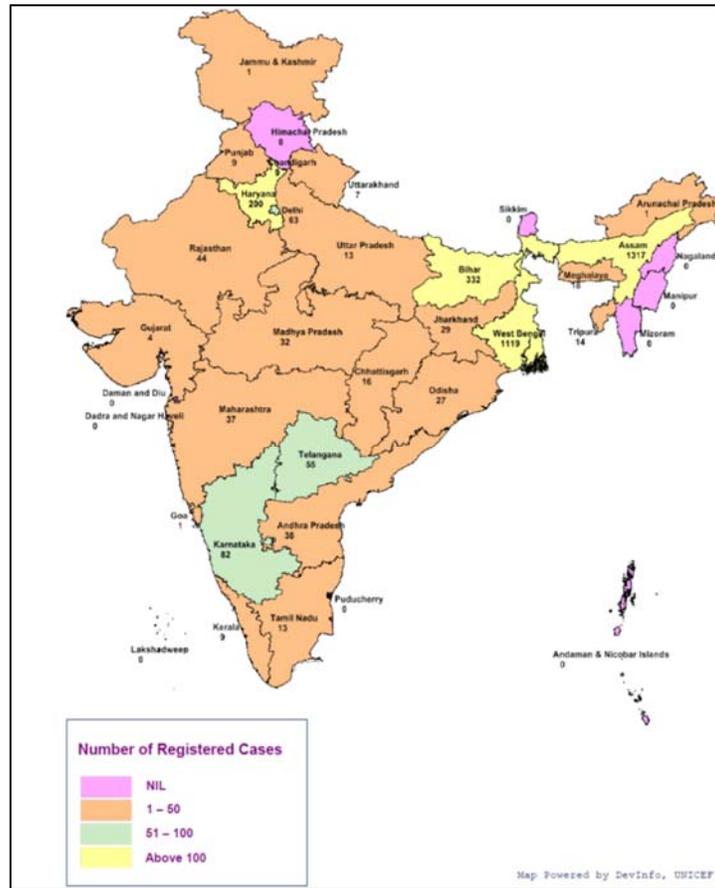


Fig 1: cases of child trafficking registered in different parts of the country

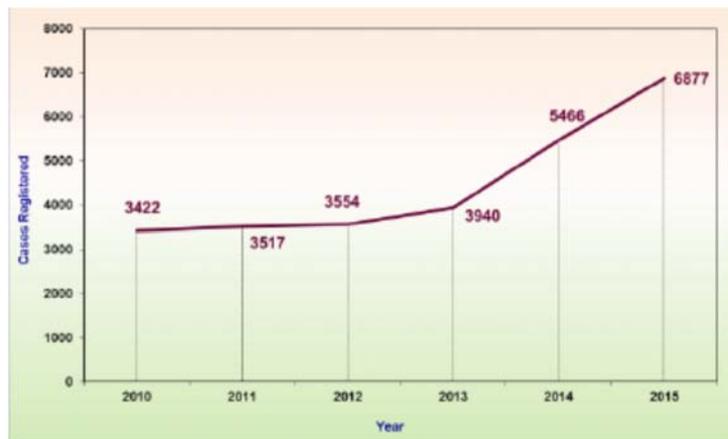


Fig 2: Cases registered under Human Trafficking during 2010 and 2015

Sl. No	Crime Head	Year					Percentage Variation in 2015 Over 2014
		2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	
1	Procurement of Minor Girls (Sec. 366-A IPC)	862	809	1,224	2,020	3,087	52.8
2	Importation of Girls from Foreign Country (Sec.366B IPC)	80	59	31	13	6	-53.8
3	Selling of Minors for Prostitution (Sec. 372 IPC)#	113	108	100	82	111	35.4
4	Buying of Minor for Prostitution (Sec. 373 IPC)#	27	15	6	14	11	-21.4
5	Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act 1956	2,435	2,563	2,579	2,617	2,641	0.9
6	Human Trafficking (Sec. 370 & 370 A IPC) *	-	-	-	720	1,021	41.8
Total Cases of Human Trafficking		3,517	3,554	3,940	5,466	6,877	25.8

Fig 3: Crime Head-wise incidence of various crimes under Human Trafficking during 2011 and 2015

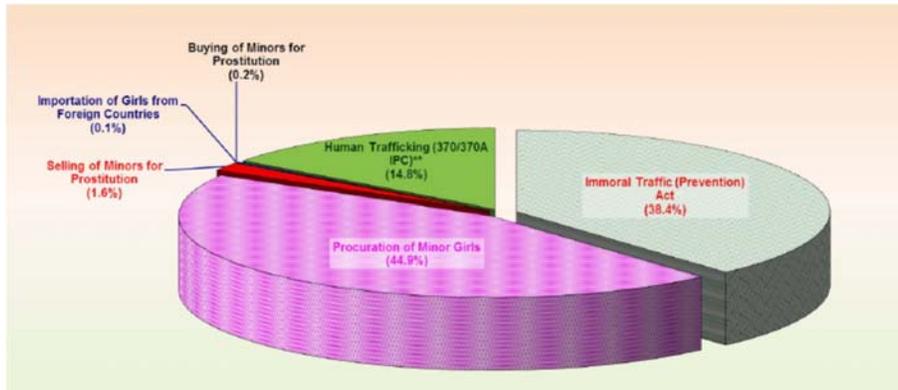


Fig 4: Crime head-wise percentage distribution during 2015



Fig 5: Patterns of child trafficking during 2015

- Fig 2 is self-explanatory and very clearly shows an increasing trend from 2010 till 2015. But this can be seen in two ways. The crime as grown over the years and was very less compared to the present stats or it can be said that the number of crimes registered or getting recognised under the category of human trafficking.
- Fig 3 states under which category of human trafficking how many cases have been registered. The Procuration of minor girls and under ITPA the stats are really disturbing

Statement of the problem

Thousands of women and children are trafficked every day. Within the overall profile of trafficking in South Asia, India is a country of both transit and destination. There is a considerable degree of internal trafficking as well as some trafficking from India to Gulf States and to South East Asia. Sale of children and their movement across the state borders takes place within the country too. In other words, while there is movement of children through procurement and sale from one country to another, with India being both a supplier as well as a “consumer”, there is internal “movement” of children within the country itself - one town to another, one district to another and one state to another. It is undertaken in an organised manner, by organised syndicates or by individuals, and sometimes informal groups. Relatives and parents are part of this as well. India harbours 19 per cent of world’s child population and almost 42 % of total population (1100 million) are children. And yet total expenditure on children in health, education,

development and protection together is only 4.9 % of India’s total budget outlet.

The Church in India has expressed concern over growing child trafficking in South Asia. Nepal and Bangladesh have been identified as “sending” countries or countries of region in the region web of trafficking, India and Pakistan are referred to as countries of “transit” or “destination.”

Child trafficking is increasing in India. Though there is an Immoral Traffic Prevention Act it only refers to trafficking for prostitution hence does not provide comprehensive protection for children. Nor does the Act provide clear definition of “trafficking”.

The increasing trends of crimes related to trafficking are more than enough to understand the gravity of the problem under study. The present study is a primary study conducted to understand the perspectives of the people who have dedicated their lives towards children who have been trafficked. These are the people who practically deal with such children and know the plight of them the best.

Cases

Case 1

A girl hailing from Jharkhand had been brought to Delhi by a placement agency and was working at a place as a domestic help. There she was locked and tortured badly. She was not allowed to contact her family or anyone she knew for help. Tortured brutally, mentally and physically abused she ran from there and went to the placement agency who had brought her from her home. But all her hopes and efforts to run away from torture were in vain as that agency

people also locked her up and tortured her badly. She somehow absconded from there and managed to reach New Delhi Railway Station where she was trying to go back home. She was there identified by one of the workers of a NGO who then took her to the nearest Police Station and lodged an FIR. She was later produced before the Child Welfare Committee who sent her to Nirmal Chaya, a Shelter Home for girls.

Case 2

A girl who came from Jharkhand was working at a place for 5 months along with four other girls who were major while she was a minor. She earned about Rs.10000 there but could not get a single penny because of the other four. Then they were told that their work at that place was over and so they moved out. But at the bus stand the four girls asked the minor girl to wait at a place while those would go and get the tickets done for all of them. But these girls never returned. Luckily the girl was recognised by a worker from a NGO and taken proper care of.

Case 3

A girl was misled by a truck driver falsely in the name of love. He then lured her to some other place in his truck to sell her to others but later as the girl was not sold because of some reasons, the truck driver raped her in his truck and then pushed her out of the truck because of which the girl got her hand fractured and had to suffer permanent deformity of the hand. The girl could not take in the mental trauma and therefore lost her senses and became mentally unstable. Later she was found pregnant because of that incident and now she has a baby boy who is perfectly normal but the biggest sufferer along with his mother away from the love of both his parents.

Case 4

Sonu(name changed), a girl hailing from Madhya Pradesh ran away from her home along with a friend, Renu(name changed) of hers just to roam around and see places. They eventually came to Delhi but without any money in hand. One of the two had come to Delhi earlier and so they planned to go to her uncle's place. A man came to them and volunteered to help and offered to first take them for lunch and then to wherever they wanted to go. He took them to a dhaba where he asked the dhaba people to give them lunch and himself went somewhere. Meanwhile the girls had their lunch. The man returned after sometime and asked Renu to accompany him in finding her uncle and asked Sonu to wait for them to return. But his did not happen they never returned. Sonu was later recognised by an NGO and produced before CWC who ordered to investigate in the case and also to search the other girl, Renu who was taken away by the man. The Police went around Delhi searching for Renu but all in vain the girl was never traced and she stands lost till date. Sonu was repatriated to her family.

Case 5

Asha(name changed), was a minor girl at the time of rescue and was rescued from a house where she worked as a maid. She originally hailed from Assam and had been brought to Delhi by one of her neighbours in 2009. She was brought to

Delhi along with two other girls as per the child, statement. In Delhi she was handed over to a placement agency who worked in the name of a society who were working for the welfare of the tribals. After two months stay in the placement agency where she said were also many other girls from Assam and some other places, Asha was placed in a house and was promised a monthly payment of Rs. 2000/- but even after working there for ten months she did not receive a single penny. From there she was replaced in the house from where she had been rescued by the NGO. At the time of rescue the girl was found in good health. She was produced to the CWC and then handed over to a Children Home. But still trials are being done continuously to repatriate the girl to her home town.

Research methodology

Locale of the study

The Locale of the study covers the whole of National Capital Territory of Delhi since Delhi is the capital of the country and there are many NGOs working for the children in Delhi.

Universe

The universe of the study constitutes of the Officials working in the different NGOs dealing with the trafficked children.

Research design

Exploratory Research Design since not much study has been done on the problem under study from the perspectives of the NGO.

Sampling

Purposive Sampling Technique has been adopted in the problem under study with the purpose that the sample should be dealing with trafficked children in any way or might have done a lot of study on the same.

Sample

The sample size of the study is 10 – 15 all dealing with or helping the children being trafficked.

Source of data collection

Primary source - Interviews schedules from the various samples.

Secondary source - Statistics from NCRB, NCPCR and various places visited to complete the study.

Research tool for data collection

The tool for data collection is interview schedule. One interview schedule was prepared to interview the samples. The interview schedule consisted of three main sections. First section was framed to understand the roots of trafficking. The second section consisted of questions to know and understand the trends of crimes trafficked children are basically put to. The third section dealt with the way the children are mainly victimized. And the forth section dealt with the suggestions to overcome the problems of child trafficking.

Data analysis
Routes of trafficking

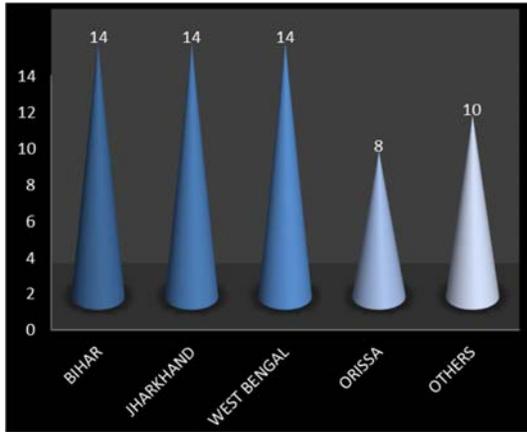


Fig 6: Source stations

Data analysis

Maximum number of children are trafficked from Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal.

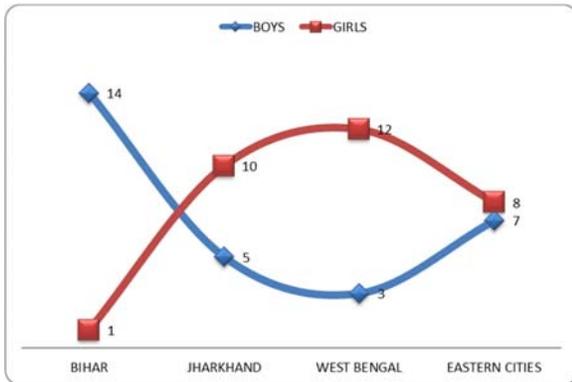


Fig 7: Source Stations based on gender

Data analysis

The analysis brings out the fact that where from Bihar more of boys are trafficked from Jharkhand and West Bengal trafficks more of girls comparatively.

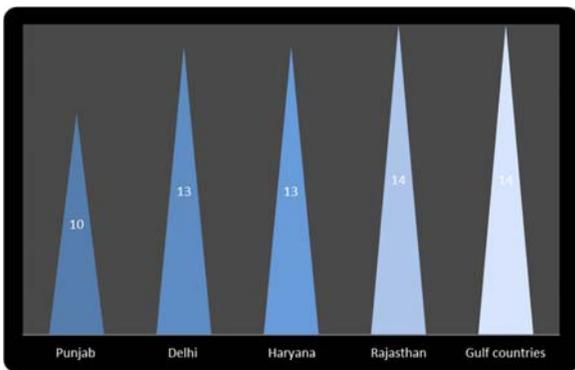


Fig 8: Destination Stations

Data analysis

The analysis makes it clear that transnational trafficking is comparatively more than interstate or intracountry trafficking.

Trends of crimes involving trafficked children

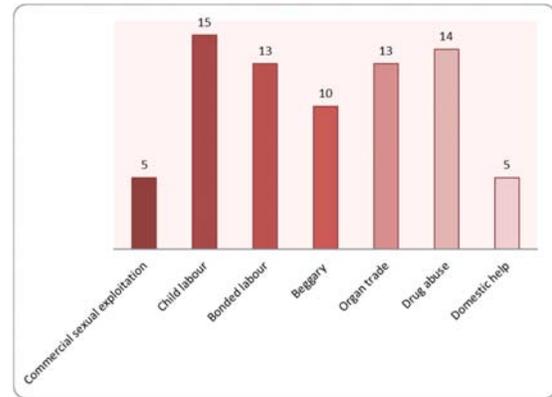


Fig 9: Jobs where the trafficked boys are mainly forced to work

Data analysis

The analysis brings out the fact that the boys are generally used as labours and very few cases of sexual exploitation of boys have come up.

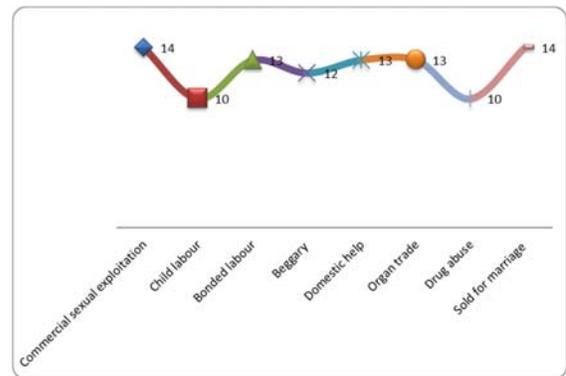


Fig 10: Jobs which the trafficked girls are made to do

Data analysis

The data clears the fact that girls are mostly exploited for sex or used as domestic help.

Victimization of children because of trafficking

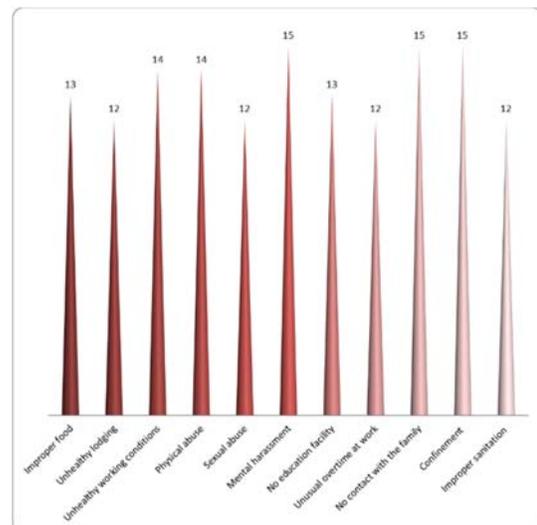


Fig 11: Victimization of children

Data analysis

- The data clarifies the fact that children are victimised in all the ways.

Suggestions to prevent trafficking

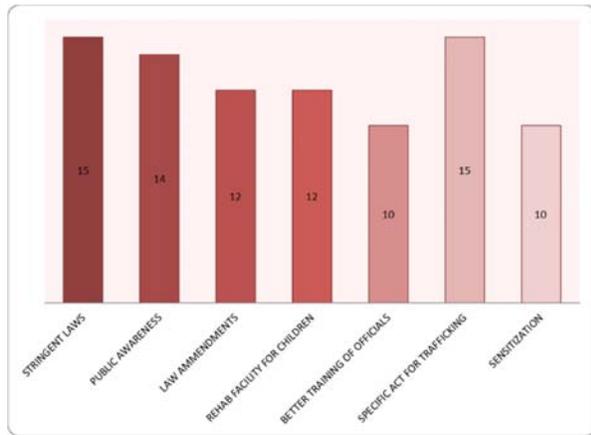


Fig 12: Suggestions

Data analysis

- 100 % of the repondents suggest that more stringent and specific laws should be implemented to deal with the problem of child trafficking.

Major findings

To study the routes of child trafficking

1. From the study done and interviews taken it was clear that almost from every part of the country children are being trafficked from and to but the most vulnerable states to become the source stations are Bihar and West Bengal. About 94% of the respondents said that Bihar and West Bengal are the most vulnerable and most of the children are trafficked from these places.
2. The destination station is also important and that also are many nut the ones where most of the children are trafficked to are Gulf Countries and Rajasthan with 94 % respondents pointing towards that side.
3. But Delhi and Haryana are nowhere behind in being the destination points for trafficked children.
4. It is also clear from analysis that from Bihar mainly boys are trafficked and very few girls come from Jharkhand and West Bengal it is mostly the girl population who are trafficked.
5. During the study it also came out that earlier Delhi used to be one of the major destination point but now it has now become a transition point.
6. Nowadays Delhi has become a hot spot and where earlier the traffickers used to traffick more than two kids at a time now they are settling for one or two kids at time only thus their identification is becoming more and more difficult now.
7. One more trend noticed by the NGO workers these days is that the traffickers are using a lot of drugs on the kids. Most of the rescued kids say they were drugged and they do not remember anything more than that.
8. The traffickers are not always taking the kids brought with them they even leave these kids behind in the train or bus whatever mode they are using for transport.

To study the trends of crimes involved in trafficking of children

1. For boys from the analysis it came out that the boys are mainly exploited for labour be it as child or bonded but comparatively less times they are exploited for flesh trade.
2. Girls are mainly exploited for flesh or as domestic help. Comparatively less times are they exploited for labour.
3. Organ trading is an upcoming business these days and the organs are mainly used for export.
4. The girls becoming the victims of commercial sexual exploitation are worst sufferers as neither their body nor their mind is so developed as to bear such a thing. Many a times there is a complaint of excess bleeding by these girls who are put to such trade at a very young age.
5. From Rajasthan the trends these days that have come into light is that the girls are trafficked from different places and as they are too young to be put to flesh trade they are given certain drugs which enhances their physical growth. Thus the girls become available for flesh trade.
6. Rajasthan is also showing one more thing that the children are being put into the work of mining.
7. The girls are trafficked from various places to Haryana so that they can be used to marry their sons with those girls as Haryana is facing a great shortage of girls.
8. In Haryana the girls are also used for flesh trade.
9. The girls from Jharkhand are mainly used and put to work as a domestic help whereas girls from West Bengal are trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.
10. The boys are used for labour in factories, dhabas, hotels, or other such chores which are difficult for adults also to do.
11. Many children trafficked from various places are taken up by gangs who use children for beggary. The children are either handicapped or taught to beg and this trade is very successful these days.

To understand the victimization of children due to trafficking

1. The children are badly victimized.
2. The children suffer in all the ways and mostly they are mentally harassed as they are not allowed to maintain any contact with their family.
3. The children are comparatively less victimized due to unhealthy lodging or sanitation as they barely do understand these things as they are immature and delicate.
4. The children are given food breaks only once or barely twice during the day. The meals served to them is not nutritious and many a times does not even fill their tummy at all.
5. The children are kept in dark, damp rooms. In the smallest of rooms where barely five people can stand 10 children are made to sleep.
6. The rooms they live have no ventilation and are not cleaned.
7. The children are not allowed to contact their family members or anyone from the outside world. This is done to prevent them from escaping.

8. The children are used for labour in factories which are hazardous thus affecting their health badly and many a times leading to the death of many children.
9. Many children have to lose their eyesight or hands or other parts of their body if they are used for begging.
10. The children who are used for organ trading have even to lose their lives for the demands of some devils to be fulfilled.
11. Many a times children are more victimized after the rescue when they are made to narrate the whole incidence again and again in front of every other person as the statement of the child is taken every time the child is produced in front of a new Officer.
12. The Police many a times do not take the child or their parents complaint seriously. The Police generally make their own excuses and do not lodge the complaints of the parents about their missing child. This issue also was one thing that had come out during the study.

To suggest some measures to prevent child trafficking

1. All the respondents believe and support the fact that more stringent laws are required.
2. All the respondents agree that the Government needs to understand that the specific Act required for the betterment of trafficked children is not fulfilled by the one drafted by them. The Draft was insufficient and required a lot of improvements in terms of punishing the guilty and helping the victims.
3. Comparatively lesser respondents support the fact that the Officials dealing with the children or working in this field needs to better trained and aware about all the aspects of the field.
4. The workers or activists are doing a great job but they cannot do everything as their hands are also packed by the law at one or the other point of time.
5. They say that even if they rescue children in bulk it would be of no use as the Government does not have enough facilities to rehabilitate the children and give them a proper life as these children come from hell they deserve a good life ahead in future.
6. Almost all the respondents demand for an Act specific for dealing with trafficking in children as this business has now become rampant and as no check is being put on them they are increasing their business horizon.

Recommendations

Specific Act

The specific Act is required to first and foremost provide an inclusive definition to the term trafficking in human beings. The Act should be victim friendly and help the police and Non- Government Organisations a better grip over the traffickers and help rescue the trafficking victims without any hitches.

The Act should contain stringent punishment and in no way allow any liberty to the traffickers. It should also be seen that the victims are not re-victimised in the process of getting them their due justice.

Stringent Punishment

The punishment for trafficking should be very serious and harsh as this is a totally inhuman crime and no kind of relief or relaxation should be allowed to any such person.

Proper Monitoring

The Police and other responsible authorities should ensure proper monitoring of the places which are most vulnerable to be used for trafficking. At Railways Stations, bus stands, airports and dockyards every where the responsible authorities should be careful enough to keep an eye over every traveller and any suspicious person should be questioned and taken care of. In the transport vehicles also people should be properly scrutinized at. The Government should also monitor the Police about the missing children who have been missing since long and none of the missing cases should be lightly dealt with. Thus proper monitoring can help win half the battle against child trafficking.

Awareness among the Public

Proper campaigning and other such ways should be used to make the people aware about trafficking and how adversely can it affect the lives of their children. The people should also be taught how to be alert not only about their child but also for any other child whom they think are in suspicious hands. Thus all this can also help as Police and other such authorities cannot be present at all places so there needs to be other people who can tackle and identify such children who are being trafficked. The common public should be made aware enough to report to the specific authorities whenever they find any child at a place where he or she should not be. This can be any street vendor, restaurant, dhaba or anyone's house as a domestic help.

Sensitisation of This Issue among the Authorities

Many authorities also do not understand the sensitivity of the issue and depth of the problem. They should be sensitised enough to understand the mental or physical status of the victim. This would prevent re-victimisation of the children at the hands of authorities. According to the NGO staffs the children once rescued are made to repeat their story at different places again and again which adds on to the trauma they have been through. Thus, better and more sensitive authorities are required to deal with the victims of trafficking.

Rehabilitation Facilities

Only the rescue of the children is not important, proper arrangements are also required for the rehabilitation of the children so that they are not trafficked again or they do not become open for any other type of crime. It is important that the Government make proper facilities for the rehabilitation of the children as the children need proper counselling to overcome the mental trauma they have undergone. It is also required that they are shown ways of leading a better life depending on their age and interest. If the age permits they can also be taught certain vocational courses so that poverty does not force them to be trafficked again and they can take care of themselves.

Summary and conclusion

Child trafficking is quite rampant these days. This is one crime that is giving way to hundreds of crimes thereafter like "Child Labour", "Bonded Labour", "Flesh Trade", "Organ Trade", "Beggary" and many more crimes like that. The count never gets over. The need of the hour in the present scenario is to understand many things that intervention of the Government is seriously required at this time to get over such type of crimes.

Child Trafficking is a big issue to deal with and conducting a study on this topic lead to know about many things which was not possible to be unveiled without doing an in depth study of this topic.

The study shows that the states like Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal and Odisha are major source stations for children both girls and boys. Children from these states once trafficked might find their fate taking them to locations far and wide. They may be trafficked within the country but maximum of them are sent to Gulf Countries. Once trafficked very few are lucky to return home. Most of them are lost in the entangled network of trafficking which comprises of source station, transit station and destination station.

The people working day in and out feel the Government needs to work in many areas but their efforts go in vain till the common people help them locate children in need of care and protection. The children are transferred from one location to other through public transport and many of them are put to work in restaurants, or on streets. This is when the common public needs to be vigilant and inform the Police or the Childline 1098. This would help the NGOs and the Police to help such children.

The problem of child trafficking has seen many judgements, Orders, meetings, Conferences but it is time to do something concrete and not only towards rescuing the trafficked children but also towards preventing the children from being trafficked and this can be done by mapping the children in village areas and getting them registered by some nodal agency so that even if one child from the village is moving out of the village the nodal agency has full information about his whereabouts and the touts cannot make fool of their innocence.

The study gave me an opportunity to meet those who are doing great works in their life without expecting any gains for themselves. These people were those who are ready to work whole life for children who seek their help endlessly.

The study was an extreme experience to understand and gain knowledge about a field or rather a problem which needs immediate attention not only from government officials but also from common public who can help save the kids from being trafficked just by being slightly alert and showing concern not only for their kids but for any kid in trouble.

It can thus be concluded that a lot can be done, is being done and needs to be done. It is an unending study but the fact remains that trafficking is a vast problem and growing right under our nose so we need to act fast to save the next generation and our future from being rotten.

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