

A Critical Study on the Female Trafficking Nexus in India

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Abstract:

The objective of the current study is to examine the context and processes of trafficking of female in India. The present paper is based on a quantitative design of the secondary data collected from the secondary sources like NCBR reports, websites, journals, magazines etc. The study is based on the number of cases that were registered and to analyses, the rate of trafficking has increased or decreased is the prime focus. The paper discussed about major phases, present status, how the victims trapped in the hand of traffickers and the suggests the preventive measures for fighting with the trafficking nexus. The paper gives a clear concept about the origin, transit and destination point about the trafficking, which help state stakeholders to adopt more rigorous step towards the problem.

Keywords: Female trafficking, female procurement, female importation, female selling.

1. Introduction:

Trafficking of human beings is not a new phenomenon. Trafficking is historically linked to slavery, which involves the sale and purchase of human beings as chattel, treating them as commodities that could be bought and sold. Human trafficking is one of the greatest violations of human rights and it prevents child victims from reaching their potential and denies them the opportunity to live in safety and dignity. Human trafficking based on the objectification of a human life and the treatment of that life as a commodity traded in the economic market. In general, terms, trafficking refers to an illicit trade in goods. Human trafficking is the illegal sale and purchase of human beings who often used for sexual exploitation, labor exploitation, and organ harvesting. It is a contemporary form of the slave trade, and, like the slave trade, human trafficking is marked and defined by deception, coercion, and exploitation. Female trafficking is defined as any person who is recruited, transferred, transported or received for the purpose of exploitation, either within or outside a country. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), there have been many cases where children just disappear overnight, as many as one every eight minutes. In India,

there is a large number of children trafficked for various reasons such as begging, forced labour and sexual exploitation. In India, over the last decade, the volume of women trafficking has increased though the exact numbers are not known still. It is one of the most lucrative criminal trade, which is undertaken by highly organized criminals. The causes of female trafficking are poverty, lack of employment opportunities or education, breakdown of social structures etc. It causes physical and mental exploitation of the victims and there after they are not able to lead a healthy and stable life. Trafficking in human beings, especially in female has become a matter of serious national and international concern. The concept of trafficking The Oxford English Dictionary defines traffic as „trade, especially illegal (as in drugs). It has also been described as the transportation of goods, the coming and going of people or goods by road, rail, air, sea, etc. The word trafficked or trafficking is described as „dealing in something, especially illegally (as in the case of trafficking narcotics). The most comprehensive definition of trafficking is the one adopted by the UN Office of Drugs and Crime in 2000, known as the “UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,” 2000 under the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). This Convention has been signed by the government of India. Article 3 of the Convention says:

- a) Trafficking in persons mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force, or other forms of coercion of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power, or of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving or of receiving of payments, or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another persons, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs;
- b)) The consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation.
- c) The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered „trafficking in persons.
- d) Child shall mean any person less than eighteen years of age.

The definition of trafficking can be found in the various sections of ITPA. Section 5 speaks about procuring, taking and even inducing a person for the sake of prostitution. According to this section,

even attempt to procure and attempt to take or cause a person to carry on prostitution amounts to trafficking.

Female trafficking is defined as the “*recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt*” of a child for the purpose of exploitation. Child trafficking is about taking children out of their protective environment and preying on their vulnerability for the purpose of exploitation. Although no precise figures exist, the ILO (in 2005) estimated that 980,000 to 1,225,000 children - both boys and girls - are in a forced labour situation because of trafficking. Female trafficking is one form of modern day slavery. Children are enslaved by this practice to provide cheap labor, work in dangerous situations, do illegal activities, as domestic laborers, forced to smuggle drugs, be child soldiers, and prostitution just to name a few.

Female ‘Trafficked’ and ‘Trafficker’ is a combination or series of events that may take place in the female’s home community, at transit points and at final destinations. The recruitment and movement may appear voluntary initially but then take on aspects of coercion by a third person or a group. The relocation may be across borders or within a country. Exploitation may occur at the beginning, middle or end of the trafficking process or indeed at several points. Female trafficking is difficult to stop because of its clandestine and dynamic nature. Those who engage in it may operate independently or in networks, following trafficking routes that change to evade law enforcement. Sometimes corrupt law enforcement officials facilitate trafficking or may be involved themselves in many ways. Trafficked women frequently find themselves shifted from one form of work into another depending on the will of the traffickers. Children who are trafficked are exposed to many dangers such as working in hazardous environments. Many are also denied the chance to reach their full potential because they do not get an education or have the freedom to make their own choices. In disasters, conflicts and other humanitarian emergencies, children can become separated from their families. Left without protection, they are easy prey for traffickers to exploit either by force or with false promises. The ILO estimates that 21 million people are trapped in forced labour or slavery. Of those, it says one in four are under the age of 18. The estimated number of women trafficked around the world is 5.5 million. They suffer violence, exploitation and abuse - ending up in work, forced marriage, prostitution, begging and armed recruitment.



Figure 1: Showing the purposes of female trafficking

Source: Self-made by the researcher

In an article of “An Analysis on Feminized Migration and Trafficking Nexus in India” cited by Talukdar, D. (2021) there are three phases of trafficking which are as follows:

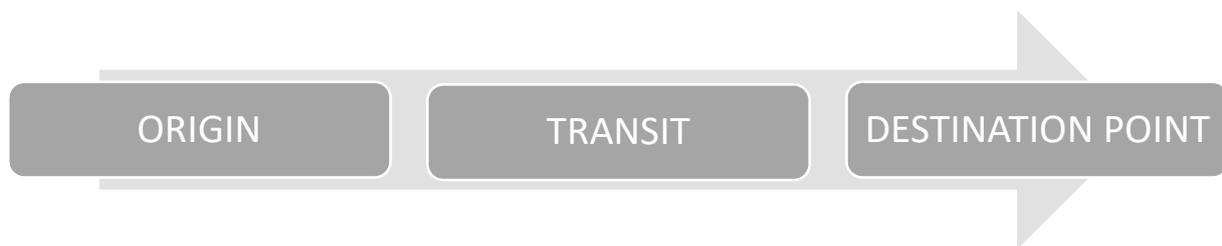


Figure 2: Showing the phases of child trafficking

Source: “An Analysis on Feminized Migration and Trafficking Nexus in India” cited by Talukdar, D. (2021)

There are three main phases of human trafficking namely, origin; transit and destination point. Origin is the place from where the victims were recruited and selected; transit denotes transportation and transfer, sometimes harboring also. Destination is the last point where the women are gotten and kept up for misuse. Even the victims may be exploited in origin and transit phase but it is for a short period. At destination, negotiation takes place for maximum profits. (Kamble, 2019). Among the technique for recruiting the trafficked women promised job accounts 75%-80% the highest strategies 78 women had been promised a job as a domestic help in cities like Delhi, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Pune and Mysore; 21 of them had been simply offered ‘work’ without any further details in distant places such as Kuwait, Dubai, Delhi and Mumbai. Thirteen

of them were promised specific work opportunities in places like a biscuit factory, a hotel, a textile shop, a tailoring establishment, and as construction labour in cities such as Chennai, Pune and Bangalore (Dev, June, 2011).

1.1.Review of Literature

- Naik, A. B. (2018). Impacts, causes and consequences of women trafficking in India from human rights perspective. Trafficking has been considered as one of the serious concerns nowadays. Every country has been impacted by the human trafficking throughout the World in spite of Socio-economic status, history or political setup. Human trafficking is the third largest organized crime after drugs and the arms trade across the globe. About 80% of the human trafficking across the world is done for sexual exploitation and the rest is for bonded labour. In Asia, India is considered as the focal point of this crime. International market has been created by traffickers for the trade in human beings based on high profits and demand for commercial sex as well as cheap labour. It is slavery because traffickers use violence, threats, and other forms of coercion to force their victims to work against their will. This includes controlling their freedom of movement, where and when they will work and what pay, if any, they will receive. The physical and mental health consequences of human trafficking are physical symptoms including: headaches, fatigue, dizzy spells, (back pain, memory difficulty pelvic pain, and gynaecological infections. Anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress disorder [PTSD]. Human Trafficking is a complex and multidimensional phenomenon and requires multidisciplinary approach. Any analysis of the root causes of human trafficking must take into account, human trafficking is a violation of human rights and any strategy to eliminate trafficking should be framed within a human-rights perspective by placing the victim at the centre. Victims of trafficking are used for commercial purposes; they are used like products and then thrown away.
- Roy, S., & Chaman, C. (2017). Human rights and trafficking in women and children in India. Trafficking in women and children is one of the most despicable forms of violations of human rights. Being a complex issue, it has been given short shrift from the academia, legal field and the civil society. It has often equated with prostitution but that is the half story. This paper is an attempt to present the trends and dimensions of trafficking from a human rights paradigm and demystify several issues surrounding it. It will also shed some

light on the role of NGOs, the civil society and the family. The paper based amply on the secondary literature and primary experiences. The human rights discourses is profoundly silent on this major issue which snatches away most of the human rights from the most vulnerable group. It has immense implications for future course as India is fast becoming a source, transit point as well as a destination for traffickers.

- Khowaja, S. S., Tharani, A., & Agha, A. (2012). Women trafficking: causes, concerns, care. Pakistan is both a country of origin and destination as far as women trafficking is concerned. Poverty, gender discrimination, lack of education, and ignorance about legal rights are some of the underlying causes. Available data suggest several areas of concern, like, for instance: direct health effects, maladaptive coping leading to the use of illicit drugs, and inaccessibility to healthcare facilities. Therefore, numerous interventions would be required at three levels: the prevention of trafficking, the protection of victims and the prosecution of the traffickers
- Deb, S., Srivastava, N., Chatterjee, P., & Chakraborty, T. (2005). Processes of child trafficking in West Bengal: A qualitative study. A study of 35 trafficked children and young women found that trafficking is usually conducted through offers of false marriages and jobs, or through outright abduction and sale. In almost all districts and even some villages, the traffickers, who have a strong network, engage agents, who include: another person who herself is a victim of trafficking, unemployed persons, drug addicts/alcoholics or aged women with no income. Sometimes, these agents work under compulsion and/or are blackmailed into abetment.
- Ghosh, B., & Kar, A. M. (2008). Trafficking in Women and Children in West Bengal. Human trafficking is one of the greatest violations of human rights and it prevents child victims from reaching their potential and denies them the opportunity to live in safety and dignity. There are several factors responsible for under-reporting of the phenomenon. Trafficking is very hard to measure because in many case the family members, relatives, and friends have consent about young girls going to distant places for lucrative earning. The study displayed the causes, number of cases, magnitude and prime routes of trafficking.

1.2. Research Gap

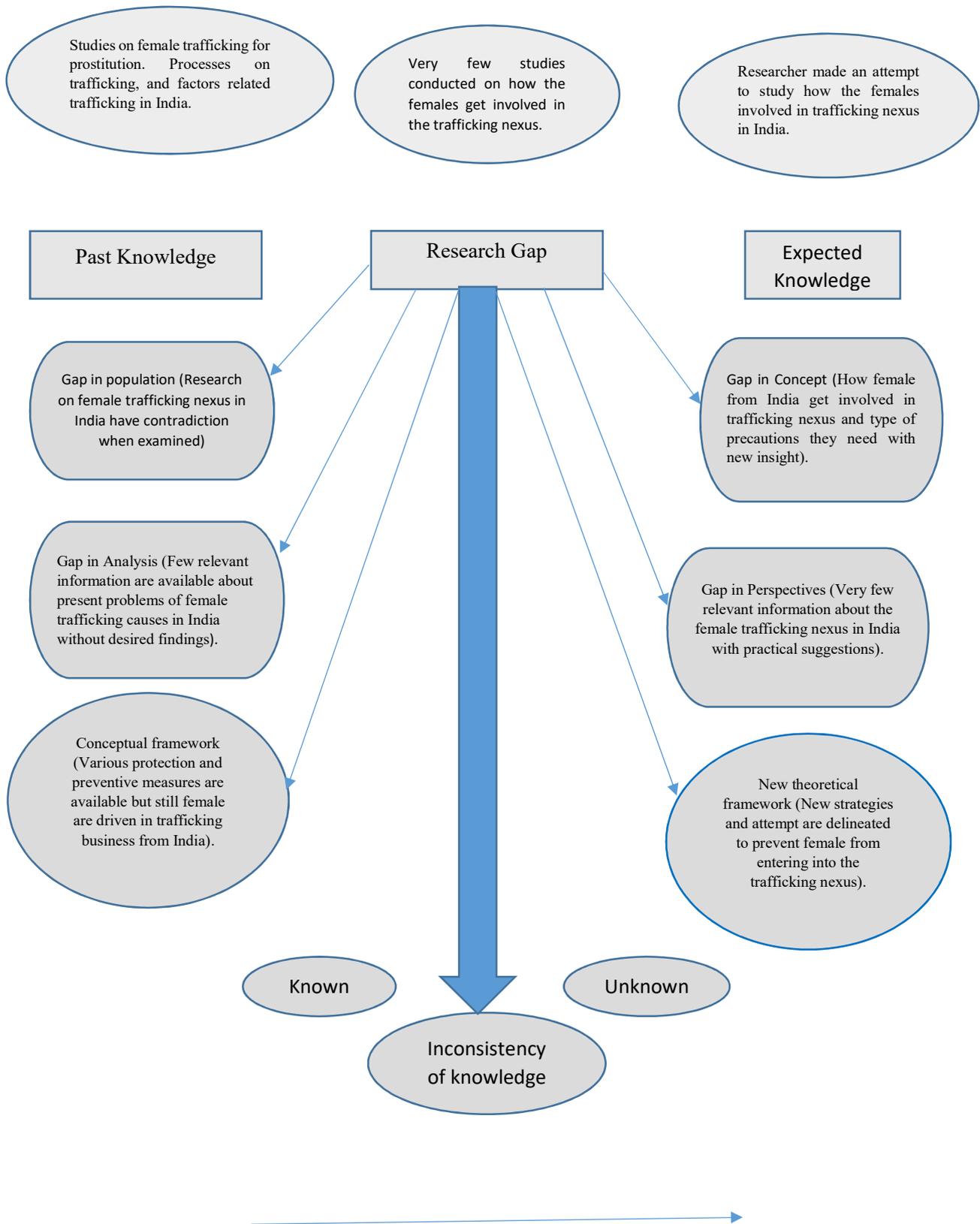


Figure 3: Showing the Research gap of previous study and the formation of new conceptual framework

Most of the study conducted on either the problem, processes, causes or factors of trafficking nexus of children from West Bengal. Very few studies have been conducted on child trafficking nexus and measures need to be adopted to prevent them to enter into the circle of trafficking in West Bengal. Therefore, the study aimed to highlight on “A Critical Study on the Female Trafficking Nexus in India”.

2. Statement of Problem

The statement of the problem entails on “A Critical Study on the Female Trafficking Nexus in India”.

2.1. Objective of Study

- To determine the uniform dispersal of female trafficking incidents in India.
- To determine the major filed cases against the female procurement which directed to female trafficking problem in India.
- To determine the major filed cases against the female importation which directed to female trafficking problem in India.
- To determine the major filed cases against the female selling which directed to female trafficking problem in India.
- To determine how the defensive measures can prevent the problem of female trafficking in India.

2.2. Formulation of Hypothesis

HO₁: The female trafficking incidents are associated uniformly all over in India.

HO₂: There is no significant association between major filed cases against female procurement and the causes of female trafficking in India.

HO₃: There is no significant association between major filed cases against female importation and the causes of female trafficking in India.

HO₄: There is no significant association between major filed cases against female selling and the causes of female trafficking in India.

HO₅: There is no significant association between possible measures and prevention of female trafficking nexus in India.

2.3. Variables of Study

Following variables were undertaken for study:

Dependent Variable: Female trafficking and victimization.

Independent Variable: Female procuration, importation and mean of selling.

Intervening Variable: Poverty, lack of awareness, unemployment.

3. Analysis and Interpretation

The data analyzed scientifically and interpreted systematically.

3.1. Pertaining to hypothesis 1

The female trafficking incidents are uniformly dispersed all over in India.

To test the hypothesis secondary data collected from the article “Women Trafficking in India- Critical Analysis” by Raju. Saraswati, Iyer. & N, Radha, where it was displayed that West Bengal with 669 rates, Tamil Nadu with 549 cases and Andhra Pradesh with 531 cases, Karnataka 412 cases and Maharashtra with 345 cases. It states that in India, female trafficking is a common problem, but whether it is uniformly distributed or not to test it researcher adopted a non-parametric test of Chi-square, which is shown below.

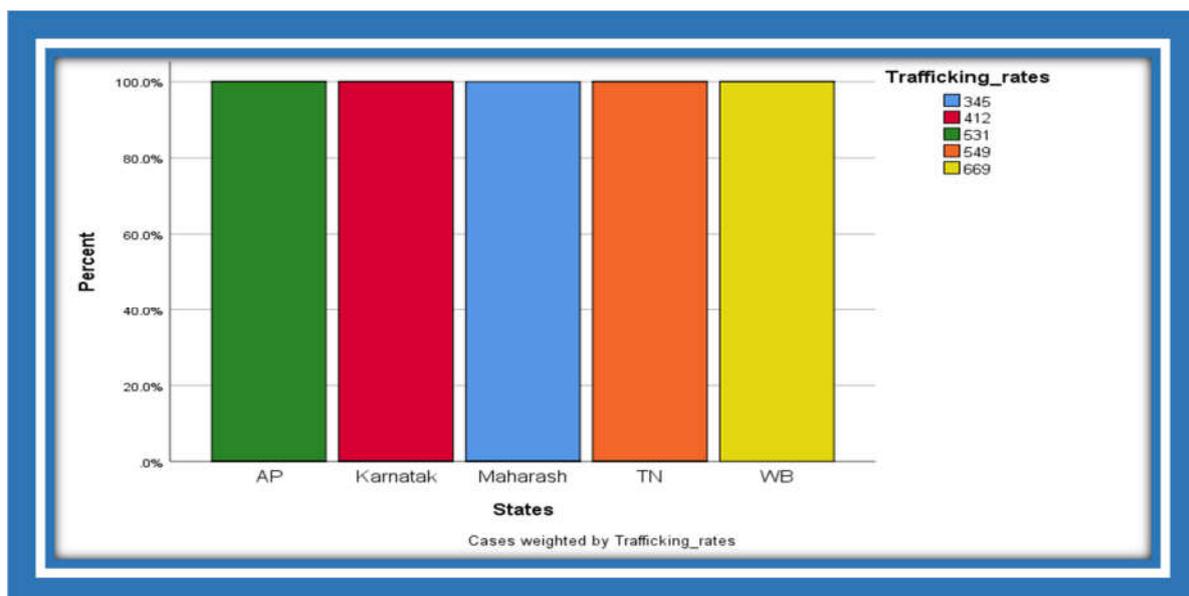


Figure 3: Showing the graphical representation trafficking incidents in major states of India.

Source: http://www.shanlaxjournals.in/pdf/ASH/V4N2/Ash_V4_N2_017.pdf

Table No. 1: Computation of Chi-square with reference to figure 3

Pearson	X ² Value	df	Significance level
	20.000	16	.220

Source: Software calculation through SPSS

From the graphical representation 3 and the table no. 1, it was found that the X² value is 20.000 with df =16 and the p value is .220 which accepts the null hypothesis that India the female trafficking incidents are associated uniformly all over in India. To support the result in 2016, National Crime Record Bureau data revealed that West Bengal has 3579 trafficking, following Rajasthan with 1422, Gujrat with 548, Maharastra with 517 and Tamil Nadu with 434 cases. According to 2018 report, the three States where the highest number of women went missing in the three years are Maharashtra, West Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. In 2016, as many as 28,316 women went missing in Maharashtra, followed by 29,279 in the year 2017, and 33,964 in 2018. West Bengal is also a destination for women and girls from Nepal and Bangladesh trafficked for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. Nepali children are also trafficked to India for forced labour in circus shows. Indian women are trafficked to the Middle East for commercial sexual exploitation. Indian migrants who migrate willingly every year to the Middle East and Europe for work as domestic servants and low-skilled labourers may also end up part of the human-trafficking industry. In such cases, workers may have been 'recruited' by way of fraudulent recruitment practices that lead those directly into situations of forced labour. I includes debt bondage; in other cases, high debts incurred to pay recruitment fees leave them vulnerable to exploitation by unscrupulous employers in the destination countries, where some are subjected to conditions of involuntary servitude, including non-payment of wages, restrictions on movement, unlawful withholding of passports, and physical or sexual abuse. In a recent survey in India, prostituted women cited the following reasons for their remaining in the trade, reasons that have been echoed in all concerned countries. According to a recent survey, women are bought and sold with impunity and trafficked at will to other countries from different parts of India. These girls and women are sourced from Dindigal, Madurai, Tiruchirapalli, and Chengalpattu in Tamil Nadu, Gaya, Kisangani, Patna, Katihar, Purnea, Araria and Madhubani from Bihar, Murshidabad and 24 Parganas in West Bengal, Maharajgunj from UP, Dholpur, Alwar, Tonk from Rajasthan,

Mangalore, and Gulbarga and Raichur from Karnataka. These women and girls are supplied to Thailand, Kenya, South Africa and Middle East countries like Bahrain, Dubai, Oman, Britain, South Korea and Philippines. West Bengal is located in the Eastern part of India and serves as a link between the Northeastern States and the rest of India. The State has 18 districts and Kolkata serves as the State capital. There are over 23 towns with a population of over 100,000. Kolkata is one of the largest metropolitan regions in the world in South Korea and Philippines. They are forced to work as sex workers undergoing severe exploitation and abuse. These women are the most vulnerable group in contracting HIV infection. Due to unrelenting poverty and lack of unemployment opportunities, there is an increase in the voluntary entry of women into sex work. Trafficking both for commercial sexual exploitation and for non-sex based exploitation is a transnational and complex challenge as it is an organized criminal activity, an extreme form of human rights violation and an issue of economic empowerment and social justice. The trafficking of women and children causes untold miseries as it violates the rights and dignity of the individual in several ways. It violates the individual's rights to life, dignity, security, privacy, health, education and redressal of grievances. In 2014, India reported a surge of nearly 39% in the number of cases registered across the country for human trafficking. Human trafficking cases in India rose 92% over six years between 2009 and 2014.

3.2. Pertaining to hypothesis 2

There is no significant association between major filed cases against female procurement and the causes of female trafficking in India.

To test the hypothesis researcher adopted secondary data collected from the article “Women Trafficking in India- Critical Analysis” by Raju. Saraswati, Iyer. & N, Radha. The data revealed the crime against women in human trafficking over 10 years.

Table No. 2 Human Trafficking in India over the past 10 years by Crime (figures in number of cases registered)

<u>SL No.</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Procurement of Female</u>	<u>Foreign Importation of Female</u>	<u>Selling of Female for Prostitution</u>
1	2005	145	149	50
2	2006	231	67	123
3	2007	253	61	69

4	2008	224	67	49
5	2009	237	48	57
6	2010	679	36	130
7	2011	862	80	113
8	2012	809	59	180
9	2013	1224	31	100
10	2014	2020	13	100

Source: file:///C:/Users/DEBLINA/OneDrive/Desktop/Ash_V4_N2_017.pdf

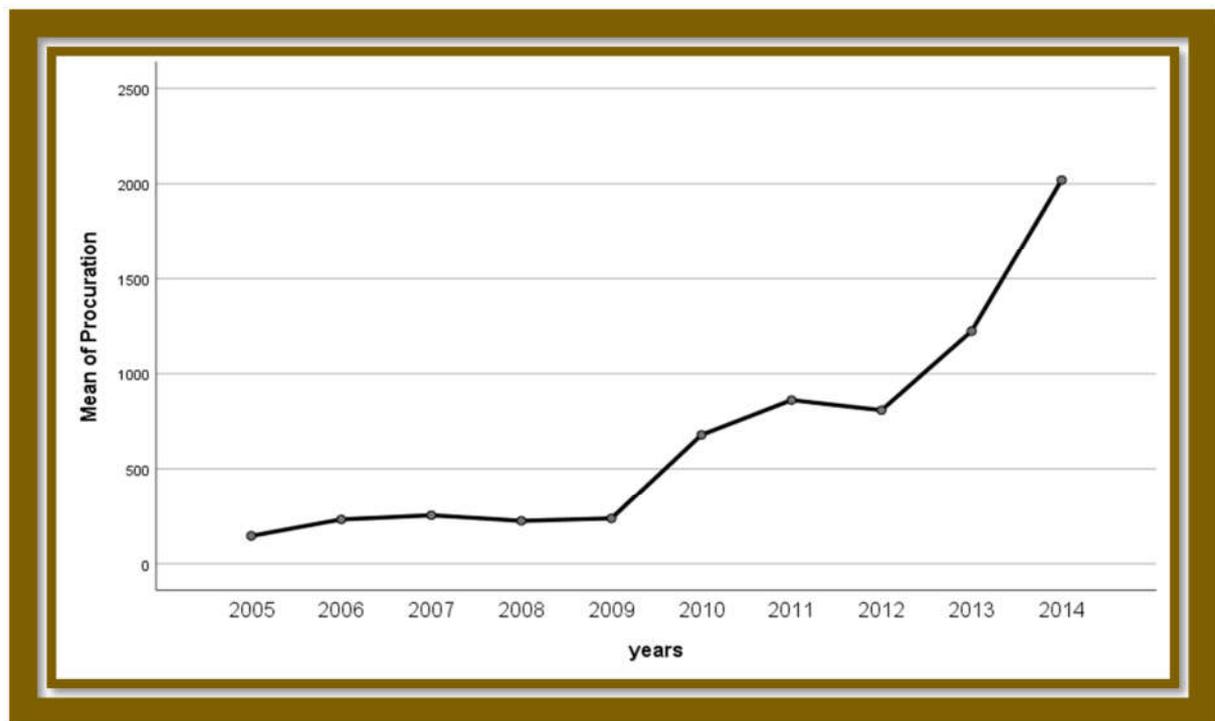


Figure 4: Showing the female procuracy in India over the past 10 years by Crime (figures in number of cases registered)

Table No. 3: Computation of Chi-square with reference to table no. 2

Pearson	X ² Value	df	Significance level
	90.000	81	.231

Source: Software calculation through SPSS

The figure 4 depicts that the procuracy of female from 2004-2009 was increased at a slow and gradual rate i.e., from 145-237, but after 2009 this rate has tremendously increased at a rapid rate

i.e., from 679 -2020. According to NCRB, report cases under this head have increased by 52.8% during the year 2015 as compared to the previous year (2,020 cases). A total of 1303 cases were reported in Assam followed by West Bengal (1,003 cases). Maximum cases of procurement of minor girls were reported in Assam (1,303 cases) followed by West Bengal (1,003 cases), Bihar (305 cases) and Haryana (190 cases) during 2015. It was found from table 3, that the X^2 value is 90.000 with $df = 81$ and the p value is .231 which accepts the null hypothesis that there is an association between major filed cases against female procurement and the causes of female trafficking in India.

3.3.Pertaining to hypothesis 3

There is no significant association between major filed cases against female importation and the causes of female trafficking in India.

To test the hypothesis researcher adopted secondary data collected from the article “Women Trafficking in India- Critical Analysis” by Raju. Saraswati, Iyer. & N, Radha. The data revealed the crime against women in human trafficking over 10 years.

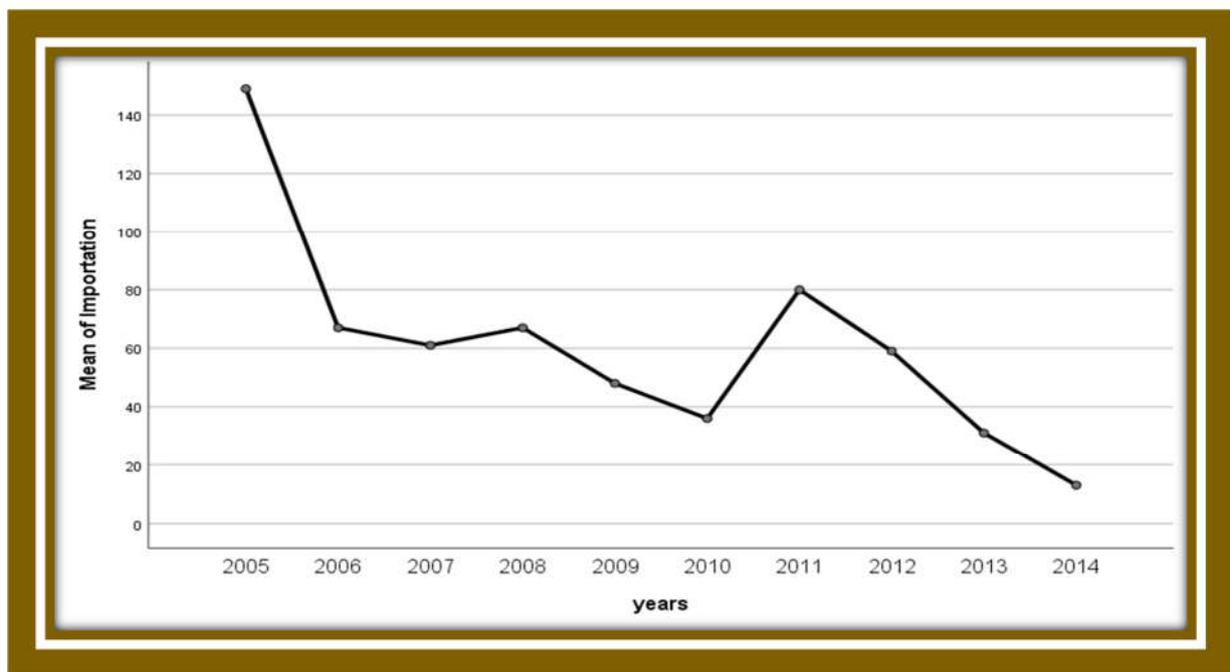


Figure 5: Showing the female importation in India over the past 10 years by Crime (figures in number of cases registered)

Table No. 4: Computation of Chi-square with reference to table no. 2

Pearson	X ² Value	df	Significance level
		80.000	72

Source: Software calculation through SPSS

The figure 5, depicts that the importation rate has come down 149-36 from 2004-2010 with minor increase in 2011 again it has come down in 2014 from 80-13. According to NCRB report, total of 2 cases of importation of girls from foreign country were registered during 2015. According to NCRB 2015, a total of 6 cases of importation of girls from foreign country were registered during 2015 compared to 13 cases in 2014 showing a decline of 53.8% over the previous year. These were registered in West Bengal (four cases) and Uttarakhand (two cases) during 2015. It was found from table 4, that the X² value is 80.000 with df =72 and the p value is .242 which accepts the null hypothesis that there is an association between major filed cases against female importation and the causes of female trafficking in India.

3.4.Pertaining to hypothesis 4

There is no significant association between major filed cases against female selling and the causes of female trafficking in India.

To test the hypothesis researcher adopted secondary data collected from the article “Women Trafficking in India- Critical Analysis” by Raju. Saraswati, Iyer. & N, Radha. The data revealed the crime against women in human trafficking over 10 years.

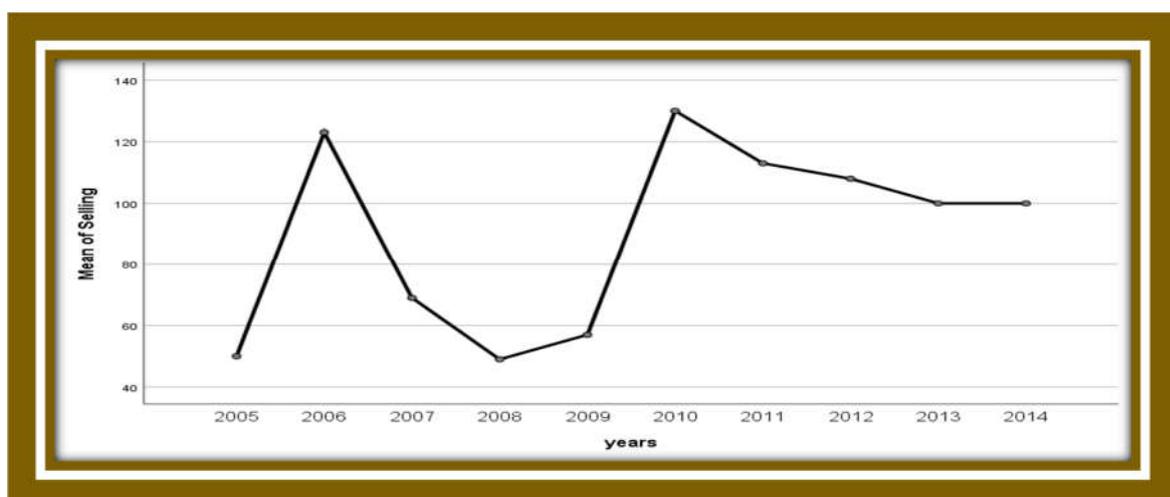


Figure 6: Showing the female importation in India over the past 10 years by Crime (figures in number of cases registered)

Table No. 5: Computation of Chi-square with reference to table no. 2

Pearson	X ² Value	df	Significance level
	80.000	72	.242

Source: Software calculation through SPSS

The figure 6, depicts that the selling rate has increased from 50 -123 from 2005-2006, but again it come down to 69 in 2011 then drastically it has increased to 130 in 2010, since then it maintained a parameter around 150-100 till 2014. According to NCBR, a total of 111 cases of selling of minors for prostitution were registered in the country during 2015 as against 82 such cases in 2014, thus indicating an increase of 35.4% during 2015 over 2014. West Bengal has reported 91 such cases accounting for 82.0% of total such cases registered during 2015. It was found from table 5, that the X² value is 80.000 with df =72 and the p value is .242 which accepts the null hypothesis that there is an association between major filed cases against female selling and the causes of female trafficking in India.

Traffickers tend to target mostly those females who are economically and socially backward such as children who are living in poverty, or on the streets, or experience physical or sexual abuse, or addiction. They pose as a friend, offering to meals, gifts, or just a sympathetic ear. In some cases, traffickers may use another young person to befriend and recruit their victims. This recruitment can happen in public places such as malls or sporting events, as well as online, through social media sites, or through false advertisements or promises about job opportunities that might appeal to young people, such as modeling or acting. Traffickers target children mostly by four different ways that are given below:

Pimp Controlled Trafficking: Female is trafficked by an unrelated individual, male or female, who often develops an intentional relationship with the child, which is later used as leverage in the exploitation. Girls were taken away from Dinajpur to Bombay to work in a house as a domestic servant, and was sold to a brothel instead. There were 20- 30 other girls in a similar plight (Sibnath Deb, June 2005).

Gang-Controlled Trafficking: Female is trafficked by a member of a gang or trafficked by the gang. Gangs leverage their organizational structure, violence, and local, national and international

networks to instill fear and loyalty in the female victim. In South 24 Parganas, was an agent of a trafficking gang transporting rural women and children belonging to poor families with the promise of better jobs in cities. The gang comprising criminals had trafficked many minor girls to Pune's sex industry.

Familial Trafficking: Female is trafficked by a relative or a person who is perceived by the female to be a family member such as individuals referred to as “auntie” or “uncle” but are not directly related to the child. An incident of a shawl seller from Kashmir every year used to come to Asansol in West Bengal to do his brisk business. Through such endeavour, he came to know of a physically challenged girl from OK Road. He proposed to marry the girl without any dowry. For the father this was an unimaginable reality. He immediately arranged the ceremony in a local Mosque and then the man left with the girl for his hometown. After reaching his hometown, he also reported about their safe journey. However, repeatedly he avoided giving the telephone to the girl and told that the girl was fine. Being suspicious, they went to Kashmir and found that he had sold his ‘wife’ to a man just after coming to hometown, who had again sold the girl to another seller (Ghosh, December 2009).

Buyer-Perpetrated Trafficking: Female is being trafficked but does not have an identified trafficker. Instead, the buyer is directly exploiting the child's vulnerabilities by offering money, food, and/or shelter in exchange for the sexual exploitation.

In January 2021 in an article of “Understanding child trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in West Bengal, India”, it was cited that in Bankura and Bardhaman, fathers are aware that children should not get married before 18 but are willing to make a compromise if they find a suitable marriage prospect. This results in the family getting the daughter married to someone who is either able to provide for her financially or to someone who is willing to get married without any exchange of dowry. Due to the financial scarcity and other social pressures, parents may be less likely to seek out information about the person's background or family and are keener on whether he currently holds a job that can enable him to provide for the daughter financially. This limited/biased information seeking behaviour further intensifies the risk to child safety and even leads to unsafe migration in cases where children move to other villages after having gotten married. There are instances of mothers who want to prevent their daughters

from getting married the age of 18 or 20, but they shared that they have limited influence over the decision (Malvika Dwivedi, January 2021).

The industrial belt of Burdwan District, namely Durgapur and Asansol including the inter-state border areas like Kulti serve both as destination as well as out flow centre of trafficking. Girls, brought from Bihar or Uttar Pradesh, are first kept here, while girls collected from the surrounding districts are trafficked from here to several destinations depending on demand and rates. Majority of the girls brought here from neighboring states finally find place at the red light localities of Burdwan District. b) In the Eastern part of Burdwan district, girls from poor Muslim and Scheduled Caste families of Katwa and Kalna are transported to Delhi and Uttar Pradesh via Bandel and Howrah. In West Midnapore, girls from villages in and around Kharagpur are transported to Delhi and Ahmedabad via Howrah, Ranchi or Orissa. Similarly dhabas (eatery on roadside) in and around Kolaghat are „safe“ destinations of many victims of sexual exploitation. There is also a trafficking chain from East Midnapore to Kolkata via Haldia and South 24Parganas. Many backward areas of both the districts serve as important trafficking hubs (Kar, 2008).

Traffickers frequently become involved with female teens by offering attention and care. The specific processes used can vary depending upon the age of the child, the child's family situation, and a number of other factors. Females are trafficked by peers, family members, romantic partners, acquaintances, and strangers. Traffickers target children and adolescents for grooming, often over an extended period. Traffickers target vulnerable females, secure their trust, fulfill their needs, isolate them from potential support, and eventually exert total control over them, all the while working to normalize the abuse. Recruitment can and does occur everywhere—in school; at home, malls, sporting events, and parties; and in shelters and detention facilities—and is conducted both in person and online, where traffickers lure young people with the offer of friendship, romance, or jobs. When the trafficker has established sufficient control, female are sold at private parties, illicit massage businesses, hotel and motel rooms, strip clubs, trade shows, truck stops, and other venues. Drugs are common tool used by human traffickers as well. The trafficker will get the teen hooked on drugs, and the addiction will be used as advantage to force the young person into prostitution.

3.5.Pertaining to Objective 5

There is no significant association between possible measures and prevention of female trafficking nexus in India.

Type of Cases	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
	2018	2019	2020
Human Trafficking	1313	1333	947
Exploitation of Trafficked Person	190	183	130
Selling of Minors for Prostitution	42	21	14
Buying of Minors for Prostitution	8	8	1
Kidnapping and Abduction for the Purpose of Begging	71	42	44
Procuration of Minor Girls	3039	3076	2471

Crime Rate is calculated as Crime Incidence per one lakh of population Population Source: Report of Technical group on Population Projections

(July 2020) National Commission on Population. Source: National Crime Records Bureau

<https://ncrb.gov.in/sites/default/files/CII%202020%20Volume%201.pdf>

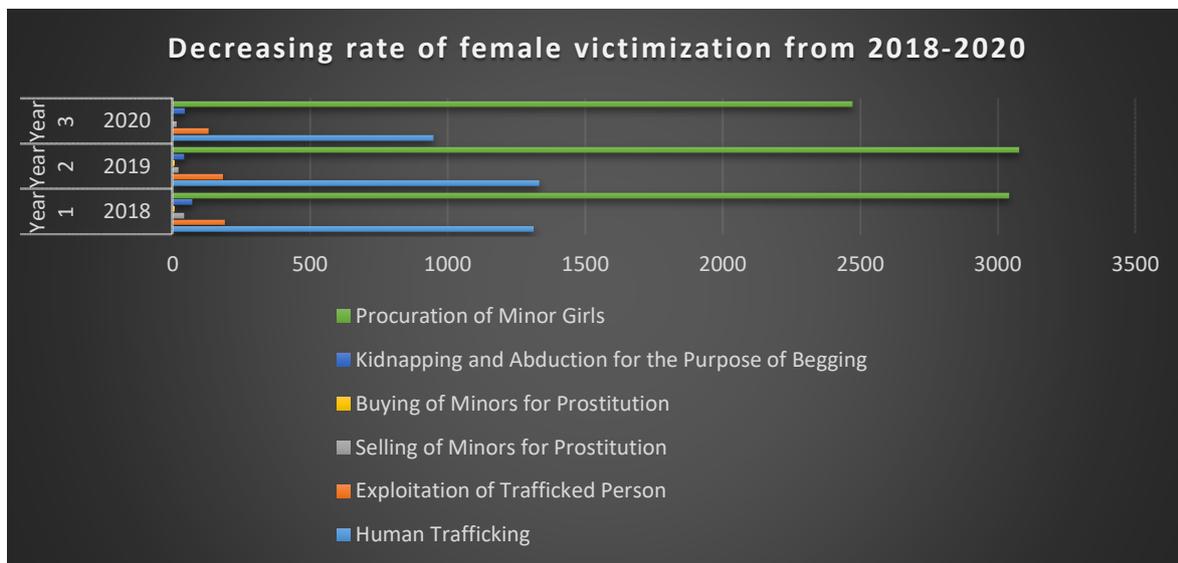


Figure 6: Showing the decreasing rate of female victimization from 2018-2020

Trafficking is a social problem and it is a symptom of a much deeper malice in our society. Hence, there cannot be any instant remedy for such a problem. The trafficked persons are subjected to physical and emotional harm, sexual assault, economic deprivation and violation of the dignity. The post-trafficking scenario therefore finds the victims at the end of the tunnel, with almost no hope of survival. Research on the concerned subject has proved that the strong nexus of stake ensures that the victims caught in debt and bondage, which is one of the many strategies adopted to keep the girl in constant servitude. The difficulties in detecting and measuring trafficking cases make the task of preventing them much more challenging. Nonetheless, several measures can be

has been taken in this direction and successful implementations of the steps will surely bring some positive result. As the problem is multi-dimensional, its solution also lies in following a multi-dimensional approach for prevention. From the figure 6, it was found that the victimization cases of female have come down in 2020 with reference to 2018. The reason are the successful implementation of programs and preventive measures there has been decreasing the rate of female trafficking in India from 2018-2020. However, in 2020, the global emergencies have knocked in the door but still the protective measures have been undertaken to prevent the burning problem of trafficking in society. Therefore, the null hypothesis is rejected and it is proved that there is an association between possible measures and prevention of female trafficking nexus in India. Several measures that were adopted by different stakeholders to prevent the problems, which are given below:

- Lack of literacy and awareness amongst the economically weaker sections of the society is another cause of trafficking. There is therefore every need to strengthen basic capabilities of women through education and awareness. Simultaneously, regular and vigorous campaign were undertaken to sensitize media and make people, particularly the poor, to remain alert about the traffickers.
- There is no doubt about the fact that poverty, unemployment and lack of income opportunities are among the main reasons behind trafficking. Hence, we need to improve the economic condition of the families living in financial hardships. It is particularly focus attention on micro-finance and self-help groups were strengthen to enhance the economic condition of women. This prevent them from going to distant, unknown places to earn money for their family members.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD) continued to fund NGO run shelter and rehabilitation service for women and children through the Ujjawala programme specifically for female sex trafficking victims and the Swadhar programme for women in difficult circumstances.
- Rescued bonded labours are entitled to have “release certificates” enabling them to receive govt.-funded compensation and services. Many victims received certificates at or soon after their rescue, especially in areas where there was significant coordination between the Govt and NGOs.

- The rural setting is the origin of child trafficking activities; therefore, awareness programmes should be organised in all block and district headquarters. A network developed among key community leaders like local teachers, doctors and police personnel for prevention of trafficking and for maintaining vigilance.
- It ensured that women and children placed in post-rescue situations in homes or shelters. Grant-receiving organisations can use funds with some flexibility when assisting victims in complicated trafficking situations.
- In each high-risk village, a core group comprising people from all lifestyles constituted to identify families living below the poverty line. With the help of local NGOs, it should disseminate information among the poor about various welfare and income-generating programmes. It also help them develop and sustain self-help groups to create income-generating activities as they lack the ability to seek financial support from banks.
- Undertaking time-bound measures, programmes and plans — that is, setting specific goals and deadlines — to combat child trafficking and other worst forms of child labour; and linking this with the national development effort, particularly a poverty reduction strategy and the provision of quality education and skills training.
- States Parties strengthen measures, including through bilateral or multilateral cooperation, to alleviate the factors that make persons, especially women and children, vulnerable to trafficking, such as poverty, underdevelopment and lack of equal opportunity.
- Policies, programmes and other measures established in accordance with this article shall, as appropriate include cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society.
- States Parties undertaken measures such as research, information and mass media campaigns and social and economic initiatives to prevent and combat trafficking in persons.
- Improving children’s access to educational opportunities and increasing the level of school attendance, in particular by girl children.
- Developing programmes that offer livelihood options, including basic education, skills training and literacy, especially for women and other traditionally disadvantaged groups.

- Strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agencies to arrest and prosecute those involved in trafficking as a preventive measure. This includes ensuring that law enforcement agencies comply with their legal obligation.
- Adopting measures of reducing vulnerability by ensuring that appropriate legal documentation for birth, citizenship and marriage provided and made available to all.
- A Website on Anti Human Trafficking (stophumantrafficking-mha.nic.in) was launched in February 2014. It is a vital IT tool for sharing information among stakeholders, States/UTs and civil society organizations for effective implementation of Anti-Human trafficking measures.
- The Ministry of Women and Child Development is implementing the Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) for creation and management of infrastructure and human resources necessary for establishing a safe and secure environment for children, especially for children in difficult circumstances. Financial assistance provided to States/UTs for improving, setting up and maintenance of Homes, Specialized Adoption Agencies (SAAs) and Open Shelters for children in need of care and protection. Besides, financial assistance are also provided for setting up of dedicated service delivery structures at State and District levels, with staff exclusively engaged for providing services to children including need assessment, training and sensitization, awareness generation, etc.
- Presently, trafficking of persons dealt under the provisions of various Acts. However, there remain some deficiencies in the existing legislations and after considering the issue relating to prevention, rescue and rehabilitation of victims of trafficking. The Union Government has drafted a comprehensive legislation, namely, the Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill, 2018, covering all aspects related to trafficking of persons and are expected to be introduced in the monsoon session of Parliament.

4. Conclusion

Trafficking in human beings, especially children, is a form of modern day slavery and requires a holistic, multi-sectoral approach to address the complex dimension of the problem. It is a problem, that violates the rights and dignity of the victims and therefore, requires essentially a female rights perspective, while working on its eradication. In the fight against trafficking, governmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, civil society, pressure groups and international bodies, all have to play an important role and work in concert. Law cannot

be the only instrument to address complex social problems. Female Trafficking has assumed menacing proportions not only in the country but also all over the world. A very large number of children are being trafficked and used as bonded labour, sex slaves, agricultural labour etc. There are a number of International instruments that have been formulated to look into this problem but a lot more needs to be done if we want the female to free of bondage of any kind and enjoy their childhood. To achieve this goal, more training and education about labor trafficking could be given to the public, law enforcement, and policymakers (Bouche, Farrell, and Wittmer 2015). Further, more resources could be put into developing and implementing evidence-based programs and treatments for victims of female trafficking.

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