

REPORT ON
“PREVENTION OF TRAFFICKING OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN
FOR SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN ASSAM, INDIA”



Implemented By:

GLOBAL ORGANIZATION FOR LIFE DEVELOPMENT (GOLD)

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CONTENTS

Sl. No	Title	Page No.
---------------	--------------	-----------------

List of Tables

List of Figures

Background Information

I Introduction

II Review of Literature

I. **Socio-economic reasons for Human Trafficking**

II. **Cultural practices**

III. **Profile of Traffickers**

IV. **Profile of trafficked persons**

V. **Trafficking-closely associated With HIV/AIDS**

VI. **Types of trafficking**

VII. **Law enforcement and judiciary**

VIII. **Government initiatives**

IX. **Profile of GOLD**

X. **Research dimensions**

III Methodology

IV Results and Discussion

V Summary and Conclusion

Bibliography

Appendices

List of Tables:

- I List of victims rescued by GOLD through “Navajeevan Project”**
- II District wise data on Human Trafficking in Assam (CID, Assam)**

List of Figures:

- I Map of Kamrup District**
- II Map of Nalbari District.**
- III. Paper cuttings on Human Trafficking.**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

PROJECT BACKGROUND

1. Title of the Project : [Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation in Assam.](#)
2. Name and address of the implementing agency : Global organization for Life Development, (GOLD). Pub-sarania, 1st Bye lane (west) House no-14, Guwahati-3, Assam. India.
3. Location of the project : Kamrup and Nalbari districts of Assam
4. Supported By : United Nations Fund for Women
5. Project started from : March, 2007
6. Project implementing Researches : The project was planned, coordinated, analyzed and written by the members of the UNIFEM project.

I. INTRODUCTION:

Human trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, harbouring, or receipt of people for the purposes of slavery, forced labour (including bonded labour or debt bondage) and servitude. Human trafficking is not a stand alone issue. It is closely related to other issues that threaten the security well being of the victims. They are exposed to continuous threats of physical violence by traffickers to ensure compliance. Many are held in bondage and beaten up to suppress resistance. Other threats include absolute poverty due to wage deprivation. They are unprotected by labour laws, long working hours and lack of holidays are common. The business of trafficking is characterized by low investment and high returns. The cost of procurement is conditioned by several demand factors including physical appearance, age, complexion, submissiveness and region of origin of trafficked persons.

There is no universally accepted definition of trafficking for sexual exploitation. The term encompasses the organized movement of people, usually women, between countries and within countries for sex work with the use of physical coercion, deception and bondage through forced debt. However, the issue becomes contentious when the element of coercion is removed from the definition to incorporate facilitating the willing involvement in prostitution. Trafficked women and children, for instance, are often promised work in the domestic or service industry, but instead are usually taken to brothels where their passports and other identification papers are confiscated. They may be beaten up or locked up and promised their freedom only after earning – through prostitution – their purchase price, as well as their travel and visa costs.

Trafficked people are usually the most vulnerable and powerless minorities in a region. They often come from the poorer areas where opportunities are limited. Women are particularly at risk from sex trafficking. Criminals exploit lack of opportunities, promise good jobs or opportunities for study, and then force the victims to become prostitutes. Through agents and brokers who arrange the travel and job placements, women are escorted to their destinations and delivered to the employers. Trafficking of children involves exploitation of the parents' extreme poverty. The latter may sell 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.

"Human trafficking is a kind of International Terrorism. It is the second largest crime after the drugs and arms trafficking in the world", says Malini Bhattacharya, prominent member of the National Commission for Women (NCW).

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) has also established a definition, which is "Moving, selling or buying of women and children for prostitution within or outside a country for monetary or other considerations with or without the consent of the person subjected to trafficking".

-SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution

Human trafficking in Southeast Asia:

Human trafficking within and from Southeast Asia is likely to remain high in the coming years in view of the region's slow economic recovery, though there is also cause for optimism. An increasing international focus on the problem, along with expanded international cooperative endeavors and changes in national legislation, will hopefully combine to curb the growth. The U.S. government estimates around 700,000 women and children are trafficked globally every year. There are no accurate statistics and that estimates vary -- from 500,000 to as many as 2 million. Southeast Asia accounts for about a third of the estimated 700,000 annual victims, most of whom are trafficked within Asia though about 25,000-35,000 of the trafficked Asians enter North America.

Human trafficking network in India's northeast

Not less than 10,000 people, mostly children, are trafficked into the Northeast with a good number smuggled in from Bangladesh, Nepal and other South East Asian countries, surveys by NGOs have revealed.

Most of those trafficking victims are engaged as cheap labourers in coal mines of Meghalaya, tea gardens in Assam and prostitution in several states.

"Cross border trafficking is very much relevant in N-E, with the region sharing borders with five countries.

"It is estimated that some 6,000 to 10,000 girls are trafficked annually from Nepal to Indian brothels and a similar number are trafficked from Bangladesh. 27,000 Bangladeshi women and children have been forced into prostitution in Indian brothels," a report by Childline India Foundation said. It is estimated that Nepalese children constitute 20 per cent (40,000) of the estimated 200,000 Nepalese prostitutes in India. The average age of girls trafficked from Bangladesh and Nepal into India has fallen over the past decade from 16-18 to 10-15 years. Human traffickers are increasingly turning to India's poor and insurgency-wracked northeastern states in their search for young girls to work in big city brothels, police and activists say. They sell the girls to brothel owners in towns and cities like New Delhi, Pune, Mumbai and Kolkata, earning between 20,000 (\$440) and 40,000 rupees for each girl. Police estimate that around 20 percent of the girls in India's big city brothels come from the northeast.

Over the past five years there has been a rise in reports of missing girls from the remote region of eight states, due to increased levels of trafficking. Police says, at least 700 girls from the region have been reported missing over the last five years, 300 of whom disappeared in 2005 alone.

Need Assessment of the Project:

There is justification of need of project like "Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation in Assam" for prevention of trafficking in Kamrup and Nalbari districts of Assam. These two districts are more vulnerable to women and child trafficking as detected by our study and report from other agencies like Shakti Vahini. Nalbari is mostly a source area affected by perennial floods. The district is also infested with militancy with ever deteriorating economic condition of the people. Kamrup district is a destination, transit and source area of trafficking. A large portion of both the districts comprises riverside areas where people live in the most degraded condition and they often fall prey to the traffickers. The project has been implemented successfully in these districts in the month of March, 2007 to combat trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation. Keeping all the information in mind, the following objectives were set to carry on the research work

Objectives:

- To identify the root causes of women and child trafficking in Kamrup and Nalbari Districts of Assam and mapping of source transit and destination areas.
- To measure the level of understanding/knowledge of common people, police and judiciary.
- To find out the best avenues to make them an empowered one.
- To identify the possible ways to sensitize the public.
- To recognize the needs of service providers.
- To elicit the constraints and provide workable suggestions to stop trafficking.

Goal:

The primary goal of the project is to reduce the incidence of trafficking of women and children for sexual exploitation in Assam. The organization also tries to increase political and community support to combat trafficking in Kamrup and Nalbari districts of Assam. The organization also uses reliable research findings and data to support advocacy and design more effective and preventive strategies for high-risk communities / areas.

- Determine the exact status of the issue
- To generate sufficient community awareness for prevention and intervention activities
- Promotion of participation of policy makers, police, human activists
- Care and support service to the victims
- Dissemination of ideas and research findings
- Reduction of trafficking in person from this region
- Proper enforcement of the existing law.

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Trafficking in human beings, especially in women, girls and children has become a matter of serious national and international concern. Women and children- boys and girls have been exposed to unprecedented vulnerabilities. Commercial exploitation of these vulnerabilities has become a massive organized crime and a multimillion dollar business. The international community has passed several Conventions to combat this pervasive malady. Nations are attempting to combat this trade in human misery through legislative, executive, judicial and social action.

Human trafficking of women and children are briefly discussed under following heading-

- (i) Socio-economic reasons for human trafficking**
- (ii) Cultural practices**
- (iii) Profile of traffickers**
- (iv) Profile of trafficked persons**
- (v) Trafficking-closely associated with HIV/AIDS**
- (vi) Types of trafficking**
- (vii) Law enforcement and judiciary**
- (viii) Government initiatives**
- (ix) Profile of GOLD**
- (x) Research dimensions**

(i) Socio-economic reasons for human trafficking:

The magnitude of the problem of human trafficking is immense. As reflected in International Conventions, trafficking is a business. The simple market force of demand and supply govern this phenomenon. On the demand side, the reason for trafficking include increasing tourism and industrialization, rural-urban migration (particularly of males), expanding demand for commercial sex promoted by organized criminal networks. On the supply side, the important reason is poverty which is taken advantage

of by traffickers for Commercial Sexual Exploitation(CSE). Gender disparities in access to skills and employment tend to feminize poverty driving women and children into the network of traffickers. Economic disparities also create demand for trafficking from low income to high income areas. Other important causes of human trafficking are as follows-

Causes of trafficking

Some causes of trafficking include:

- Lack of employment opportunities
- Organized crime and presence of organized criminal gangs
- Regional imbalances
- Economic disparities
- Social discrimination
- Corruption in government
- Political instability
- Armed conflict
- Uprooting of communities because of mega projects without proper Resettlement and Rehabilitation packages.
- Profitability
- Growing deprivation and marginalization of the poor
- Insufficient penalties against traffickers
- According to the UN a major factor that has allowed the growth of sexual trafficking is "Governments and human rights organizations alike have simply judged the woman guilty of prostitution and minimized the trafficker's role.
- Driven by demand; demand is high for prostitutes and other forms of labor in host countries; therefore there is a very profitable market available to those who wish to become handlers.

(ii) Cultural practices:

An old-age cultural practice in several parts of the country is the **Devdasi** system. This was an offshoot of religion and hence had social sanction. Devdasi means "female slave of God" or the custom of worshiping Mother Goddess. Under this custom, young

girls were voluntarily dedicated to the service of God by their families to ensure the fertility of the soil and to secure blessings for the community as a whole.

Over the years, the culturally sanctioned practices of the devadasi system and its variants gradually degenerated and became associated with trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation. Most often, the women and girls get drawn into the network of the traffickers or settled down as sex workers over the years.

(iii) Profile of traffickers:

profile of traffickers, who often enter the business having had links with the world Commercial Sexual Exploitation. Some of them are those who have themselves been victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation or brokers or pimps or brothel owners. Most often, traffickers are the primary abuser of those whom they traffic. The traffickers raise their own resources to get funded by brothel owners. Those who help the traffickers in the procurement of women and girls are paid on commission basis

Strategies used by traffickers to procuring target groups are:-

- Employment.
- Providing an alternate way to escape social and economic problems.
- Fake marriage.
- Abduction.
- Threat.
- Provide higher/ better education.
- Business(cloth, jewelry, drugs, alcohol).
- Smuggling.
- Drugs and alcohol dependency.

(iv) Profile of trafficked persons:

In India cross border trafficking has emerged as an area of concern. Due to poverty, lack of exposure to modern complicated world, lack of education and migration a large number of women and girls and children are trafficked from across the borders

from the neighboring countries. They are lured with dreams of jobs and a better life which end up being exploited sexually. Data collected from different sources revealed that about quarter of the trafficked persons are children below 16 years of age at the time of trafficking. About two-thirds of the adult victims are unmarried. Divorced/separated deserted/widowed women also account for a good number. A major proportion of the victims normally belong to the lower strata of society. Generally those who are trafficked are of the following categories-

- Marginalized women and children with poor economic resources and mostly engaged in the informal sector of employment.
- Those belong to impoverished households in rural areas and urban slums.
- Unmarried, divorced and separated or widowed women.
- Illiterate or those with little education.
- Women and children with low awareness of their rights or their exploited situation.
- Orphans who have no categories are inducted into trafficking.
- Those who belong to communities that practice and legitimize commercial sex work because of cultural factors.

Destinations:

- Brothels.
- Factories.
- Festivals/melas.
- Road/street.
- Bazar/market.
- Refugee camps.
- Across state borders including Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar.
- Begging sites.
- Site where women act as sex worker in a massage parlour, hotels, Entertainment industries etc.

High Risk Areas:

- Cities.
- Tea gardens.
- Areas to which and from which people have migrated.

- Places of political unrest.
- Char/Riverine areas.
- Remote hill/plain areas.
- Places where new industries have been established.
- Railway station etc.
- t practice and legitimize commercial sex work because of cultural factors.

(V) Trafficking- closely associated with HIV/AIDS:

There is an inevitable linkage between trafficking in women and children and contraction of HIV/AIDS. Trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation, which is also termed as “sex trafficking” puts them in the most vulnerable position to contract HIV/AIDS and spread it if they are already infected. Since the trafficked victims are virtually enslaved, they have no bargaining power upon condom use and are vulnerable to dangerous sexual practices, most associated with transmission. The trafficked women and girls, having been inducted into the profession, suffer from social stigma and alienation from society, once they come to know that they are infected by HIV/AIDS. A related problem is the transmission of the infection by the clients of brothels to their life partners. The infection then passes on to the child from the mother.

(VI) Types of trafficking:

Sexual exploitation is not only the end use of trafficking. Infact, there are several more end uses like-

1. **Labour:**
 - a. Bonded labour.
 - b. Domestic Work.
 - c. Agricultural labour.
 - d. Construction work.
 - e. Carpet industry.

- f. Garment industry.
- g. Film industry.Fish/shrimp industry.

2. **Illegal activities**

- a. Begging
- b. Organ trade.
- c. Drug peddling and smuggling.
- d. Weapon and hired assistant.
- e. Faction crime.

3. **Sexual exploitation:**

- a. Forced prostitution.
- b. Sexually and religiously (Devdasi) sanctified forms of prostitution.
- c. Sex tourism.
- d. Pornography (pink and gay, as well).
- e. Transgender conversion and exploitation.

4. **Entertainment and sports:**

- a. Circus.
- b. Dance troupes.
- c. Beer bars.
- d. Camel jockeys.

1. **For and through marriage.**
2. **For and through adoption.**
3. **As child soldiers or combatants in armed conflicts.**

(vii) Law enforcement and judiciary:

There are number of laws enacted by the Parliament as well as State Legislatives, to tackle Human Trafficking in India, some of them are-

ITPA is supplemented by **Indian Penal code (IPC) act 1956** prohibits trafficking in human beings.

Under **section 5 of the ITP Act** procuring, inducing or taking a child or a minor for the sake of prostitution is punishable with rigorous imprisonment for a term of not less than 7 years but may extend to life.

Under **section 6** if a child is found with a person in a brothel there is a presumption of guilt for detaining the child. The person shall be punishable for not less than 7 years.

The Juvenile Justice Act, 1986 provides for care protection, treatment and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent juveniles including girls.

Section 13(4) for IPTA has the provision for the central government to appoint a requisite number of police officers as trafficking police officers who will exercise power and discharge their duties in relation to India as a whole.

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- **Article 23 of the Constitution:**

Guarantees right against exploitation; prohibits traffic in human beings and forced labour and makes their practice punishable under law.

- **Article 24 of the Constitution:**

Prohibits employment of children below 14 years of age in factories, mines or other hazardous employment.

- **Indian Penal Code, 1860:**

There are 25 provisions relevant to trafficking. Some important are-

Section 366A-procurement of a man or girl (**below 18 years**) from one part of the country to another is punishable.

Section 366B- importation of girls (**below 21 years**) is punishable.

Section 374- provides punishment for compelling any person to labour against his will.

- **Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act, ITPA 1956:**

Deals Exclusively with trafficking to inhibit/abolish traffic in women and girls for the purpose of prostitution.

- **Andhra Pradesh *Devadasi* (Prohibiting Dedication) Act, 1989:**

Penalty of imprisonment for three years and the fine are stipulated in respect of anyone, who performs, promotes, abets or takes part in ***Devadasi*** dedication ceremony.

(viii) Government initiatives:

State government has been implementing a number of projects for the rescue and rehabilitation of women and children victims through their own agencies and in collaboration with NGOs.

The Devadasi rehabilitation scheme of the Karnataka Government consists of four components. It is being implemented in 6 districts of the state. Self-help groups of Devadasis have also been formed.

First component is the training in skill development is offered through courses in different vocations like handlooms weaving, agarbatti making, tailoring etc to Devadasis in the age group of 18-25 years. This was subsequently linked up with marketing centers after the formation of the Industrial Co-operative Unit in various trades.

The second component, imparting of social and moral education necessary for the moral and social upliftment of Devadasis along with their economic rehabilitation.

The other components were for the health care of Devadasis with emphasis on research and coordination and provision for seminars/workshops to disseminate experiences. Residential schools to admit children of Devadasis and also other children have been set up in the districts where this practice was prevalent.

Government of Andhra Pradesh has sanctioned a project in 1997-98 for rehabilitation of women victims of commercial sexual exploitation who are HIV infected.

Government of Maharashtra has set up special Juvenile Homes with facilities of counseling, vocational training and health unit for children affected by commercial sexual exploitation and HIV/AIDS. Maintenance grant of Rs. 300/- PM is given to Devadasis and their children are supplied with free educational material.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh started a scheme called Jabali in 1992. The objective of this scheme is to assist Voluntary Organisation to take up activities for the welfare and development of women and child victims of commercial sexual exploitation so as to eliminate commercial sexual exploitation.

The scheme has five components:

- I. Running of boarding schools for children or women victims.
- II. Setting up protective home for young girls
- III. Providing women victims with benefits of income generation and economic rehabilitation.
- IV. Creation of public awareness through information, education & publicity
- V. Health checkups and treatment.

Government by the regular acts of rescue at least can induce fear among brothel keepers regarding sexual exploitation of children.

(viii) Profile of GOLD:

Global Organisation for life Development (GOLD), pub-sarania, Chandmari, Guwahati-781003 is pioneer in the Northeast to combat human trafficking in this region with the help of police and judiciary. It has implemented a pilot project of one year to combat trafficking of women and children at destination area Guwahati in 2006. They could organized networking activities with Police, Policy makers, District Administration, different NGOs, Women Activist Group, Opinion and Religious Leaders, State Women Commission etc. the networking proved to be very effective Numbers of information

received from NGOs at grassroot level which had helped to conduct rescue operations. The police at the beginning denied the existence of human trafficking. After repeated sensitisation meeting and advocacy the police had realised the occurrence of human trafficking and became highly cooperative. Media had played a pivotal role in building awareness in the entire region. Whenever a girl is restored the local people were involved and common people became part of the anti-trafficking programme.

Present strategy of GOLD is-

- No. of Village level awareness camp=40
- No. of vigilance committee formed=32
- No. of police sensitized both in Kamrup and Nalbari districts=300
- No. of blocks sensitized=2 (40 participants from Rangia block and 35 participants from Panchayat and Rural Development, Assam, Chaygaon border Development Block).
- Advocacy with different Press Media =25 (Advocacy at GOLD office=19)
- Networking with Non Governmental Organization=272
- Advocacy with Government employees= No. of participants were 63.
- No. of rescue cases from different places of Assam=42
- No. of raids done with the help of police=9 (appro.)
- No. of cases filed under ITPA=

Police and judiciary has been sensitized by providing posters, and other visual aids. Street play has also been organized by the organization to make people aware.

In many cases there was no legal redressal for the victims. The cases of human trafficking were not filed under appropriate law. After the implementation of the project more than 20 cases were booked under ITPa which was a record by itself. It was very convenient for the police to conduct raids and rescue the victims as there was a shelter home owned by GOLD to accommodate them. At the end of the pilot project GOLD was able to rescue 50 victims and provide shelter and professional training to them. The list of the victims are presented in the table given below-

List of beneficiaries from May 2006 to April 2007

SI No.	Name	Age	Dt of Entry	Dt of Discharge	From where rescued	Native place
1	Anima Mahato	24 yrs	12-05-06	05-06-06	Paltan Bazar	Jorhat
2	Bobby Biswas	15,,	17-05-06	10-06-06	Do	Bongaigaon
3	Sewali Nath	14,,	17-05-06	16-06-06	Do	Guwahati
4	Manua Begum	14,,	22-05-06	23-07-06	Do	Jagoroad
5	Haseena Begam	15,,	22-05-06	21-08-06	Geeta nagar	Dhubri
6	Reena Begam	20,,	15-06-06	12-07-06	Paltan Bazar	Barpeta
7	Nandita Begam	20,,	15-06-06	05-08-06	Do	Kokrajhar
8	A. Begam	22,,	15-06-06	10-09-06	Do	Barpeta
9	Jyoshna Begam	18,,	15-06-06	16-08-06	Do	Dhubri
10	Kamala Begam	22,	15-06-06	05-09-06	Do	Rangia
11	Karibi Bora	17,,	07-07-06	04-10-06	Ghy Station	Nagaon
12	Mina saikia	16,,	07-07-06	04-10-06	Do	Do
13	Rani Devi	18,,	21-07-06	18-10-06	Jalukbari	Rangia
14	Renuka Barman	16,,	28-07-06	30-10-06	Ganeshguri	Nalbari
15	Moni Das	15,,	04-08-06	05-11-06	Christanbasti	Haju
16	Kabita Kalita	14,,	04-08-06	05-11-06	Do	Do
17	M. Thakuria	21,,	13-08-06	25-08-06	Dispur	Mirza
18	Radhika Roy	20,,	03-09-06	16-11-06	Beltola	Dhubri
19	Ramala Begum	12,,	21-09-06	13-12-06	Adabari	Barpeta

20	A. Basumatari	15,,	22-09-06	28-09-06	Paltan Bazar	Tamulpur
21	Ranju Boro	14,,	22-09-06	28-09-06	Do	Do
22	Phool Boro	14,,	22-09-06	28-09-06	Do	Do
23	Babita Boro	15,,	22-09-06	28-09-06	Do	Do
24	Krishna Pujari	14,,	04-10-06	16-02-07	Do	Jorhat
25	Rina Chetri	21,,	13-10-06	12-12-06	Chandmari	Silchar
26	Marami Begam	20,,	04-10-06	20-02-07	Dispur	Gauripur
27	Priya Roy	20,,	08-10-06	11-03-07	Paltan Bazar	Goalpara
28	Madhabi Das	20,,	29-09-06	11-02-07	Do	Rangia
29	Rejina Khatun	17,,	20-11-06	31-01-07	Do	Dhubri

SI No.	Name	Age	Dt of Entry	Dt of Discharge	From where rescued	Native place
30	Rambha Haloi	19,,	24-11-06	31-01-07	Paltan Bazar	Sivasagar
31	Santi Barman	17,,	31-11-06	21-01-07	Do	Noonmati
32	Rajani talukdar	19,,	31-11-06	19-03-07	Do	Nalbari
33	Moni Nath	20,,	05-11-06	22-01-07	Rupnagar	Rupnagar
34	Mitali Baruah	16,,	01-01-07	26-01-07	Ganeshguri	Rukmininagar
35	Rita Baruah	18,,	03-01-07		Purani Basti	Dimapur
36	Avino Biju	18,,	03-01-07	09-01-07	Chenikuthi	Kohima
37	Manjula Begam	14,,	07-01-07	21-01-07	Beltola	Nagaon
38	Luchida	18,,	01-01-07	27-01-07	Swadhar	Dimapur
39	Lili Ralte	23,,	21-01-07		Chandmari	Mizoram
40	Devalata Rapha	20,,	05-02-07		Baikuntha nagar	Geetanagar
41	Hasina Begam	22,,	22-02-07		Paltan Bazar	Nagaon
42	Sonmani Nath	20,,	01-02-07		Hajo	Kamrup
43	Namita Rajkhua	18,,	01-02-07		Raha	Nagaon
44	Ashano Bisso	18,,	08-03-07		GRPS Paltan Bazar	Nagaland
45	Sonali Mandal	26,,	19-03-07		Hatigaon	Dibrugarh
46	Sabitri Basumatari	19,,	20-03-07	23-03-07	Basistha, Khanapara	Dhubri
47	Mamoni Das	24,,	26-03-07		Bamunimaidam	Hajo

48	Geeta Basumatari	26,,	16-04-07		Mumbai	Kokrajhar
49	Rina basumatari	23,,	16-04-07		Do	Do
50	Gitali Baruah	13	01-01-07	26-01-07	Ganeshguri	Rukmininagar

(ix) Research dimensions:

Though there are number of studies and reports on commercial sexual exploitation of women & children there are no reliable estimated data of the extent and magnitude of trafficking & commercial sexual exploitation in India. There are major obstacles in trying to estimate the magnitude of the problem, among which are the social stigma and legal sanctions attached to it, which inhibit easy identification, the stronghold of gangs and brothel keepers and the diversified nature of the phenomenon.

A survey sponsored by the **Central Social Welfare Board (CSWB)** in 1991 in six metropolitan cities of India indicated that the population of women and child victims of commercial sexual exploitation would be between 70,000 to 1,00,000. It also revealed that about 30% of them are below 18 years of age. Nearly 40% of them were inducted when they were less than 18 years of age. The major contributory factor for the commercial sexual exploitation of women and children are poverty and unemployment or lack of appropriate rehabilitation. 70% of them are illiterates. 43% of them desire to be rescued. Most of those who want to leave have given the reasons of desire of rescue is to save their children from commercial sexual exploitation and protection of the future of their children, fear of diseases etc. The others continue to be exploited due the absence of alternative sources of income, social non-acceptability, family customs, poverty, ill health and their dependence.

The members of GOLD in Khalpara Brothel, Siliguri in 2003 conducted another case study on human trafficking. The findings were-

- Population at Red Light Area : 14500
- Female Sex Worker : 500
- Flying Sex Workers : 50
- Sex workers below 20 years : 60%
- Sex workers above 20 years : 40 %

● Children of sex workers 1-15 yrs	:	200
● Children of sex workers 15-18 yrs	:	100
● Others (mother unknown)	:	150
● Char area/ Minority area	:	60%
● Hill/ Tribal dominated area	:	11%
● Town / Cities	:	19%
● Others	:	10%
● Brothel	:	90%
● Parlor	:	6%
● Hotel	:	4%
● Poverty	:	43%
● Lack of community support (Fake marriage)	:	32%
● Domestic abuse/violence /Discrimination	:	4%
● Search of employment	:	13%
● Lack of Education	:	8%
● Individual from same community/area	:	34%
● Husband	:	49%
● Returning migrant workers(unknown)	:	13%
● Brothel owners	:	4%

Status of Sex workers

● Sex worker having children	:	21%
● Aborted	:	55%
● Required STD treatment	:	74%
● Use of condoms	:	94%
● Requested support	:	79%

III.METHODOLOGY

1. Study Area: Kamrup and Nalbari Districts of Assam.

There is a brief description about the selected areas-

A) Kamrup District:

Kamrup District is situated between 25.46⁰ and 26.49⁰ North Latitude and between 90.48⁰ & 91.50⁰ East Longitude. The District is bounded by: -

North - Udalguri and Baska District

South – Meghalaya State

East - Darrang District and Kamrup Metropolitan District

West - Goalpara District and Nalbari District.

2. Climates and Rainfall

- III. Climate: Sub tropical with semi -dry summer & cold in winter.
- IV. Annual Rainfall: Ranges between 1500 mm to 2600 mm.
- V. Natural Calamity: Flood occurs generally in the low-lying areas of the district during May to August every year. Late flood during the later part of September & October also occurs. The occurrence of flood in the district is due to the river Brahmaputra and its Tributaries.
- VI. Average humidity: 75%
- VII. Max. Temperature: 38.5⁰ C.
- VIII. Min. Temperature: 7.C.

2. Sub-Divisions

Kamrup District comprises two sub- divisions namely, Guwahati and Rangia. Below this level, there are 8 Revenue Circles under Guwahati sub-division and 3 Revenue Circles under Rangia sub-division.

Furthermore, from a developmental angle, the district is divided into 15 Development Blocks. Below the block level set-up, there are 162 Gaon Panchayats, each comprising a number of villages and governed by local-self bodies.

2.1 Total Number of Civil Sub-Divisions = 2

(A) Guwahati Sub-Division and

(B) Rangia Sub-Division

Geographical area:

Kamrup District	2069040 B - 3K - 17Ls	2740.74 Sqr.Km.
Guwahati Sub-Division	1658917 B- 4K- 17Ls	2197.48 Sqr.Km.
Rangia Sub-Division	410122 B- 4K- 0Ls	543.26 Sqr.Km.

2. 2.Total Number of Circles in the District = 11 Nos.

(Under Guwahati Sub-Division = 8 Nos. of Circles)

2.3. i. Total Number of Blocks in the District = 15

ii. Under Guwahati Sub-Division =11

iii. Under Rangia Sub- Division = 4

2.4. Total No. Of Gaonburah (Village Headman) in the District = 475 Nos.

2.5.Total No. Of Gaonburah (Village Headman) under Guwahati Sub-Division =317 Nos.

2.6. Total No. Gaonburah (Village Headman) under Rangia Sub-Division = 158 Nos.

3. Population of the District: -

As per 2001 census		
Guwahati Sub-Division	Rangia Sub-Division	Kamrup District Population
9,68,818	3,53,021	13,21,839

3.1 Population of the district= Total : 25,15,030

Male = 13,27,717

Female = 11,87,313

3.2 Urban Population percentage= 36

Rural Population percentage = 64

3.3 Municipalities and Towns & population (2001 Census)

(A) Rangia Municipal Board = 20,712

(B) Palasbari Municipal Board = 4,68,210.

3.4 No. of Police Stations = 12

Under Guwahati Sub-Division :- 6

Under Rangia Sub-Division :- 5

Police Out-post = 7

Guwahati. Railway. Police = 1

4. Nos. of Parliamentary Constituency = 1

5. Nos. of Legislative Assembly Constituency = 6

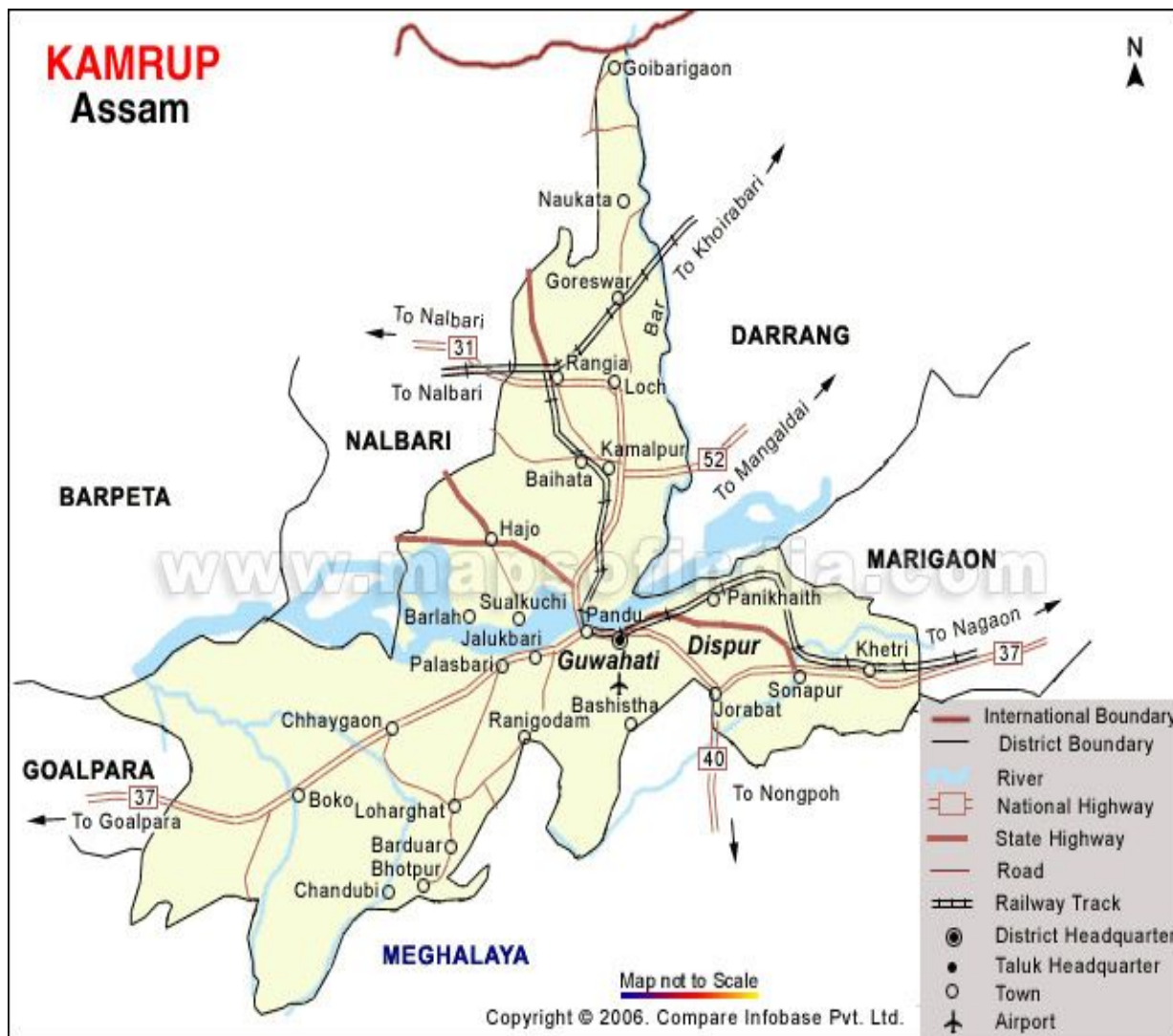


Figure-1: Map of Kamrup District

(B) Nalbari District:

The Nalbari District is situated in between 26^o and 27^o N latitude and 91^o E and 97^o E longitude. The northern side of the district is bounded by the Indo-Bhutan International boundary and the southern side by the mighty Brahmaputra.

1. Area and Administrative Division:

The Nalbari District stands covering an area of 2257 sq.km. consisting of 1(one) Civil Sub-Division, 11 Revenue Circle, 12 Community Development Blocks, 9 Police Outposts, 12 Anchalik Panchayats and 110 Gaon Panchayats covering 827 villages

2. Physical features

The entire area of the District is situated at the plains of the Brahmaputra Valley. The tributaries of the Brahmaputra, Nona, Buradia, Pagalodia, Borolia and Tihu, which originate from the foothills of the Himalayan Range, are wild in nature and have enormous contribution towards the agrarian economy of the district.

3. Population:

3.1. Population:

According to the 2001 census, the population of the District is 1138184. Again, according to size of population, the rank of the District stands at 10th (2001 census) as against 9th in 1991.

3.2. Child population:

As per 2001 Census, out of the total population of the district (1138184), 161616 are children belonging to the age group 0-6 years and accounts for 14.20% of the total population of the district. According to the size of the children population, the rank of the district degraded to the 12th position among the 23 civil districts of the State as against

the 8th position in 1991 with 189113 children. Thus, the percentage trend in 2001 (-14.54) over the child population figure of 1991.

3.3. Density:

The District with 2.88% area of the State shelters about 4.27 % of the States total population as per 2001 census. The density per sq. km. In the District is 504 persons and against 340 persons per sq. km. For the whole State. The density per sq. km. In the district, as per 1991 census was 450 as against 286 persons for the State as a whole.

The density per sq. km. For urban areas is calculated as 1977 and for rural areas as 495 as per 2001 census as against 1689 and 443 persons in respect of rural areas and 1689 persons in urban areas.

3.4.Rural and Urban composition:

The district has a total of 1110706 rural and 27478 urban populations as per 2001 census. Thus, nearly 97.59% of the total population of the district live in villages. As per 1991 census, the figure of rural and urban populations of the district were 992915 and 23475 respectively. Thus, the percentage of decadal growth (1991-2001) of rural and urban population of the district is calculated as (+) 36.24 of the State as a whole.

In respect of child population (0-6) years age group), 98.19 % live in rural areas and 1.81 in urban areas as per 2001 census.

3.5.Population of SCs & STs :

The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population details have not been published by the Census Authority till preparation of this report. However, as per 1991 census, the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe population of the Nalbari District was 89194 and 179641 respectively constituting 8.78% and 17.67% of the total population of the District. The Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe population together account for 26.45 % of the District's total population, which was much higher than that of the state figure of 20.23 %.

3.6.Rural and urban composition:

The district has a total of 1110706 rural and 27478 urban populations as per 2001 census. Thus, nearly 97.59% of the total population of the district live in villages. As per 1991 census, the figure of rural and urban populations of the district were 992915 and 23475 respectively. Thus, the percentage of decadal growth (1991-2001) of rural and urban population of the district is calculated as (+) 36.24 of the State as a whole.

In respect of child population (0-6) years age group), 98.19 % live in rural areas and 1.81 in urban areas as per 2001 census.

The total sample comprised of 1300 different people of which 1000, 200 and 100 were common people, victims and police/judiciary respectively which were chosen randomly from

3.7. Rural and Urban composition:

The district has a total of 1110706 rural and 27478 urban population as per 2001 census. Thus, nearly 97.59% of the total population of the district live in villages. As per 1991 census, the figure of rural and urban populations of the district were 992915 and 23475 respectively. Thus, the percentage of decadal growth (1991-2001) of rural and urban population of the district is calculated as (+) 36.24 of the State as a whole.

In respect of child population (0-6) years age group), 98.19 % live in rural areas and 1.81 in urban areas as per 2001 census.

3.8. Literacy:

As per 2001 census, out of the total population (1138184).664886 persons are declared literate. In 1991, the figure of literate was 463162 and as such the percentage of literates increased by 43.55 in 2001 over 1991.

The total literacy of Nalbari District, according to the 2001 census, is 68.08 as against 33.99 in 1991. Thus, the decadal (1991-2001) progress of literacy rate is calculated as (+) 12.09. The total literacy rate of the State as a whole (64.28:2001 census).

As per 2001 census, the rate of literacy in rural areas of the district in rural areas is 67.55 and in urban areas is 88.61 as against 55.38 and 80.62 respectively in 1991.

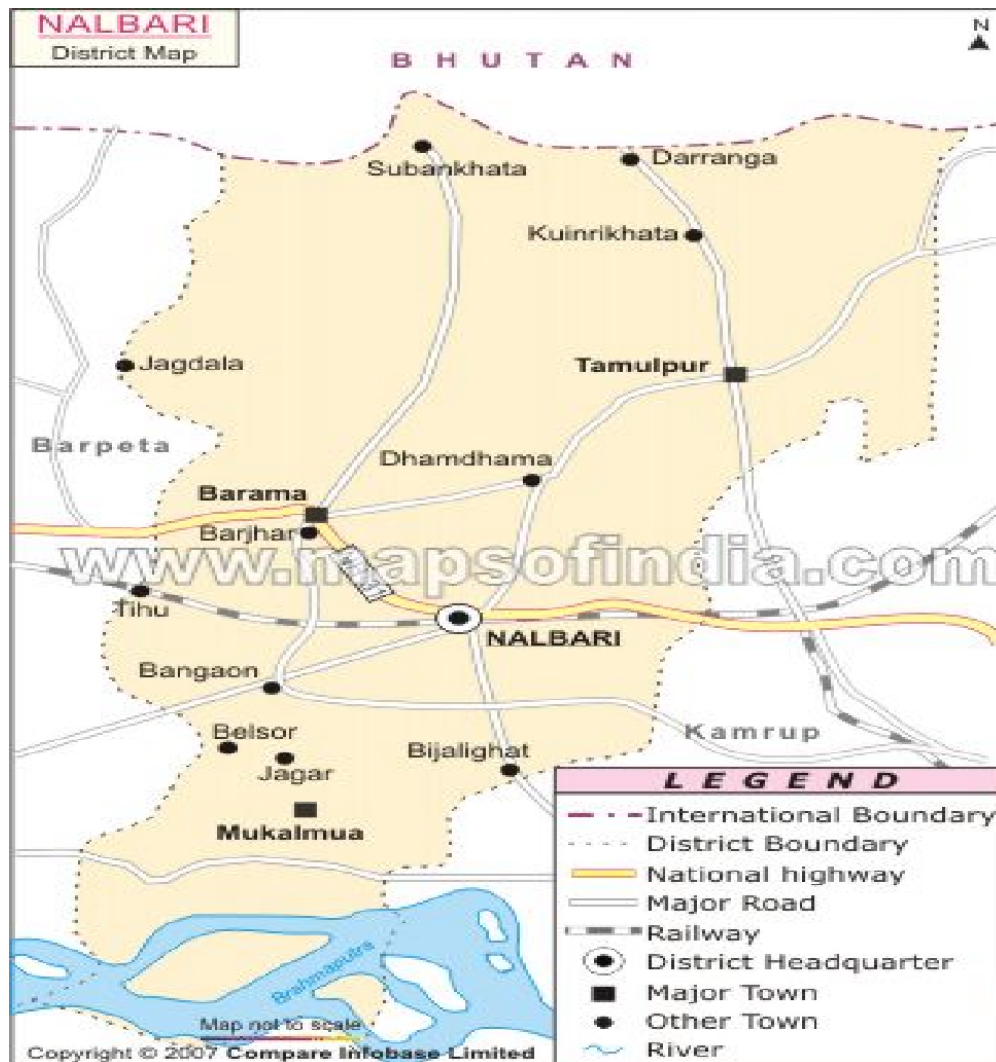


Figure-2: Map of Nalbari District

2. Sample:

The total sample comprised 1300 different people of which 1000, 200 and 100 were common people, victims and police/judiciary respectively which were chosen randomly from Kamrup district (50%), and Nalbari district (50%) and other parts of Assam.

3. Selection of Methods and Construction of Tools:

Three different kinds of “interview schedules” were developed for three different types of sample mentioned above to elicit information for the study through the interview method. Besides general information about the victims, common people and police/judiciary, other necessary information were collected from Police Stations, C.I.D. (H.Q.), Assam, Local Governance etc.

4. Analysis and interpretation of Data:

The data thus pooled together was analyzed with simple calculation of percentage.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Data were collected by using “interview schedule” and presented in tabular form and explained accordingly.

**TABLE 1. Common people
Sample Size 1000**

1-A

Age Group			
Below 20 years	20-39 years	40-59 years	60-79 years
300 (30%)	320 (32%)	230 (23%)	150 (15%)

Table 1A revealed that 30% of total respondents were of the age group below 20 years and 32% were of the age group 20-39 years. Table also showed that percentage of respondents were low in case of old age i.e. 15%

1-B

Marital Status	
Married	Unmarried
597 (59.7%)	403 (40.3%)

Table 1B showed that the percentage of married and unmarried samples were 59.7% and 40.3% respectively.

I-C

Male	Female
475 (47.5%)	525 (52.5%)

Table 1C reflected that female respondents constituted a relatively higher percentage i.e. 52.5%

1-D

Qualification					
Non starter	High School	H.S.	Graduate	P.G.	Others
221(21.1%)	252(25.2%)	192(19.2%)	87(8.7%)	48(4.8%)	200(20%)

Table 1D describes the educational qualification of respondents. It was observed that the majority of the respondents i.e. 25.2% were in the high school category followed by non-starter category (21.1%), Higher Secondary (19.2%), Graduate (8.7%) and so on.

1-E

Occupation			
Service	Business	Agriculture	Others
192(19.2%)	374(37.4%)	234(23.4%)	200(20%)

Occupation table revealed that the majority of the respondents were doing different kinds of business such as a pan shop, grocery shop, tailoring unit etc. to sustain their livelihood followed by agriculture (23.4%), service (19.2%) and others (20%).

1F(i)

Do you have any information about missing person in your area	
YES	NO
489 (48.9%)	511(51.1%)

Table 1F (i) tried to elicit information about the number of missing persons in their respective areas. 48.9% respondents were informed about missing cases from their locality and more than half of them were not aware about that.

1 F (ii)

Categories of missing person			
Child	Married women	Unmarried woman	Man
372 (37.2%)	265(26.5%)	246(24.6%)	117(11.7%)

Table 1F (ii) revealed that the number of missing persons was high in the case of children, followed by married women (26.5), unmarried women (24%) and 11.7% in case of men.

1G(i)

Have you heard Trafficking in Person	
Yes	No
523 (52.3%)	477(47.7%)

1 G (ii)

From where you have heard about Trafficking in Person		
Media	Police	Others
478(47.8%)	137(13.7%)	385(38.5%)

It was observed from Table 1G (i) and 1G (ii) that more than half of the respondents were aware of Trafficking in Persons (TIP) and the rest of the 47.7% were completely unaware about it. Media such as TV, Radio, News paper etc (47.8%) played an important role to make people aware of it. Contribution of the police and judiciary seemed to be poor, which was only 13.7 %. Others included the friend circles, relatives, neighbors etc. which occupied 38.5%.

1-H

What you understand about Trafficking in Person				
A kind of illegal business/smuggling	Harboring women and children for sexual exploitation	Kidnap of child or woman	Organ trade/begging	Does not know
241(24.1%)	323(32.3%)	124(12.4%)	212(21.2%)	100(10%)

It was good to see from table 1H that a high number of respondents (90%) knew the meaning of TIP out of which 24.1% told that TIP means a kind of illegal business while 32.3% told it as harboring women and children for sexual exploitation, followed by organ trade/begging (21.2%). While 12.4% expressed it as kidnap of children and women and the rest 10% did not know about it.

1-I

In your opinion what should be the role of government for prevention of TIP					
Proper education	Creation of employment in Govt. / Private sectors	Stringent punishment of traffickers	Enforcement of laws	Rehabilitation of survivors	Self employment schemes
152 (15.2%)	96(9.6%)	287(28.7%)	229(29.9%)	106(10.6%)	130(13%)

100% of respondents wanted the government to stop TIP through its positive intervention. Table 1I clearly revealed that 29.9% sample focused on enforcement of existing/new laws followed by stringent punishment of traffickers (28.7%), proper education (15%), proper implementation of self-employment schemes, rehabilitation of the survivors (10.6%), and so on.

1-J

In your Opinion What should be the prime role of Police and Judiciary		
Timely raid and rescue	Support to the victim	Apprehension of the traffickers
476(47.6%)	313(31.3%)	211(21.1%)

100% respondents agreed on the positive role of police and judiciary to prevent Trafficking. 47.6% respondents wanted a timely raid and rescue to remove trafficking while 31.3% of them mentioned about the support of police to the victims and the rest 21.1% emphasized on apprehension of the traffickers.

1-K

In your opinion what are the causes of Trafficking in Person						
Poverty	Illiteracy	Insurgency	Lack of property right of women	Organ trade	Lack of exposure to modern world	Lack of social support to divorced/ widowed/ unmarried women
174(17.4%)	177(17.7%)	189(18.9%)	155(15.5%)	111(11.1%)	86(8.6%)	108(10.8%)

Table 1K described about the causes behind human trafficking. 18.9% respondents said that insurgency was one of the important causes of TIP followed by illiteracy (17.7%), poverty (17.4%), lack of property rights (15.5%), organ trade (11.1%), and so on.

1-L

In your opinion what are the most important reasons for Trafficking in Person						
Prostitution	Bonded labor	Pornography	Smuggling	Female Escort	Sex tourism	Commercial sexual exploitation
164(16.4%)	123(12.3%)	110(11%)	99(9.9%)	84(8.4%)	173(17.3%)	250(25%)

Table 1L explained about the reasons for TIP. 25% of the total population told that the most important reason of TIP was commercial sexual exploitation which was followed by sex tourism (17.4%), prostitution (16.4%), bonded labor (12.3%), and so on.

1-M

In which way you can join anti trafficking campaign	
By joining awareness campaign	By providing information on TIP
606 (60.6%)	394(39.4%)

Table 1M revealed that 100% respondents were fully interested to join themselves in an anti-trafficking programme. More than half of them (60.6%) would like to join an awareness camp to inform the public about Trafficking In Person and the rest of them in information providing activities.

TABLE 2. Police and Judiciary
Sample Size – 200

2- A

Have they ever heard about Trafficking in Person	
Yes	No
176(88%)	24(12%)

2- B

Are you aware of Human Trafficking	
Yes	No
150(75%)	50(25%)

Table 2A and 2B described that a good number of respondents (88%) have heard about TIP and three fourth of them were well aware about TIP.

2-C

Have they ever come across any incidence of TIP	
Yes	No
78(39%)	122(61%)

2-D

Received any complaint on TIP	
Yes	No
57(28.5%)	143(71.5%)

Table 2C explained that only 39% of the total respondents have come across the incidence of TIP. While table 2D focused that only 28.5% respondents have ever received any complaint on TIP.

2-E (i)

Are they trained on ITPA and TIP	
Yes	No
33 (16.5%)	167 (83.5%)

2-E (ii)

If yes, then	
Departmentally	Through NGO
30 (90.9%)	3 (10.1%)

Table 2E (i) and 2E (ii) revealed that a very few number of respondents have gone through any training programme on TIP out of which 90.9% and 10.1% sample got training through their office department and NGO's respectively.

2-F

Have they ever arrested/convicted a trafficker	
Yes	No
62(31%)	138(69%)

2-G

Rescued or pass order for rescue	
Yes	No
77(38.5%)	123(61.5%)

Table 2F described that only 31% responpondents have ever arrested or convicted any traffickers. While table 2G showed that less than half of the respondents (38.5%) have ever reduced or passed orders for rescue and the rest of the sample have not got any chance to do so.

2-H

Supports they have given to the survivors				
Medical support	Shelter support	Restoration support	Lawful support	Medical & Shelter support
53(26.5%)	21(10.5%)	17(8.5%)	47(23.5%)	62(31%)

2-I

No. Of Cases booked under Domestic Violence in their area	192(96%)
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Table 2H explained about different kinds of support provided by police and judiciary to survivors. 31% of them have given both medical and shelter support to victims. Table 2I focused on domestic violence booked under their respective areas which was very high in number (96%).

2-J

No. of missing women in your area	52(26%)
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2-K

Feel about prevalence of TIP in your area	
Gradually go up	Gradually go down
170(85%)	30(15%)

Number of missing cases is also increasing day by day. Table 2J and 2K revealed that the percentage of missing women was more than half i.e. 52.6% per year. 85% of the respondents said that it was going up gradually while the rest of the sample said the reverse thing.

2-L

Problems/constraints you have faced		
They are not trained on ITPA	Victims are not ready to speak against traffickers	Traffickers are more powerful
99 (49.5%)	58 (29%)	43(21.5%)

Table 2L explained about the problems and constraints faced by them while tackling TIP. Half of the respondents were not trained on TIPA. Sometimes victims were not ready to tell anything about the traffickers. 21.5% of the sample agreed that some traffickers were more powerful than them for which they could not continue their duty.

2-M

Motivated for prevention of TIP	
Yes	No
182(91%)	18(9%)

Table 2M reflected that more than 90% respondents were motivated to prevent TIP from their respective areas.

TABLE 3. Survivor

Sample Size-100

3 -A

Age Group			
10-15 Years	16-25years	26-35years	36-55years
7 (7%)	50(50%)	27(27%)	16(16%)

Table 3A explained that half of the victims fall in the age group of 16-25 years followed by 27%, 16% and 7% in the age group of 26-35 years, 36-55 years and 10-15 years respectively.

3-B (i)

No. Of girl child in the family		
1-3	4-5	Above
20 (20%)	47(47%)	33(33%)

3- B (ii)

Marital Status	
Married	Unmarried
63(63%)	37(37%)

3-B (iii)

Any vice in the family				
Drunker father	Alcoholic father	Step mother	Step father	Mental parents
23(23%)	29(29%)	21(21%)	12 (12%)	15(15%)

Table 3B (i) clearly shows that 47% victims were from families having 4-5 numbers of girl children and 33% of them were from large families having more than five numbers of girl children. Table 3B (ii) showed that 63% of them were married. Table 3 (iii) explained about the vice present in the families of victims. It clearly revealed that 29% fathers of victims were alcoholic followed by drunk fathers (23%), mental parents (15%) and step mothers (12%).

3- C

Educational Status			
Non starter	Up to V	Up to X	Up to H.S.
47(47%)	31(31%)	19(19%)	3(3%)

Table 3C revealed the educational status of the victims. Nearly half of the respondents were non-starter while 31% of them have studied up to class V followed by 19% and 3% up to class X and H.S. respectively.

3- D

Family Income		
Below 10,000/- (p.a.)	Below 15,000/- (p.a.)	Below 30,000/- (p.a.)
80(80%)	17(17%)	03(3%)

Table 3D focused on the annual family income of the victims. It was clearly seen that more than Three fourth of the respondents (80%) were from the family earning less than 10,000 per annum which was 17% in case of the family earning below 15,000 per annum.

3 -E(i)

Who was the traffickers			
Relative	Known Person	Unknown Person	Others
30(30%)	46(46%)	10(10%)	14(14%)

3- E(ii)

What type of tools used by the traffickers			
Marriage	Employment	Business	Others
32(32%)	53(53%)	11(11%)	04(4%)

It was seen from table 3E (i) that 46% survivors were trafficked by known persons whereas it was 30% against relatives. Unknown persons occupied only 10% and others were 14%. Table 3E (ii) revealed the commonly used tools by the traffickers. It was seen that providing employment (53%) to the victims was very common followed by fake marriage (32%), business (11%) and others occupied only 4%.

3 -F(i)

Does she have any information of TIP involved in other victims	
Yes	No
12(12%)	88(88%)

3- F(ii)

Does she involved in this trade knowingly	
Yes	No
16(16%)	84(84%)

Table 3F(i) focused on existing knowledge/information on TIP of the respondents. It was alarming to observe that 88% victims were not aware of TIP. Table 3F(ii) also focused that 84% victims were involved in the trade unknowingly. Only 16% of respondents were engaged themselves willingly.

3 -G(i)

Does she received any community support for protection	
Yes	No
55(55%)	45(45%)

3- G(ii)

Does she received any police co-operation during post rescue period	
Yes	No
72(72%)	28(28%)

It was observed from table 3G (i) that 55% victims received all kinds of support both from family and community for their protection whereas the rest of them did not get any assistance from the same. It was good to see that the majority of them (72%), also got police protection during the post rescue period.

3-H(i)

Was she rescued	
Yes	No
95(95%)	05(5%)

3 -H(ii)

If yes then by whom		
By police	By NGO	By community leader
57(57%)	35(35%)	03(3%)

It was good to see from table 3H(i) that 95% survivors were rescued, of which 57% were rescued by police, 35% by NGOs and 03% by community leaders.

3 I

Does she faced any problem to file FIR	
Yes	No
28(28%)	72(72%)

Table 3I clearly revealed that majority of them have problems while file FIR

3 J

Will she accepted by her family if restored	
Yes	No
32(32%)	68(68%)

3 K

What are the immediate needs		
Education	Vocational Training	Restoration
33(33%)	54(54%)	13(13%)

Table 3J focused that 68% victims were not accepted by their family members and they need immediate rehabilitation, education, vocational training etc.

V. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

An effort to analyse the “Prevention of Trafficking of Women and Children for Sexual Exploitation in Assam” was made in Kamrup and Nalbari districts of Assam, from where 1300 samples (i.e. 1000 common people, 200 police and judiciary and 100 victims) were selected. The samples thus selected were interviewed personally with the help of their different kinds of Interview Schedules prepared for this purpose to collect appropriate data. The key findings emerged from the study are summarized and presented below:

A) Common People:

30% of total respondents were of the age group below 20 years and 32% were of the age group 20-39 years. It is also seen that the percentage of respondents were low in case of old age (40 years and above) i.e. 15%. Percentage of married and unmarried women were 59.7% and 40.3% respectively. It was noticed that female respondents constituted a relatively higher percentage i.e. 52.5%. Regarding educational qualification of the respondents it was observed that the majority of the respondents i.e. 25.2% were in the high school category followed by non starter category (21.1%), Higher Secondary (19.2%), Graduate (8.7%) and so on. Occupation revealed that the majority of the respondents were doing different kinds of business such as pan shop, grocery shop, tailoring unit etc. to sustain their livelihood followed by agriculture (23.4%), service (19.2%) and others (20%).

As regards the number of missing persons in their respective areas, only 48.9% respondents were informed about missing cases from their locality. It was revealed that the number of missing persons was high in the children category followed by married women (26.5%), unmarried women (24%) and 11.7% in case of men. It was good to see that more than half of the respondents were aware of Trafficking in Persons (TIP). Media such as TV, Radio, News paper etc (47.8%) played an important role to make people aware of it. Contribution of the police and judiciary seemed to be poor, which was only 13.7%. Others included the friend circles, relatives, neighbors etc. which occupied 38.5%.

It was good to see from table 1H that a high number of respondents (90%) knew the meaning of TIP out of which 24.1% told that TIP means a kind of illegal business while 32.3% told it as harboring women and children for sexual exploitation, followed by organ trade/begging (21.2%). While 12.4% expressed it as kidnap of children and women and the rest 10% did not know about it. 100% respondents wanted the government to stop TIP through its positive intervention. The 29.9% sample focused on enforcement of existing/new laws followed by stringent punishment of traffickers (28.7%), proper education (15%), proper implementation of self-employment schemes, rehabilitation of the survivors (10.6%), and so on.

100% respondents agreed to the positive role of police and judiciary to prevent Trafficking. 47.6% respondents wanted a timely raid and rescue to remove trafficking while 31.3% of them mentioned about the support of police to the victims and the rest 21.1% emphasized on apprehension of the traffickers.

18.9% respondents told that insurgency was one of the important cause of TIP followed by illiteracy (17.7%), poverty (17.4%), lack of property rights (15.5), organ trade (11.1%), and so on. According to 25% of the total population the most important reason of TIP was commercial sexual exploitation which was followed by sex tourism (17.4%), prostitution (16.4%), bonded labour (12.3%), and so on. 100% of respondents were fully interested in the anti-trafficking programme. More than half of them (60.6%) would like to join awareness camp to inform public about Trafficking In Person.

Police and Judiciary

It was interesting to see that a good number of respondents (88%) have heard about Trafficking In Person and three fourth of them were well aware about Trafficking In Person. Only 39% of the total respondents have come across the incidence of Trafficking In Person whereas only 28.5% respondents have ever received any complaint on Trafficking In Person. A very few number of respondents have gone through any training programme on Trafficking In Person out of which 90.9% and 10.1% sample got training through their office department and NGO's respectively.

It was noticed from the survey that only 31% respondents have ever arrested or convicted any traffickers while less than half of the respondents (38.5%) have ever reduced or passed orders for rescue and rest of the sample have not got any chance to do so.

Regarding different kinds of support provided by police and judiciary to survivors, 31% of them have given both medical and shelter support to victims. Domestic violence booked under their respective areas, which was very high in number (96%). Number of missing cases is also increasing in case of women i.e. 52.6% per year. 85% of the respondents said that it was going up gradually while the rest of the sample said the reverse thing.

Regarding problems and constraints faced by them while tackling Trafficking In Person was lack of training facilities on TIP, power of traffickers, false information about traffickers etc. More than 90% respondents were motivated to prevent TIP from their respective areas.

Survivor

Half of the victims fall in the age group of 16-25 years followed by 27%, 16% and 7% in the age group of 26-35 years, 36-55 years and 10-15 years respectively. It was clearly focused that 47% victims were from the family having 4-5 numbers of girl child and 33% of them were from large size family having more than five numbers of girl child. 63% of them were married. Regarding vice present in the families of victims it clearly revealed that 29% fathers of victims were alcoholic followed by drunk fathers (23%), mental parents (15%) and step mothers (12%).

Regarding educational status of the victims, nearly half of the respondents were non-starter while 31% of them have studied up to class V followed by 19% and 3% up to class X and H.S. respectively. About annual income of the family it was clearly seen that more than three fourth of the respondents (80%) were from the family earning less than 10,000 per annum which was 17% in case of the family earning below 15,000 per annum.

Survey showed that 46% of survivors were trafficked by known persons whereas it was 30% against relatives. Unknown persons occupied only 10% and others were 14%. Commonly used tools by the traffickers were providing employment (53%) to the victims followed by fake marriage (32%), business (11%) and others occupied only 4%.

It was alarming to observe that 88% victims were not aware of Trafficking In Person and 84% victims were involved in this trade unknowingly. Only 16% respondents engaged themselves willingly. 55% victims received all kinds of support both from family and community for their protection whereas the rest of them did not get any assistance from the same. It was good to see that the majority of them (72%), also got police protection during the post rescue period. It was good to see that 95% survivors were rescued, of which 57% were rescued by police, 35% by NGOs and 03% by community leaders. Their family members did not accept 68% victims and they need immediate rehabilitation, education, vocational training etc.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

It can be concluded from above mentioned discussion that transnational organised crime, especially for sexual exploitation of women and girls affects all regions of the world and has become a growing global development challenge. It has grave consequences not only for women and girls, but also poses grave threats for human security. On the other hand, it increases women's risks of being trafficked, and also increases their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS.

As we all know that Guwahati is the largest city in the entire North East and called the Gateway of NE. There is rapid industrialization of the city with migration of people from the rural Assam. The root cause of migration is for earning livelihood. It is the women and children who are illiterate or semiliterate mostly suffer from sexual

exploitation in the city. They are often trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation . The state is infested with militancy with ever deteriorating law and order. Economic backwardness and poverty is one of the most important causes of existing insurgency. The state is also affected by perennial floods. The pimps and brokers become hyperactive during this time. The pimps lure the poor parents to give their daughters in the name of marriage or employment. The girls once given never return to their homes.

The police in the state are always busy in the Herculean task of fighting insurgency and maintaining law and other situation such as prevention of human trafficking had become a low priority concern for the police. Most of the time it is difficult for police to arrest traffickers or pimps because of lack of proper evidence, victims have inadequate information about them, they are mobile, more powerful than police and judiciary etc. There are also insufficient restoration homes for victims and the environment of the existing home remains the same where they cannot adapt themselves to start a new life. In many cases victims adopt secondary habits due to lack of proper counseling. Lack of training facilities makes the situation more critical.

Recommendations:

To combat trafficking from society, there are some important points to be considered-

1. Government should establish **Protective Homes** under **section 21 of ITPA** exclusively for girls/ women detained under ITPA and also for those who seek protection from being forced into prostitution. Protective home also provides custodial care, protection, education, vocational training and arranging marriages.
2. **Short stay homes** for women and girls assisted by the department of women and child development and the **Juvenile homes** should be established to provide care, protection and rehabilitation of victims.
3. **Development and Care Centers** to the children victims of prostitution. These centers should be set up in red light areas to provide facilities of crèche and day care centers, educational support, supplementary nutrition, health care, counseling, excursion etc.
4. Special **ICDS centers** with all modern amenities.

5. **Empowerment of victims** through professional training like cutting, knitting, weaving, tailoring, embroidery etc.
6. Support for training cum employment program, setting up training and employment cum production unit for employment for women.
7. Vulnerable areas should be mapped immediately. Vulnerable social groups within the vulnerable areas should be identified without any further loss of time.
8. Special projects should be launched with **Officers on Special Duties(OSD)** with powers and budget for each of these vulnerable areas/groups akin to the **ITDA** concept with a clear cut sub plan.
9. Prevention requires coordination at National and State level where electronic and print media is effectively used to reach millions of Indians particularly the vulnerable groups.
10. Protection requires coordination between the **State Governments, Districts Administration, Faith Based Organisations (FBOs), Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) Co Operative Bodies** etc.
11. Budget requirement is huge and implementation requires focused, special, exclusive agencies on a dedicated basis where Creation of a Rehab Fund will go a long way.
12. Proper sensitisation of police and judiciary is of prime importance.
13. Proper **counseling** is required to assist victims to adapt to the existing environment.
14. Adequate care should be taken during and after the Rescue Operation to de-traumatise the victims etc.

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VII. LIST OF ANNEXURES

A) Interview Schedule for Survivor:

1. Name:

4. Age:

5. Present address:

6. Marital status:

7. Education:

8. Occupation of the family:

9. Annual income of the family:

10. Who was the trafficker?

(i) Relatives

(ii) Known person

(iii) Unknown person

(iv) Others

11. What type of mode was used by the traffickers?

(i) Marriage

(ii) Employment

(iii) Business

(iv) Others

12. Does she have any information about TIP involving other victims?

(i) Yes

(ii) No

13. If yes, then where?

14. Is she involved in this trade knowingly?

(i) Yes

(ii) No

15. If yes, why?

16. Has she received any community support for protection?

(i) Yes

(ii) No

17. Why did she want to be rescued?

18. Has she received police cooperation during the post rescue period?

(i) Yes

(ii) No

19. Was she rescued?

(i) Yes

(ii) No

20. If yes, then by whom?

21. Has she faced any problem filing an FIR?

(i) Yes

(ii) No

22. Will she be accepted by her family if rescued?

(i) Yes

(ii)

23. What are immediate needs?

24. What support is requesting?

25. Any other information

B) Interview Schedule for Common People:

1. Name:

2. Age:

3. Present Address:

4. Marital Status:

5. Education:
6. Occupation:
7. Do you have any missing people from your area ?
 - (i) Yes
 - (ii) No
8. What is the category of missing person?
 - (i) Child
 - (ii) Married women
 - (iii) Unmarried women
 - (iv) Man
9. Have you heard about TIP?
 - (i) Yes
 - (ii) No
10. If yes, then from where?
11. What do you know about TIP?
12. In your opinion, what should be the role of Government:
13. In your opinion, what should be the role of Police and Judiciary:
14. In your opinion, what is the main reason for TIP:
15. In which way you can join Anti-trafficking programme:
16. Any suggestion:
17. Comment:

C) Schedule for police and Judiciary:

1. Name:
2. Address:
3. Designation:
4. Have you ever heard about Trafficking In person?
 - (i) Yes
 - (ii) No
5. Are you aware of Human Trafficking?

(i) Yes (ii) No

6. Have you ever come across any incidence of TIP?

(i) Yes (ii) No.

7. Have you received any complaints on TIP?

(i) Yes (ii) No

8. Are you trained on ITPA and TIP?

(i) Yes (ii) No

9. If yes, by whom?

10. Have you ever arrested/convicted a trafficker?

(i) Yes (ii) No

11. Have you ever rescued or passed an order for rescue?

(i) Yes (ii) no

12. What are the support you have given to the survivors?

13. Number of cases booked under Domestic Violence Act in your areas?

14. Number of missing women in your area?

15. What do you feel about the prevalence of Trafficking In Person in your area?

16. What are the constraints you have faced?

17. Are you motivated for prevention of Trafficking In Person?

(i) Yes (ii) No

18. Do you have any suggestions?