

Condition of FSWs:-

There are two types of sex workers in Khalpara area. One type is staying as tenants of brothel owners; normally they pay Rs.500 for a small room type accommodation. If they are good looking they can earn and save money for themselves. Their age is normally 25 yrs plus. They are almost independent.

The other types of girls are those who are directly under the brothel owners. They are almost like prisoners. Except for cosmetics and dress materials and of course food these types of FSWs do not get any money for saving. They are totally at the mercy of owners, who occasionally beat them up for their refusal to cater the needs of clients (clients needs are sometimes quite unnatural). Their fooding is also subjected to amount of their earning. They stay in unhygienic condition and during summer they are supposed to pay Rs. 20/- from their tips from their clients and they pay part of the tips to the pimps to get more clients for good earning, so that they can have some added advantage from the brothel owners. This category mostly falls between 13 yrs to 22 yrs & they are not allowed to interact with outside world and they cannot run away from the brothels.

Mental condition:-

FSWs are subjected to severe mental stress and since most of the brothel owners are ex sex workers they try to inflict the same pressure on the new sex workers.

Education: -

During our survey we found following results-

Up to class V	:- 55%
VI to X	:- 36%
X to XII	:- 1%
Illiterate	:- 8%

Trafficking: -

Although it is very tough to talk about trafficking of girls in front of brothel owners where girls are afraid to express their views we made all out effort to find the facts. During our survey we found more than hundred (100) FSWs of below 18 yrs of age, and some of them are in brothel for the last 5 years or more. During our cross questioning it comes out that most of the girls are either lured to brothel with fake marriage, false promise of job or kidnapped for sale. We saw sign of physical torture on the body of young FSWs. Most girls are fluent in Bengali are originally from Assam near state border & riverine area. 50% of the total sex workers are according to our view trafficked and 70% below 20 yrs are trafficked.

Traffickers:-

Majority of the traffickers are so called fake husbands who force their wives into prostitution or sell them to agents or brothel owners. Some Aunty (Mashi) from the community are also responsible for trafficking. Some veteran sex workers go in disguise to poor people and lures

young women of false job promise. In some cases economically poor parents (normally father) directly sell their daughters to brothel agents and this was revealed during our survey. It was reported that four minor girls were sold from a tea estate in Darang district to an agent by name Papu Ali. We tried to locate these girls in the brothel but we could not trace them.

Name of some agents:-

During our survey we found name of some persons involved in trafficking Papu Ali and Omar. (Intelligence report). They normally buy some young girls from Assam at Rs. 3000 to Rs. 5000 and get a round Rs. 10000 from the brothel owners.

Places of trafficking: -

Char areas of Barpeta, Darang district, Dhubri, Goalapara, slum areas of Guwahati like Hatigaon, Pandu and Barak valley etc. are the major places of trafficking. According to survey report we found the result given below—

- Char area/minority area—60%
- Hill & tribal dominated area—11%
- Town/cities—19%
- Others—10%

1. Place from trafficking:-

- a. Char area/ minority areas—60%
- b. Cities /town—19%
- c. Hill area—11%
- d. Others—10%

2. Trafficking sites:-

- a. Brothels—90%
- b. Parlour—6%
- c. Hotels—4%

3. Cause of trafficking:-

- a. Poor economic status—43%
- b. Lack of community support
Network (fake marriage)—32%
- c. Domestic abuse/violence/ discrimination—4%
- d. Search for employment—13%
- e. Lack of education—8%

4. Traffickers: -

- a. Individual from community/society—34%
- b. Husband (fake)—49%
- c. Returning migrant workers (unknown)—13%
- d. Brothels owners—4%

5. Reasons of trafficking :-

- a. Prostitution –90%
- b. Parlour—6%
- c. Hotels – 4%

6. Children :-

FSWs with children—21%

7. Aborted – 55%

8. STD status

Treated –74%

9. Use of condom—94%

10. Support form NGO

Yes—21%
No—79%

Helped needed

Yes—69%
No—31%S