

# **A Situational Analysis of Child Sex Tourism in India (Agra, Delhi, Jaipur)**

**By SANLAAP**

**December 2003**



**END CHILD PROSTITUTION  
CHILD PORNOGRAPHY  
& TRAFFICKING OF CHILDREN  
FOR SEXUAL PURPOSES**



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Tourism today is the largest and fastest growing industry in the world. The increase in Tourism related spending has far outstripped world exports in commercial services. In 2000, for example, World Tourism Organization report states that tourism generated worldwide estimated receipts of US\$ 476 billion, which per day translates to US\$ 1.3 billion.

Tourism has been declared as the major source for socio-economic development and has a very positive impact in foreign exchange earnings and employment generation, particularly in developing countries of the world. The diversity in religions, the rich natural and cultural heritage and the varied landscapes should make South Asia an obvious tourist paradise as region. Although, at the same time, unscrupulous profit driven tourism growth has to be discouraged as it can have very negative long-term effects.

In the year 2001, due to various factors and events around the world, there was a 0.6% decline in tourism. It is interesting to note that Asia as a whole recorded a 3.5% increase in tourism, with tourism increasing from 77.4 million in 2000 to 80% million in 2001. A large amount of the exchequer's money is being pumped into tourism. But few jobs are being generated by the tourism industry and people are being displaced from their traditional occupation. If it can be seen in social context, when the economy has been geared towards tourism, everything related to tourism industry tries to satisfy the tourist to get a huge profit.

All of these factors push the people of those localities in a socially and economically vulnerable situation where the women and children are most affected.

The increased development of dysfunctional families and the demand of sex tourists for children sometimes force them to enter into prostitution, which is a severe form of sexual abuse and assault.

The research in Delhi, Agra and Jaipur did not show that Child Sex Tourism (CST) was overly prevalent in these locations however this study was limited by time constraints and the researchers considered that more information was necessary to make a conclusive judgment. Other cases have been emerging in India which suggest CST does exist outside Goa and Kerala.

An Australian man has been arrested in India for allegedly sexually abusing more than 50 street children in children's homes. The man had been staying in India without a valid passport. He worked in various Christian missions before moving to Vishakapatnam to head a non-government organization operating 40 homes for street children.

The number of tourists seeking sex with children in Asia is on the rise, and more of them are Asians themselves, officials and experts said.

Cheaper airfares, the opening of countries once closed because of war or politics, and the advent of the Internet all provide more options for paedophiles who go abroad looking for underage sex, and "opportunistic" sex offenders who visit bars and brothels on vacation. Child welfare activists in India are calling for tougher measures to protect children from sexual abuse amid signs that growing numbers of paedophiles are targeting the country. Foreign sex tourists, who for years have preyed on youngsters in Southeast Asia, are believed to be switching to India because of its lax laws, cheap and abundant child prostitutes and a reportedly lower incidence of AIDS. Of an estimated one million child victims of commercial sex in Asia, India - with guesstimates ranging from 300,000 to 500,000 - is said to have the most.

Originating as a campaign against child prostitution in Asian tourism, ECPAT has constantly taken a stance against child sex tourism. In order to get a holistic picture of sex tourism in South Asia, ECPAT has launched this CST research on tourists and children involved in commercial sexual exploitation. The overall objectives of the research are:

To gather information on the nature, scope and manifestations of child sex tourism in Delhi, Agra and Jaipur.

To identify key actors connected with CST in tourism settings and study the interplay within and outside the tourism industry that facilitates CST in those contexts.

To identify actions, which can be taken at different, level to combat CST based on findings.

## **1.1 Definitions**

**Child:** A child means every human being below the age of 18 years unless, under the Law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier. Article 1 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989.

**Tourist:** A tourist is "any person who travels to a country other than that which he/she has his/her usual environment for a period not exceeding 12 months and whose main purpose of visit is other than the exercise of a activity remunerated from within the country visited." Recommendations on tourism statistics, WTO/UN1993.

**Child Sex Tourist:** A child sex tourist is a man or woman who, passing through or visiting country, which is different from his/her habitual environment, also engages in sexual relations with children.

**Sex Tourism:** Sex tourism is "tourism which has as its primary purpose the effecting of a commercial sexual relationship" Ron O` Grady, 1994, "the rape of the innocent" p. 53.

**Child Prostitution:** The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1990 defines child prostitution as sexual exploitation of a child below the age of 18 for remuneration in cash or kind.

## **1.2 Implementing Organisation**

Sanlaap started its journey in 1987. Sanlaap supports child protection programs for children of women in prostitution in 14 red light areas in Kolkata and the outskirts. As a step towards mainstreaming the children living in the red light areas, the education program operates as a lift between the children and youth of the red light area and the formal schools.

Sanlaap takes custody of some of these children, particularly those at risk, to Sneha- at Jhargram and Narendrapur (Kolkata) for special protection. Sanlaap runs a Psycho-social Rehabilitation program for children rescued from prostitution, providing services in mental health, occupational training and legal aid to facilitate the rescue, repatriation or restoration after release from State Custody.

Sanlaap supports community organizations and NGO initiatives to address the vulnerability of girl children living in families below the poverty line in the at-risk age group. Sanlaap provides training in psychosocial rehabilitation programs – including counseling skills, child protection programs, legal issues, human and child rights, campaign and networking strategies.

#### **1.4. Research Team**

Indrani Chakraborty  
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#### **1.5. Location**

Delhi, Agra and Jaipur

#### **1.6 Time Frame**

1<sup>st</sup> July to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2003

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

### **2.1. Data Types**

*PRIMARY DATA: Interviews conducted with:*

Children at risk

International Tourists

Police

Local Non Government Organizations

People of civil society including doctor &shopkeeper

Tourism authorities

Tour operators

Hotel owners

Van &auto rickshaw pullers

Community people in red-light area

(No child victims of CST were interviewed in this research.)

*SECONDARY DATA:*

Newspaper clippings

Draft National Tourism Policy of India

Criminal Procedure Code of India

Books on Laws

Reports and Books on Child Sex Tourism

### **2.2. Data Collection**

In Delhi, Jaipur and Agra, the researchers spoke to children who were vulnerable to all kinds of abuse. These children have been involved in certain illegal business like drug peddling etc. The children they spoke to were not directly involved in the sex trade but they mentioned the involvement of other girls in the sex trade and how they were slowly being pushed to consider prostitution as a better option for earning money. In most cases, the researchers tried to befriend the children and then talk to them. For the tourists it was more like one tourist asking the other which are the places to go and what are the services that one was being offered by various travel agents or local hotel owners.

With regard to travel agents the researchers gathered information about certain issues like if the tourists bothered them with demands which were illegitimate or which they were uncomfortable with but had to provide with for the business sake. They also tried talking about escort services which have been on the rise for a couple of years and which the travel agents often arrange.

The local guides, with whom the researchers spoke to, were given detailed information of their study and then they discussed the issue, which helped them in the process.

The researchers also spoke to the auto rickshaw drivers and visited the red light areas to find out whether girls from these areas were sent for the tourists.



### **2.3. Data Analysis**

Most of the information gathered is qualitative data and has been categorized under subheadings. The researchers did not find a single instance of sexual exploitation of children by tourists. The researchers could only reach a few cases of children who are vulnerable to all sorts of abuse so there is no data collection in tabular form.

### **2.4. Limitations**

The most difficult part of the research has been the reluctance of each of the stakeholders speak on such a sensitive issue. The researchers tried to arrange for Focused Group Discussions but soon realized that it would be extremely difficult and as it took too much time to organize in our circumstances.

Although the children were ready to speak about everything they did not want to speak about abuse. In some cases while the researchers were speaking to the children, the local people came up to them and actually doubted their motives. They were interrogated by local people, till the whole atmosphere turned sour and heavy. In many cases they were asked to leave. Since this was not the tourist season, conducting the study was very difficult and the absence of tourists also meant a low profile presence of the various 'tourist services'.

National tourists were not visible, as none were keen to visit this part of the country during the summer. Moreover, from the tourist profile that was supplied to them, majority of national tourists comes from the eastern part of the country and they do so mostly during the autumn festivals.

More time is required for getting responses after establishing rapport with the respondents to curb the resistance by people on the issue essentially from the direction of morals fostered by the regiments of culture and tradition.

### **2.5 Literature Review**

The researchers have reviewed study reports, books on child sex tourism, publications by Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs), but they have not found any literature on child sex tourism in Delhi Agra and Jaipur. The researchers have searched several times through Internet, but there is no existing literature available. The researchers have got information about two cases from newspaper clipping, which are as follow –

1. 'India a soft target of sex tourism' – By Correspondent. *The Asian Age* 14.1.03.

Anita (not her real name) is 13 years old. But she has probably seen more of the world than most adults. She is the victim of the sex trade in India. When the National Human Rights Commission found her, she told them that she had been raped 24 times by different men the previous night.

Children are used for sex on the streets of Mumbai all the time; says Vipula L. Kadri, form Women’s Institute for Social Education. “The rates for sex with children can be as low as Rs. 25 here, and up to a lakh for virgins, in some countries.

An Indian police force officer with the NHRC, who is a nodal officer with the NHRC, points out that sex trafficking is ‘more lucrative than the illegal trade of weapons’. Trafficking for sex is an issue that is interwoven with many socio-economic factors. NGOs warn that if stringent measures are not taken against tourists who come to India in search of cheap sex, the country will be seen as a spot for sex tourism.

A study has profiled clients for sex trade as men whose work separates them from home, that is people in the armed forces and sailors to name a few, businessmen who travel a lot, and tourists, paedophiles who frequent poor and developing countries, were children are available cheap. Anita Mathew of Child Rights in Goa says the paedophiles there are found to be mainly from Europe. *Mumbai, January 13*

## 2. ‘Paedophile Couple Jailed’ — *The Statesman*, 30.03.03

A Swiss couple was today sentenced to seven years RI after a local court found them guilty of forcing minors into pornographic acts and selling obscene material on the Net. The court also ordered Wilhelm Albon Marty and Mary Lily Marty to pay a fine of Rs. 9000 each. *Mumbai March 29*

### 3. INTERVIEWS

#### 3.1. At-risk Children

The researchers took the help of local police, NGO workers, hoteliers, and tour operators to identify the children at risk.

NUMBER OF CHILDREN INTERVIEWED – 8 FEMALE AND 1 MALE

When the researchers faced problems in finding child victims of commercial sexual exploitation they decided to visit the red light area, especially the *Bedia* basti [a basti is a settlement] in Agra. But according to the police, these were not very safe places hence a lady Sub Inspector was appointed who accompanied them in those areas. She was asked to go in plain dress as because it could hamper their observation or it could well be that the people in these areas had an aversion towards the police.

The first place that they visited, was the Basei (Bedia is locally known as the Basei), which was, as reported to them, largely inhabited by the Bedia community. Unlike other bastis, this was a very silent and a lonely one. There were very few people scattered here and there. But unlike what the researchers had heard or read, their living standard did not prove them to be wealthy. The officer kept insisting that they pretended to be poor. However, what caught the eye was the richly wood-carved doors, definitely quite unlikely a décor for what seemed otherwise as an impoverished basti. It was also noted the telephone wires, and possibly cable wires passed over the area making one suspect the presence of these amenities in the houses of the Basti.

Women and girls from the age group of 13-35/40 were missing and of course with a reason. Young children, old women and men were all that could be seen. The general ambience was very dull and exceptionally quiet as if even sun had been hesitant to extend its light. It more or less resembled any other red light area with the only difference that there were no prostitutes or customers. As they were about to get out of that area, they noticed some young girls (not more than 14), chatting among themselves. So again, there is reason to think that they are being used for sexual purposes given that they are here unlike the other girls? Who are their customers? It also has to be noted from what they were informed, the Bedia girls are extremely sophisticated and they cater to rich and sophisticated customers only...

It must be added that the sheer spectacle of the Basti convinced the researchers of the fact that if minors or women are trafficked and lodged in any of the houses in the Basti it would be impossible for the common man to get a whiff of it, and as the police admitted their raids have not quite been successful, as the residents are quick to produce proof of the children being their siblings. The place seemed not only a haven for lodging trafficked personnel, but of criminals wishing to hide.

The next place that they went to was the so-called red light area of Agra, a dense market area with intersecting serpentine lanes, commonly known as:

Seb ka bazaar, Kashmiri bazaar, Maal ka bazaar.

All these are market areas. Each connected to the other via narrow lanes. The buildings are as old as the Mughal period. There has been no renovation. The houses are almost protruding on the roads. Each one is leaning on the other. Again there is no light or space for light to come in as if it has been closed from all corners. At a first glance it looks like a miniature of the *bara bazar* [300 hundred years old area of Kolkata. The ground floors are stuffed with shops ranging from spices - to all kinds of vegetables. But as soon as one looks up there are chains of verandah all covered or hidden with chiks (a mat finished pardah). They were told that prostitution was carried on in the rooms above. On close observation the researchers could only find few over made up faces with lot of make-up peeping from time to time. Most of them were Nepalis and under 18yrs of age. The fact that they were well dressed obviously meant that they were ready to cater to the needs of the customers. Though there were no signs of soliciting or any pimp trying to openly negotiate with the customers, but young and old men were seen climbing up those narrow dark stairs or talking to another man pointing towards some girl or woman literally hanging out of those windows.

As it had been mentioned earlier, none of the respondents, be it the children, the guides, hotel owners or tourists, has given the researchers any lead, from which they could come to the conclusion that child sex tourism is actually present in the golden triangle of Delhi Jaipur and Agra. There has been indication of children being sexually abused, but again the abuser did not seem to have been international or a national tourist, in any of such cases. Most of the children interviewed are poor, extremely over worked and more over many of them, at the age of 12-13, have been thrust upon with their families' responsibility. Yet they are children who still nourish dreams of a better life, which adds on to their being vulnerable to sexual abuse. Nine children have been interviewed who are mostly residents of railway stations, footpaths or slum areas, who could be vulnerable to CST.

### **3.2. Local NGOs**

Sanlaap has gathered information from those NGOs who are working against Child Sexual Exploitation. Number of persons interviewed in three places – 5 females.

#### **3.2.1. Delhi**

Delhi has very few NGOs who have dealt or even thought of focusing their programmes on this issue.

#### **HAQ Centre for child rights.**

Constraints of time meant they could not participate in this research.

**Jagori** - being a resource center, could actually help us with a lot of material but most of the members who they could talk to were traveling out of Delhi.

**JWP-** has not worked on this issue. However, they referred the name of one Mr. K. K. Mukherjee of Faridabad who had recently completed a study on this.

**Butterflies-** The program coordinator helped by suggesting the names of the persons working for *Childline* Jaipur. They do not work on the issue.

**PRAYAS-** *Prayas*, has not received any cases of CST in the last three months.

### 3.2.2. Agra

The researchers only got to know about one NGO working on related issues - *patita udhar samiti*. However no one had any clue as to whom to contact or the location of the office.

### 3.2.3. Jaipur

Jaipur has a lot of NGOs working in and around the city on various issues, but given the time frame, it was difficult to locate the NGOs working particularly on CST or related issues. The researchers decided to meet Dr. Shobita Rajagopal of Institute for Developmental Studies and find out more facts, because she and her team had conducted similar study recently. She told them that Bharatpur and Dhaulpur were the common tourist spots that are frequented by the foreigners. And these were the areas that are inhabited by groups like the Bedia, Kanjar and the Nats.

Bharatpur and Dhaulpur are situated at the Agra- Jaipur highway. The place is full of well made resorts where the tourists stay for a night or so. According to Shobita, there could be possibilities that the resorts also supply the tourists with sex entertainment. And since the younger girls are more in demand, the possibility of CST cannot be ruled out. The girls do go to the hotels and the resorts. In most cases dhabas on the highway are prone to this kind of activities.

But Pushkar, in Ajmer has reports of CST being practiced at a regular basis. Pedophilia could also be common. And there could be a network between Ajmer and Jaipur where girls are supplied.

On asking about the red light areas, she informed that Cholpur was famous for *Kothewalis*, who claim to be dancers. They have license hence it is very difficult to prove that flesh trade is carried on this area. But definitely the *Kothewalis* also take care of the sexual demands of the customers.

The other organizations are:

- VIHAAN-** Society for child development and education
- Save the Children**
- Mahila Salah Gram Surekha Kendra**

### *3.2.3.1. Information Extracted from People Working in NGOs*

There are different laws to protect the child. India has ratified the UN CRC but there is discrepancy as far as the age of the child is concerned. There are various laws. Eg. the law on child labour, marriage, rape etc. But there is no specific law on trafficking. The age of the child has become a big problem. Some laws state that the age up to which a child can be considered minor, is 15 or 16; some say that it is up to 18 and others say that it is till 18. Hence it does become difficult to execute these laws at times.

The general awareness is increasing in the cities as far as child sexual abuse is concerned. But there still lies a belief that it is common among the lower class. Whereas there are increasing cases of child abuse in upper classes as well. The presence of incest is not accepted at all.

The women in prostitution are always stigmatized. It is a part of the patriarchal society that the men are never put to question. It is because of the stigma that rehabilitation becomes so difficult. The acceptance of these women in the society is always a problem.

ECPAT has three affiliated groups in India - Sanlaap, Prerna and ICYO to fight the menace. The Government of India and NGOs attended the 1996 World Congress Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children, hosted by Sweden and organised by ECPAT and various UN bodies. The Congress adopted a declaration and approved a plan of action to counter the problem, protect children's rights and help rehabilitate those who have been abused. The Government of India was also present at the 2nd World Congress held in Japan in 2001 where governments, NGOs, UN agencies and the private sector reaffirmed these measures.

### **3.3. Law Enforcement Personnel**

Number of law enforcement personnel interviewed – 2 males

**AGRA:** The Special Superintendent of Police of Agra had been very cooperative and told the researchers that from the cases that they receive, the girls are usually above 18 years and over, the call girl racket has been in operation for the past few years, and their network is too strong to be detected. However, the girls in this profession especially call girls have to be very smart and matured, so it was likely that the girls over 20 years are more appropriate.

He also kept on denying the existence of CST or any other forms of sexual entertainment to the tourists. And also that most of the women in prostitution were not minors and Agra has a strict vigilance on that. The customers are also local ones but there was no soliciting in public carried on. He also emphasized that the ban on the viewing of the Taj Mahal at nightfall since 1984 has led to a sudden decrease in the number of tourists opting for a night halt. In fact those wanting to halt were negligible. This in their opinion has to a great extent been a factor constricting the trade and also the tourism industry.

The police have specially conducted a study on the Bedia community and its activities. Mr. Saxena also assured that there was no more baby swapping cases for the purpose of prostitution. Any new-child who is seen in that area, is properly investigated and if found to have been kidnapped, is rescued.

The police have said that Immoral Traffic Prevention Act is used to raid the resorts and hotels, but no minor girls have been found yet.

### **3.4. People from Civil Society**

#### ***3.4.1. Doctor***

“Children are god’s greatest gifts; hence it has to be preserved, be it a girl or a boy. We do have something called child rights but it is to be seen how much of that law is respected or accepted. Our greatest problem today is ignorance and illiteracy. For people like us even if we are not aware of child right and its legal status, we at least know what is right and what is wrong. We would definitely not indulge into exploitation of child labor or child sexual abuse. For us it is important to have a healthy baby not a girl or a boy. Being a doctor, I know people who start howling the moment a baby girl is born to them. So what kind of a treatment can you expect from these kinds of parents. Many of them even want to abort the baby if by chance they get to know about the sex of the fetus and it is a very common practice all over India.

But definitely of late the law has been very stringent in this regard. Even the doctors have been notified to report any such case that we come across. The law states that any kind of activity that goes on to prove that a child has been denied its right, exploited or even under paid is a serious offence. But now it is for us to see how it works.

Child sexual abuse is also a very common phenomenon nowadays. Even so called cultured people are involved in this kind of an activity. It only reflects a kind of a disease commonly known as perversion. The law definitely needs to be more proactive. I would suggest the parents be more careful.

Prostitution in my opinion should be legalized and I believe it is the only way of stopping all kinds of atrocities that the prostitutes face day in and day out.”

#### ***3.4.2. Shopkeeper***

“I had heard about the rights of the child many times. Nowadays it is often advertised in the television. Many organizations and also the government are trying to make people aware of this issue. I think the legal status has improved there are cases of people being punished for violating child rights. Recently the baby swapping case has earned a lot of popularity and I think it is good start. I have young boys working in my shop, I know it is violating child rights but in a country like ours how can you manage? The boys are being sent to the cities to earn their living and also look after their house.

Prostitution needs to be stopped. All the red light areas have to be sealed. It is causing serious damage to the future generation of this country, enhancing diseases like HIV\AIDS and what not. Nowadays you even find soliciting going on in private areas in broad daylight. ‘Child sexual abuse’ I have heard about it but it feels horrible to even

think of such an incident. How can people forget that there is someone who is constantly watching us, what are we going to answer to ourselves? “

### **3.5. Legal Professionals**

*Number of lawyers interviewed – 1 female, 2 males*

The researchers had interviewed the lawyers to know the existing legislation on prostitution, child sexual abuse including child sex tourism, its effectiveness and drawbacks:

The failure of law to protect victims and punish pimps, procurers, brothel-keepers and clients has resulted in the increase of children in commercial sexual activity. Stricter enforcement of laws, stringent punishment to be awarded to pimps, brothel-keepers and mafia-dons, trafficking in children to be made a non-bailable offence, sensitization and motivation of the police force, creation of a nodal agency with statutory powers and existing agencies to work in coordination, are the measures emphasized by the National Human Rights Commission in order to check child prostitution in the country.

The involvement of the community in exposing and ostracizing persons indulging in or aiding and abetting child sex is very important as it will lead to the shifting of the stigma from the accuser to the accused.

In India, prostitution is neither legal nor illegal. However certain activities related to prostitution and trafficking are criminal offences. The Special law in this connection is the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1986.

Without appropriate social measures, legislation, determined political will, strong law enforcement and awareness in society, it is unlikely that child prostitution and trafficking can be eradicated especially from a country where the gap between the rich and the poor is wide, such as in India.

There is no law in India related to child sex tourism but foreigners can be prosecuted under other child protection laws. There are no such sections in Indian constitution, which address this issue. Lawyer Sona Khanof Delhi, who is campaigning against the menace, says child trafficking is an organized racket, about which there is little concern. She wants the authorities to pass stricter laws to counter the growing problem before it reaches epidemic proportions. "The state should also launch public-awareness programmes and empower local bodies to take action against those exploiting children for sex," says Khan.

Section 377 is the only provision under the existing law by which sexual abuse of a boy child is punishable. Dialogue between child rights, and gay rights activists are necessary to arrive at a mutually agreeable solution.



Unfortunately the Juvenile Justice Act does not provide for the special needs required for treatment of a sexually abused child. Child rights activists are demanding that a category 'victim child' be incorporated in the J.J. Act, whereas there is another view that inclusion of the category 'victim child' would further victimize an abused child. What is required is provisions in the law to ensure the fulfilment of the needs of a victim child so that the sexual abuse does not leave an indelible mark on the child and prevent his/her healthy development.

Section 41 does not cover sexual abuse at the hands of a stranger. It merely covers assault by a person having charge of or control over a juvenile, or willful neglect by such person, which results in abuse.

The abuse is unnecessary mental or physical suffering. It does not specifically mention sexual abuse.

### **3.6 Tourism Authorities**

*NUMBER OF PEOPLE INTERVIEWED: 2 MALES*

Tourism officials admit that the small western state of Goa, famous for its beaches, is in danger of replacing Bangkok as Asia's prime sex resort. But they denied of existence of child sex tourism in Delhi, Agra or Jaipur.

### **3.7. Tourists**

*NUMBER OF PEOPLE INTERVIEWED: 5 MALES*

It was difficult to get information from tourists. They did not want to spare time talking over this issue, which they thought, was personal. For many this was a local problem and the foreigners had nothing to do with it. Many started viewing the problem from the other end of the spectrum and actually thought if the supply decreased, the demand would fall immediately. The government is inefficient to handle such situations. They should take adequate responsibilities of its children and work for their rehabilitation. Many of them even spoke about the country's policy and they spoke about everything excepting the issue of child sex tourism. Whenever the researchers tried to probe into the question, they grew unnecessarily defensive about the whole issue and their position. One of them even hinted at the fact that the presence of so many children all over the place should instigate the government and its people to revise its population control policies, rather than concentrating on child sex tourism and related problems. They were not even ready to stand in a place and talk for a minute. The interview with the tourists also did not throw any light on the presence of child sex tourism. But they agreed that they had heard about it in the newspapers, television or articles. Except for one, nobody wanted to actually speak on this issue.

### 3.8. Tour Operators

*NUMBER OF PEOPLE INTERVIEWED: 5 MALES*

The travel agents were also very particular to mention that no one in their area had ever provided the tourists with such demands, though the demand does exist. But escort services that are being provided to the tourists especially the foreigners have adult women involved in it. However, none of the travel agents mentioned that they provided the escort services. Personal observation and interview with the hotel owners confirmed the fact. The travel agents in Jaipur and Agra were clever enough to shift the onus to the Delhi based travel agents who were “equipped to provide such services” “And whenever a tourist wants to be accompanied by a woman, he knows exactly where to get it from.” Most of the girls who accompanied the tourists are available for the entire trip. The women could be from Goa or Delhi.

The local guides were the most informative. A guide in Agra actually told the researchers about paedophilia being carried out in certain parts of the city. He denied knowing the fact where it was carried out but he was quite sure of its presence. He even admitted that many foreign tourists ask the guides to be their homosexual partner for the trip. The young boys from the nearby slums (Taj Mahal) were the victims who could easily be lured with an ice cream or even a cigarette. In most cases these children were drug addicts. However the researchers could not get to interview any of them as because it was extremely difficult to trace them.

The guides in Jaipur were however more selective about their responses and everything that they said was very superficial and cosmetic.

The Delhi based guides were more professional in their approach and made it very clear that their job was not to interfere into the personal affairs of other people and that they were not paid to do so. On asking whether they could provide with such services for which they were paid for? The response was “there is something called the job ethics and we cannot forget that”. The travel agents were apprehensive of answering any questions initially. But slowly they started opening up and the researchers could sense that there was a wide market demand for prostitution. But in most cases the women are all above 18. The children are still not actively involved in prostitution.

The demand for escort services has mushroomed. Everyday newspapers have advertisements for such services, but when the researchers pointed that out, they completely blamed the media for false advertisements in order to spice up their news content. They even accused the tourism industry whose sole motive was to enhance its business.

But still it was very difficult to make them speak on their personal experience. The answers that they gave were open ended and very difficult to draw on conclusions. They did not say that child sex tourism exists but at the same time they did not clearly say that there were no possibilities of its existence.

The only stakeholder who were quite open with their discussion, were the guides in Agra. However the guides in Delhi and Jaipur had been rigid.

### **3.9. Tourism Facility Owners**

*NUMBER OF PEOPLE INTERVIEWED: 3 MALES*

#### **3.9.1. Hotels**

The hotel owners admitted that the tourists do come in with women who in most cases are not their wives or girlfriends but are introduced as their partners. The women are Indians and all of them are above 18 years of age. They are highly sophisticated and can speak English or other foreign languages fluently. The hoteliers have no other option but to allow them to stay in their hotels. Many tourists (international) demand women some of whom are provided by some five star hotels and but not by all. The five star hotels have contacts with such women who provide services to the customers. However the researchers tried speaking to one of the five star hotel managers but he refused the existence of such services or any such demands. He however mentioned the existence of call girl rackets all over the place and it is usually practiced in the small hotels. The response of the hotel owners in all the places had been the same. Small hotels pointed out to the big ones and vice versa.

The hotel owners were willing to talk but again their answers were highly selective and very carefully dealt with. The tourists especially the international ones usually stay in those areas, which are normally aristocratic. Hence, the hotel managers did not want to talk very freely. On the contrary small hotel managers were more open to discussing on the issue.

#### **3.9.2. Rickshaw puller/Van puller:**

*3 MALES*

“We grown up adults have no right of our own, how come you expect children to exercise their rights or have them. And who is going to give them? To our knowledge we haven’t seen or heard anything of this sort. If there is any existing law, it should give them the right to eat three meals a day. Be it a girl or a boy we as parents wouldn’t like to see them go to bed with an empty stomach.

We have not heard about the child right and if the government does not exercise it, the legal status should be revised. Even if prostitution carried on the child or the woman is forced because she belongs to a poor family and has to look after the needs of her younger brothers and sisters.

This is the most shameful practice that exists in our society and we are the ones who pay a heavy price for being poor. Many girls from our locality go missing every year. Some do come back and others don’t. They send money back home regularly. Even if the parents know where the money is coming from, they have to be silent because there is no

other way. This has become a business of sorts. But I definitely do not want my daughters to be victimized. Hence they have to be married as soon as possible whether I like it or not, circumstances will force me to do it.”

## **4. SUMMARY ANALYSIS**

### **4.1. Where does CST take place?**

For the purpose of the study the researchers visited places where there was the possibility of child sex tourism. They also selected specific times of the day when both the tourists and the children could be present.

Interviews were conducted in places like the railway station, footpath, busy market areas, and other tourist spots. They also visited some of the slums because usually children from these areas go to other places in search of jobs and therefore are more vulnerable.

In Delhi the researchers conducted interviews of the children in busy market area like the Connaught place, the Nizamuddin Railway Station, various slums in Tughlaqabad Institutional area, and also the footpaths. The highways connecting Delhi-Jaipur and Agra has communities who practice community based prostitution (bedias, nats, kanjars, meerushis etc). The girls from these areas are trained to be in this profession. The Bharatpur Bird Sanctuary on the way from Agra – Jaipur is marked as one of those areas. But again the girls are mostly above 18 years who cater to the tourists. They are availed from the highways and they travel along with the tourists.

During the discussions, the name of Pushkar in Ajmer came up as one of the most notorious area involved in clandestine rackets.

### **4.2. How does CST take place?**

In spite of the existing vulnerability amongst the children all around the place, child sex tourism has not been found. Though there are cases of abuse of children which even the Child Line in Delhi, and Jaipur has agreed, but a child who had been victimised by the sex tourism industry, has still not been registered. The Child Line receives around 1000 cases of child abuse everyday. The researchers have spoken to all possible Child Line coordinators, NGOs (though there are hardly any who work on issues related to CST), police records but none has been able to supply with the practice of CST. So it was not possible to find out the mode of initial contact and relationship between the child victims and tourists.

### **4.3. Push and Pull Factors**

#### ***4.3.1. Push Factors***

- Poverty
- Lack of economic opportunities for girl children and women
- Parental attitude, callousness and indifference or ignorance to the being of their daughters.
- Lack of awareness and consciousness on issues of commercial sexual exploitation
- Social and political irresponsibility amongst the administrative officials including law enforcement agencies who almost see this as natural and inevitable.

- Lack of enforcement of welfare and development projects declared by the government, but unattended by the implementing organizations due to politicization of corruption or simply lack of will.
- Lack of information and knowledge amongst law enforcement agents who have the will but don't have the know-how of how to deal with the problem. At most of the times they are corrupt and hand in glove with the rest of the nexus.

#### ***4.3.2. Pull Factors***

- Socialisation of male violence against women and prostitution, which results in men viewing prostitution as a matter of choice and not exploitation.
- Male gender constructs which uphold men sexual bravado and exploits, which is evident in the narratives of many men who feel that their sexual demands add on to their masculine identity.
- The hotels cashing in on the demand for prostituted sex, even when the demand may be for children, and the lack of regulation on them.
- The inaction by police, social welfare, tourism authorities and others, which has created these places into safe heavens for buyers of, prostituted sex.
- The criminalisation of the nexus runs by the mafia.
- Buyer's reluctance to visit the red light areas for fear of stigmatization, raids and being spotted by someone.

## **5. LEGISLATION REVIEW**

### **5.1. Prostitution and Child Sexual Abuse**

Every Indian law has its own definition of the term child.

Article 1 of *The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child* defines 'child' as

‘For the purposes of the present Convention, a child means every human being below the age of 18 years unless, under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.’

The standing Committee on Sexually Abused Children (SCOSAC) (1984) has defined ‘child sexual abuse’ as follows:

‘Any child below the age of consent may be deemed to have been sexually abused when a sexually mature person has, by design or by neglect of their usual or specific responsibilities in relation to the child, engaged or permitted the engagement of that child in activity of a sexual nature which is intended to lead to the sexual gratification of the sexually matured person. This definition pertains whether or not it involves genital or physical contact, whether or not initiated by the child, and whether or not there is discernible harmful outcome in the short term.’

### **5.2. Child Prostitution**

Child prostitution is a form of child sexual exploitation. The Juvenile Justice Act assumes children of prostitutes are ‘neglected juveniles’ and the state is empowered to remove them from the environment and put them into Juvenile Homes.

A Central Advisory Committee constituted by the Supreme Court has stressed upon the need for a comprehensive rehabilitation package which includes adequate housing facilities, free access to health and legal services, providing of skill and vocational building to assure alternative vocations and income.

#### ***5.2.1. The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act - ITPA***

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1986 deals with prostitution and trafficking in India. This act deals with trafficking for the purpose of engaging in sexual activity and not for any other reason, such as child labour.

##### ***5.2.1.1. Important Sections***

*Section 2 (f):* Definition of Prostitution – Sexual exploitation or abuse of persons for commercial purpose.

*Section 2 (h):* Public Place – Any place intended for use by or accessible to the public and includes any public conveyance.

*Section 2 (aa):* Child means a person who has not completed 16 years.

*Section 2 (cb):* Minor means a person between 16 – 18 years of age.

#### 5.2.1.2. Offences and Sentences

*Section 7:* Practicing prostitution, when in a public place, or in a notified area: up to 3 months

*Section 8:* Seducing or soliciting in public or in a notified area: up to 6 months + or fine.

*Section 4:* Living on the earnings of a sex worker up to 2 years + or fine.

*Section 3:* Keeping or managing a brothel: 1 to 3 years + or fine

*Section 5:* Taking from one place to another for sex work if aged 16 or below 7 years to life.

*Section 7:* Carrying on prostitution in a public place where the sex worker is aged 18 or under: - 7 years to life.

*Section 13(4):* The Central Government may, for the purpose of investigating any offence under this Act or under any other law for the time being in force dealing with sexual exploitation of persons and committed in more than one state, appoint such number of police officers as trafficking police officers and they shall exercise all powers and discharge all the functions as are exercisable under this Act with the modification that they shall exercise such powers and discharge such functions in relation to the whole of India.

*Section 20:* Empowers a magistrate, who on receiving information that any person residing in or frequenting any place within the local limits of his jurisdiction is a prostitute, may record the substance of the information received and issue a show cause notice as to why she should not be required to remove herself from the place and be prohibited from re-entering it, with a copy of the record of information received.

*Section 21:* The State Government may in its discretion establish as many protective homes and corrective institutions under this Act as it thinks fit and such homes and institutions, when established, shall be maintained in such manner as may be described.



### 5.2.1.3. Effectiveness and Loopholes

#### *Effectiveness:*

The ITPA, on the face of it, seeks to punish those persons involved with forcing others into prostitution, not the prostituted children or adults.

The Act provides for the establishment of Special Courts for trial under the ITPA, appointment of trafficking police officers.

The Act provides for the establishment of Special Courts for trial under the ITPA, appointment of trafficking police officers.

The Act also provides for keeping the victim child or woman in a protective home.

The definition of prostitution has also been changed and mere gratification of sex without anything more has been taken out of the purview of prostitution.

#### *Loopholes*

The provision against ‘soliciting or seduction’ does not root out prostitution, but simply forces commercial sex workers more into the traps of pimps.

Besides, the police can misuse as ‘seduction’ is not clearly defined, but loosely stated.

It incorporates an inherent gender bias in Section 8, where the penalty for seduction or soliciting for men is given to be lighter than that for women.

The Act does not affect customers of prostitution at all.

Section 4, by way of penalizing those who live off women in prostitution for a living it denies family (parents, siblings, sick relatives) a substantial source of income

The attempt to stop prostitution in ‘public places’ (places of public, religious worship, educational institution, hospital) shows an inherent prejudice in society, which tries to push prostitution as a social evil.

A study done by Ganguly & Solanki states:

“Decriminalising prostitution can serve at best as a short term and immediate response to the issue. So long as women and their bodies are seen as sites of control and consumption and divisions are made between ‘good’ and ‘bad’ women, prostitution will continue and choices denied to women.”

### **5.3. Child Trafficking**

Article 23 of the Indian Constitution prohibits traffic in human beings and other forms of forced labour. Sections related to trafficking in the Indian Penal Code:-

363A: Kidnapping or maiming minor for purposes of begging.

365: Kidnapping or abducting with intent secretly and wrongfully to confine a person.

- 366: Kidnapping, abducting or inducing woman to compel her marriage etc.
- 366A: Procuring of a minor girl.
- 366B: Importation of girl from foreign country.
- 370: Buying or disposing of any person as slave.
- 372: Selling minor for purposes of prostitution etc.
- 373: Buying minor for purposes of prostitution etc.
- 376: Punishment for rape.

#### **5.4. Child Pornography**

Child Pornography deals with the sexually explicit reproduction of a child's image.

Section 292 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) penalizes the sale, distribution, public exhibition, and possession of obscene book, pamphlet, paper, drawing, painting, representation, figure or any other obscene object.

Section 293 punishes the person who does, or attempts to, sell, distribute, exhibit or circulate obscene objects to a person under 20 years of age. Under both of these sections the punishment is more severe for the second and subsequent convictions. The performance of any obscene act in any public place, or singing or uttering an obscene song or words, in or near any public place is an offence under sec 294 of the IPC. The IPC does not specifically deal with pornographic material depicting children.

The Young Persons (Harmful Publications) Act 1956 was enacted in India to prohibit dissemination of certain publications harmful to young persons and thereby prevent the glorification of crime, violence and vice.

#### **5.5. Rape**

In India there is no separate law with regard to sexual assault of children. The general law on rape contained in the IPC covers child sexual abuse and assault.

Section 375: -

A man is said to commit 'rape' who, except in the case here in after excepted, has sexual intercourse with a woman under circumstances falling under any of the six following descriptions:-

Firstly: Against her will

Secondly: Without her consent

Thirdly: With her consent, when her consent, has been obtained by putting her, or any person in whom she is interested, in fear of death or of hurt.

Fourthly: With her consent, when the man known that he is not her husband and that her consent is given because she believes that he is another man to whom she is or believes herself to be lawfully married.

Fifthly: - With her consent, when at the time of giving such consent, by reason of unsounded ness of mind or intoxication or the administration by him personally or through another of any stupefying or unwholesome substance, she is unable to understand the nature and consequences of that to which she gives consent.

Sixthly:- With or without her consent, when she is under 16 years of age.

To constitute the offence of rape it is not necessary that there should be a complete penetration by the male organ with emission of semen and for rupture of the hymen to constitute rape, partial penetration is sufficient, the private parts of the accused should have entered the person of the victims the extent of penetration does not matter. A man cannot be held guilty of rape of his own wife if she is over 15 years of age. The laws of child sexual abuse are often in conflict with one another; sexual intercourse by a husband with a wife between 15 and 16 years of age does not amount to rape, whereas under section 375 of the IPC, 16 years is the statutory rape age.

Section 85 of IPC –

‘Nothing is an offence which is done by a person who at the time of doing it, is, by reason of intoxication, incapable of knowing the nature of the act, or that he is doing what is either wrong, or contrary to law provided that the thing which intoxicated him was administered to him without his knowledge or against his will.’

Voluntary drunkenness is no defence of a crime, a man cannot take advantage of his own wrongdoing. Though if a man is made drunk without his knowledge or against his will, he will be excused of having committed the act.

Sexual Abuse of a boy child –

Section 377 of the code, which deals with ‘unnatural offences’, covers sexual abuse of a boy child.

Sodomy amounts to ‘carnal intercourse’ against the order of nature as the natural object of carnal intercourse are supposed to be the possibility of conception. An attempt to thrust the penis into the anus of a male or female would be punishable under this section.

## **5.6. The Juvenile Justice Act (1986)**

The Juvenile Justice Act (1986) was enacted to bring about uniformity in the juvenile justice system throughout India. The preamble of the Act states an act to provide for the care, protection, treatment, development and rehabilitation of neglected or delinquent juveniles and for the adjudication of certain matters relating to, and disposition of

delinquent juveniles. Under the J.J. Act, a sexually abused child would fall under the definition of a 'neglected juvenile'. The term 'neglected juvenile' includes a juvenile who is likely to be abused or exploited for immoral or illegal purposes or unconscionable gain.

Section 41 of the Juvenile Justice Act, indirectly and in a limited manner deals with child sexual abuse under section 41 of the Juvenile Justice Act the offender should be a person who has the charge of or control over a juvenile and who exposes such juvenile to abuse.

### **5.7. National Policy for Children**

The Government of India adopted the National Policy for children on 22<sup>nd</sup> August 1974. The policy emphasizes that the state is to provide adequate services to children to ensure their full physical, mental and social development and for them to enable them to enjoy optimum conditions for their balanced growth. This policy states that 'Children shall be protected against neglect, cruelty and exploitation' and that the State will provide necessary legislative and administrative support to achieve the aims set out in the policy.

## **6. INDIVIDUAL PROFILES**

### **6.1. Children - Delhi**

The children who have been interviewed are mostly resident's railway stations, footpaths or slum areas, who could be vulnerable to CST.

#### **6.1.2. Profile No. 1**

**AGE:** *Doesn't know but should not be more than 17yrs.*

**SEX:** F

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** None

**MARITAL STATUS:** Was married to a porter around two years ago but he has married another woman and is missing for 6 months.

**OCCUPATION:** Sweeping the footpath in front the of hotels or big showrooms and tourist spots.

**RESIDENCE:** Resident of a foot path near Canaught Place , an eminent market place with loads of food plazas and a favorite tourist spot.

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** None. Father died of leprosy last year.

**OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD:** Self

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** Minimum Rs 20 and Maximum Rs 50 per day.

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** Doesn't remember. Had been very young when her father to this place had brought her.

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** She wakes up before the day light breaks in, rather she has to because the sweeper comes to clean the footpath. There are regular fights between the sweeper and people like them who sleep in the footpaths. If they do not wake up before they arrive, they clean them up with water along with the roads (giggles). She takes a bath in the railway platform, which is nearby and has a cup of tea. She waits till the shops start opening and runs with her broom so that no one else gets to snatch her area. The payment is done simultaneously and that is when she gets to have bread and tea. Her work gets over by noontime and she roams around the place till evening. She loves watching the foreigners buy things worth Rs 10, for Rs 100. She again takes her dinner( dal, sabji and roti), and goes off to sleep.

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTING FOR WHICH SHE IS NOT PAID:** At times the shopkeepers make her clean the footpath and asks her to come back after

sometime and they forget about it completely. When she comes back they deny and she has been beaten up several times. She does not argue, otherwise she will not be allowed to clean the footpath from the next time. Last week a shopkeeper had promised to pay Rs 50 if she could get her a foreign customer, but then when she did, he denied completely.

**INTERACTION AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOURISTS - NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL:** At times, when they ask for a certain store or the way to the railway station. Many times they are mistaken as a beggar and given some money even if she does not ask for it. Of course she does not return it. She can speak elementary English. She has never asked a tourist where they come from.

She said repeatedly that her job was to clean the footpath and not entertain the tourists. She earned her living with respect. However, she later admitted that she did take some of them to well known shops and got paid for it by the shopkeepers and occasionally the foreign tourists. The tourists are not as unkind as the localities. They do give money out of concern and kindness. She has never gone anywhere out of Delhi and has neither been asked to do so by anyone.

**MODE OF SPENDING THE EARNED MONEY:** There is just enough to have two meals a day. Besides she also has to pay rent for the space that she needs to sleep in the footpath. She loves to wear new clothes and jewellery and she believes when her husband comes back he will bring some with him.

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** She does not know how to play cards. Nobody involves in it, because she can't pay. Before she was addicted to T.V, but now she gets pain in her eyes. When her husband was here she watched T.V regularly in one of the shops. But now she doesn't feel like it, it reminds her of him."

**ADDICTION:** At times she has bidi / khaini."

**GETTING OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** Lots of young and old men want to get married to her. Especially after her husband ran away. She is comparatively fair and good looking (which she is), naturally alliances keep coming. She doesn't want to repeat the same mistake. This time she will only marry someone who has money to at least buy her three meals a day.

**6.1.2. PROFILE: NO. 2**

**AGE:** 13 yrs

**SEX:** M

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Class III

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**OCCUPATION:** Cleaning cars at the traffic lights

**RESIDENCE:** In a slum near Tuglaqabad extension

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** 5

**OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD:** Mother works as domestic help

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** Rs 1500- Rs 2000\ month

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** From Bangladesh when he was very young

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** He wakes up at around 4:30 am and goes out to work after having a cup of tea and two slice of bread. He cleans about 100 cars a day. He has to come back early because he has to cook for her sisters. He has two younger and one elder sister. The elder sister is mentally challenged hence he has to be looked after. His mother can only go for work after he comes back home. The other sisters are 6yrs and 4 yrs. They are too young to be able to handle things on their own. His mother wants them to be self-sufficient but he doesn't want them to work right from this age. After their lunch they sit and watch television. His mother use to work for a rich man and before leaving he gave them a television. In the evenings he tries to teach some maths to one of the sisters who is studying in the nearby school. Mother comes back at around 6:00 o'clock. He goes out with his friends and chat with them for hours. He also play cricket whenever he has money to buy a ball. He comes back at around 10 o'clock; by that time everyone has their meal. They watch T.V till late at night.

**WHERE HE HAS TO DO ANYTING FOR WHICH HE IS NOT PAID:** In spite of cleaning cars, the owners refuse to pay. According to them, they did not need his service but he forced the issue. At times the signal goes on and the car has to move. He cannot run after the car because it is dangerous, one of his friends got killed last month. He often brings ration for the house that his mother works in, but he is not paid for it. Sometimes he is offered a biscuit or a sweet.

**WHETHER ENGAGED IN ANY JOB:** He does not have an employer as such but there are elder boys to whom he pays a certain amount. The working hours are not

restricted. At times he even goes out for work during the evenings but generally the demand for car washing is in the mornings. He works on the streets, at times there are good customers but in most cases he is rebuked and scolded for disturbing them.

### **INTERACTION AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOURISTS**

**NATIONAL\INTERNATIONAL:** Not directly interacted but many a times they come across cars which has tourists traveling in them. Obviously all of them run towards it for *BAKSHIS (TIPS)*. Even if they are not cleaning the car, the tourists don't care - they are generous enough to pay.

He is shy and afraid to talk to them. Besides he does not know English or any other foreign language. He loves the colour of their skin and their smiles specially the women are very beautiful. One of his friends who worked for a travel agency (died last year), was conversant in English. He spoke a lot about them. He was a guide of sorts.

The researcher asked him if his friend ever told him about anything that he had to offer to the tourists.

The boy was not sure but he had heard that the friend of his (around 16yrs) had a foreign friend who he referred to as his 'girl-friend'. He brought home lovely gifts. This boy actually worked in Ajmer, but came home occasionally on holidays. Everyone in the locality suspects that some gangster had killed him because of his association with the underworld.

**MODE OF SPENDING THE EARNED MONEY:** He loves watching new films but the tickets are expensive. They often hire videos and watch films. He loves buying sunglasses from the weekly market near their house. During festivals he takes his sisters to the mela. Last year he bought his elder sister a pair of silver anklets. She was extremely happy.

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** He has a TV at home and he is addicted to it. He doesn't usually play cards but... yes at times he is forced to. If he has to stay in a group of friends, he can't say no.

**ADDICTION - if any:** He takes khaini, bidi and cigarettes at times. Last diwali [religious festival in November] he drank a little bit.

### **6.1.3. Profile No. 3**

**AGE:** 10-12 YRS

**SEX:** F



**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Reading in class II

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**OCCUPATION:** Helps her mother, who works as domestic.

**RESIDENCE:** In a slum.

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** 6

**OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD:** Father works in a ration shop.

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** Doesn't know.

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** Doesn't know

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** She goes to school when she feels like. Most of the days, she stays back to look after her brothers who are still very young. And also when there is not enough money for her to travel in a bus. Her school is far away and she hates walking. She wakes up in the morning and makes some tea for her mother, father and the two uncles (no blood relation) who live with them. Then she goes out to get milk for her brothers and also bread for herself. If she goes to school she comes back by 3:00p.m and go out to play with her friends. Most of them do not study in school but work somewhere or the other. They have their dinner after mother comes back. She goes to watch T.V in a nearby house in the evenings.

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTING FOR WHICH SHE IS NOT PAID:** No, because she does not work for anybody.

**INTERACTION & EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOURISTS:** One of the tourists had come to their school for an occasion. They were given chocolates and pencils. She wanted to ask a few questions. She was eagerly waiting to answer them but her chance never came. Their teacher told her that he would come back the next year. Once she met a Nepali man with hat, he lost his way and she showed him out. He was very happy and promised to take her with him when he came back the next time. He even gave her money. Her mother was very angry and wanted to beat her but her father was happy and appreciated her courage to be able to talk to stranger.

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** She watches T.V regularly.

**ADDICTION - if any:** None

**GETTING OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** "I DON'T KNOW" smiles and runs away.

**6.1.4. Profile No. 4**

**AGE:** 16yrs

**SEX:** F

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** None

**MARITAL STATUS:** Widow.

**OCCUPATION:** Had been into prostitution for two years now she works as a domestic.

**RESIDENCE:** Didn't want to say.

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** None

**OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD:** Not available

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** Rs. 800/month

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** From Midnapur, west Bengal.

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** She wakes up in the morning and finishes of with the household work. Her cousin brother stays with her. She has food only after She comes back. He doesn't do anything and is searching for a job. She works in three houses. In the evenings she goes out or watches television.

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTHING FOR WHICH SHE IS NOT PAID:** No.

**WHETHER ENGAGED IN ANY JOB:** Her employers are like the way these Delhi people are. They will make her work very hard but pay less. In her previous job she was not paid well. She left that job after she got married. Her husband didn't want her to do that job. The house that she works in is very huge. She is at least getting two meals a day.

**INTERACTION AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOURISTS-**

**NATIONAL\INTERNATIONAL:** While she was in prostitution Indians often came to the brothel, but she never met any foreigner. The (local) tourists knew to speak Hindi. Once she had gone to Puri, Orissa with one of the tourists who was an aged man. He was a gentleman. He didn't have much money. She had good things to eat and was paid off well. He even brought a sari for her. She had gone only once.

**MODE OF SPENDING THE EARNED MONEY:** She is addicted to alcohol and all of her money goes for that.

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING.:** No.

**ADDICTION – if any:** Alcohol.

**GETTING OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** She got offers but she has learnt about this world in a harder way. She doesn't believe in any one.

## **6. 2. Children - Agra**

### **6.2.1. Profile No. 1**

**AGE:** 7-9 yrs

**SEX:** F

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Nil

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**OCCUPATION:** Begging

**RESIDENCE:** On the streets outside Fatehpur Sikri.

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** None

**OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD:** Not available

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** Depends. It is more during tourist season.

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** Doesn't know

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** She wakes up in the morning. She has a bath and takes some food. Then she waits for the first tourist bus to arrive, and she starts begging. She has snacks for lunch and rice for dinner. She knows how to cook but there are no utensils. She begs till the last tourist that comes in.

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTHING FOR WHICH SHE IS NOT PAID:** Most of the times she is made to work in the local shops and they don't pay.

### **INTERACTION AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOURISTS-**

**NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL:** Many a times many of them even treat them to a meal. They are very good and kind hearted. Even the money that they are given is more. Most of them are white, black people also come but rarely. The Indian tourists travel in groups or families. They hesitate to give money to them

They don't have to talk to them. The tourists understand that these children need money. Especially during the summers they do not like to be irritated hence the moment they see them they come and give money even before the children ask for it. If they want to talk, they make symbols and the children more or less understand. She never got any offer to go to any other place, but she wants to go out of this place and sees the world around. The tourists love to stay with their friends and wives who come along with them. Many of them have Indian wives who understand Hindi and speak well. They do not allow the foreigner to pay anything.

**MODE OF SPENDING THE EARNED MONEY:** She loves to have ice creams and buy bangles for herself. If she looks good she will earn more.

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** She plays among her friends and that is how she enjoys.

**ADDICTION - if any:** No.

**GETTING ANY OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** No.

### *6.2.2. Profile No. 2*

**AGE:** 12 YRS

**SEX:** F

**EDUCATIONAL:** Nil

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**OCCUPATION:** Begging

**RESIDENCE:** In a slum behind the Taj Mahal.

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** Two sisters

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** Rs. 500- 600/ month

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** No.

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** All of her three sisters beg. They start early in the morning because the tourists start coming to see the sun rise. They have their meals outside (it was very difficult to follow her speech because she had some speech problem).

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTHING FOR WHICH YOU ARE NOT PAID:**  
No.

**INTERACTION AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOURISTS:** The tourists come from various places. The children are not bothered they only want money. She has problem in speaking and the tourists don't understand her. She has never received anything.

**MODE OF SPENDING THE EARNED MONEY:** She does not earn enough to have two meals a day so she never thinks of buying anything

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** She wants to watch T.V/visit video parlour. At times she stands in front of shop and watches.

**ADDICTION - if any:** Smiles, but doesn't say anything.

**GETTING OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** Many boys want to get married but they are not reliable. Last year a girl in their locality got married and never came back. She was sold in Bombay. Besides, she is young if she getting married what will happen to her sisters?

### **6.2.3. Profile No. 3**

**AGE:** 9 yrs

**SEX:** F

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Class I

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**OCCUPATION:** Sells bindis in front of *Et-Mut-Ud-Dulla*

**RESIDENCE:** Local

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** Her and her mother.

**OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD:** Her mother also sells bindi

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** Doesn't know. Around Rs 1800/- per month

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** From Jaipur

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** She goes to school in the morning and comes back to the shop. The locality they live in is very notorious. Her mother doesn't want her to be alone in the house. The boys are not reliable. She helps her with selling the bindis and goes back home in the evening

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTHING FOR WHICH SHE IS NOT PAID:** No.

**INTERACTION AND EXPERIENCES WITH THE TOURISTS-**

**NATIONAL\INTERNATIONAL:** She interacts with those who come to buy bindis. Most of them are women. They love to wear Indian stuff. Some men also buy to increase their sell. Many a times, lot of them tries to talk to her. They ask her name, where she comes from, which class she is in, would she like to go to their country, her mother doesn't like talking but she loves. The tourists come from various parts of the world; she doesn't know from which country they come.

**MODE OF SPENDING MONEY:** Her mother gives exact amount of money that she would need to spend on her books food or traveling.

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** Her mother doesn't like her going to other peoples' houses to watch T.V

**ADDICTION - if any:** None

**GETTING OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** Did not want to say..

### **6.3. Children - Jaipur**

#### **6.3.1. Profile No. 1**

**AGE:** 15 YRS

**SEX:** F

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** None

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**OCCUPATION:** Sells picture postcards in the HAWA MAHAL

**RESIDENCE:** Near the above area

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** Father and brother

**OCCUPATION OF THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD:** Father is handicapped.  
Brother works as a truck helper

**EARNING OF THE FAMILY:** 1500\month roughly

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** No

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** She goes to various tourist spots and sells post cards. Before when her mother was alive the business was profitable. But now she has to work very hard, runs from one place to another. Still there is hardly any sell. Whole day goes in selling, she goes back home only after sun set. Then she cooks and her father gets to have some food. Her brother doesn't come home regularly.

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTHING FOR WHICH SHE IS NOT PAID:** No, never.

**WHETHER ENGAGED ANY JOB:** The person she works with is quite a decent man. Besides he is her father's childhood friend's uncle. He is quite kind to me. Even if she can't sell as many cards as she is supposed to, he doesn't shout.

**INTERACTIONS AND EXPERIENCES INTERACTED WITH THE TOURISTS-NATIONAL\INTERNATIONAL:** She interacts with the tourists only for the sake of selling cards. They come from all over the world. She doesn't have time to stand and talk to them. She is reserved she doesn't usually encourage conversation with the tourists

**MODE OF SPENDING THE EARNED MONEY:** She has to give everything to her father; otherwise they cannot have their daily meals. Her brother doesn't contribute a single penny.

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** No.

**ADDICTION - if any:** No.

**GETTING OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** She got offers several times. She thinks she is old enough to get married. But she doesn't have money. Besides, now a days it is very difficult to trust anyone.

### 6.3.2. Profile No. 2

**AGE:** 10 YRS

**SEX:** F

**EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Nil

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**OCCUPATION:** Begging

**RESIDENCE:** The railway station

**NO.OF FAMILY MEMBERS:** She is alone

**WHETHER MIGRATED:** Doesn't know

**DAILY ACTIVITIES FROM MORNING TILL NIGHT:** She goes to various tourist spots to beg. When it is raining she does it in the platform. She lives, sleeps and eats in this platform. The whole day she spends in begging. She doesn't work only when she takes food or sleeps. The children who beg in the platforms have to pay rent for it. Otherwise there is no hard and fast rule.

**WHETHER SHE HAS TO DO ANYTHING FOR WHICH SHE IS NOT PAID:** At times she helps the tea stall owner with his work. He doesn't pay but gives her food instead.

#### **INTERACTIONS AND EXPERIENCE WITH THE TOURISTS-**

**NATIONAL\INTERNATIONAL:** Many a times she interacts with the tourist. They actually wait for them to come. The tourists pay a lot more. To avoid being disturbed they readily part with their money, unlike the local tourists. They even give them cold drinks after having half the bottle. They buy the food if the children want it. They communicate with signs and symbols. Besides, if they are hungry, it has one language all over the world. They can't beg without talking to them. They are usually friendly people.

**MODE OF SPENDING THE EARNED MONEY:** She spends most of her money in eating and paying *HAFTA* (*the rent which is paid for begging*).

**ENTERTAINMENT-WATCHING T.V \VISITING VIDEO PARLOUR\ BUYING PICTURES\ PLAYING CARD\ GAMBLING:** No.

**ADDICTION – if any:** She loves pan (beetle leaf)



**GETTING OFFER FOR MARRIAGE:** Nowadays it is very difficult to trust anyone. Besides, she feels nobody is going to marry her?

#### **6.4. Tourists**

##### **6.4.1. Profile No. 1**

**Age:** 34

**Occupation:** Historian

**Marital Status:** Unmarried

**Country of Origin:** Iceland.

**REASON FOR COMING TO INDIA:** To know about its culture and tradition

**WHETHER HE HAS HEARD ABOUT CHILD SEX TOURISM:** He has come across such a thing several times, in newspaper and also in the articles. Now the sex tourism industry is a profitable business.

**WHETHER IT IS KNOWN TO HIM THAT DELHI, JAIPUR AND AGRA ARE THE IDENTIFIED SPOTS WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE BEING ABUSED BY THE TOURISTS/ TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE:** He has heard about Thailand but not India.

**WHETHER HE HAS HEARD ABOUT THESE PLACES BEFORE COMING TO INDIA:** He has heard about these places in historical context. India has the oldest historical background and it is well preserved. He is here to have a look at the Taj Mahal.

**WHETHER HE HAS EVER HEARD ABOUT CST FROM ANY OF HIS FRIENDS/RELATIVES/ COLLEAGUES( WHO HAS VISITED INDIA) REGARDING ANY INCIDENT IF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:** He has not heard about this.

**CST IS A MAJOR PROBLEM IN INDIA- OPINION AND SUGGESTION:** It is a major problem for the South Asian countries, especially, when it concerns the future of so many children. The government must take some steps to prevent it. He thinks he is not the right person to suggest anything.

**WHETHER HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANYBODY DURING THE VISIT TO THE TOURIST SPOTS:** He travels alone. He does not need a guide.

### **6.4.2. Profile No. 2**

**AGE:** 30

**SEX:** M

**OCCUPATION:** Businessman

**MARITAL STATUS:** Married

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** He is from England.

**REASON OF COMING TO INDIA:** He has come for the purpose of business. But he has ample amount of time so he thought he might as well go about seeing places.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT CHILD SEX TOURISM:** He has heard about it. He was quite shocked to hear it. Besides, his daughter asked about it a few days ago.

**WHETHER IT IS KNOWN TO HIM THAT DELHI, JAIPUR AND AGRA ARE THE IDENTIFIED SPOTS WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE BEING ABUSED BY THE TOURISTS/ TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE.:** He did not know and shocked to hear it. He was under the impression that India was a very conservative place.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT THESE PLACES BEFORE COMING TO INDIA:** He has not heard before.

#### **CST IS A MAJOR PROBLEM IN INDIA – OPINION & SUGGESTION**

He feels it as a major problem. The voluntary organization should be more careful.

**WHETHER HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANYBODY DURING THE VISIT TO THE TOURIST SPOTS:** An Indian colleague has accompanied him. He is also an old friend.

### **6.4.3. Profile No. 3**

**AGE:** 46

**SEX:** M

**OCCUPATION:** Engineer

**MARITAL STATUS:** Unmarried

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** He is from Korea

**REASON OF COMING TO INDIA:** He had come when he was very young. He loves Indian food.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT CHILD SEX TOURISM:** He has heard about it in the context of the Thailand.

**WHETHER IT IS KNOWN TO HIM THAT DELHI, JAIPUR AND AGRA ARE THE IDENTIFIED SPOTS WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE BEING ABUSED BY THE TOURISTS/ TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE:** Could be, but he was not sure

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT THESE PLACES BEFORE COMING TO INDIA:** He has heard before, because his parents had come for their honeymoon. They quite liked it. He is here to remember them.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT CST FROM ANY OF HIS FRIENDS/RELATIVES/ COLLEAGUES( WHO HAS VISITED INDIA) REGARDING ANY INCIDENT IF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:** He has not.

**CST IS A MAJOR PROBLEM IN INDIA - OPINION & SUGGESTIONS:** If it exists than definitely it should be eradicated. Is it legalized? In any case children should be kept out of here.

**WHETHER HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANYBODY DURING THE VISIT TO THE TOURIST SPOTS:** He travels alone. He does not like too many people around. Whenever he is going to any of the historical monuments, if he is interested he hires a guide. He pays them accordingly.

#### ***6.4.4. Profile No. 4***

**AGE:** 57

**SEX:** M

**OCCUPATION:** Photographer

**MARITAL STATUS:** Wouldn't like to answer

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** He is from Britain.

**REASON OF COMING TO INDIA:** He would love to take photographs.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT CHILD SEX TOURISM:** He had heard about while traveling to Bangkok.

**WHETHER IT IS KNOWN TO HIM THAT DELHI, JAIPUR AND AGRA ARE THE IDENTIFIED SPOTS WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE BEING ABUSED BY THE TOURISTS/ TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE:** It is not known to him.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT THESE PLACES BEFORE COMING TO INDIA:** He has heard about these places, but did not mention the context.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT CST FROM ANY OF HIS FRIENDS/RELATIVES/ COLLEAGUES( WHO HAS VISITED INDIA) REGARDING ANY INCIDENT IF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:** He has not heard.

**CST IS A MAJOR PROBLEM IN INDIA: OPINION & SUGGESTION TO PREVENT IT:** It could be a major problem but he really does not understand where and what is the problem.

**WHETHER HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANYBODY DURING THE VISIT TO THE TOURIST SPOTS:** He is travelling alone.

#### *6.4.5. Profile No. 5*

**AGE:** 30

**SEX:** M

**OCCUPATION:** Journalist

**MARITAL STAUS:** None

**COUNTRY OF ORIGIN:** U.S.A

**REASON OF COMING TO INDIA:** On holiday

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT CHILD SEX TOURISM:** He has heard about it. He is a journalist and he has to keep his eyes open to these issues.

**WHETHER IT IS KNOWN THAT DELHI, JAIPUR AND AGRA ARE THE IDENTIFIED SPOTS WHERE THE CHILDREN ARE BEING ABUSED BY THE TOURISTS/ TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE:** He does not know it but, he thinks there are possibilities.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT THESE PLACES BEFORE COMING TO INDIA:** He has heard about these places before, because it is the capital of a country. Apart from this they always hear about India and its war with Pakistan.

**WHETHER EVER HEARD ABOUT CST FROM ANY OF YOUR FRIENDS/RELATIVES/ COLLEGUES( WHO HAS VISITED INDIA) REGARDING ANY INCIDENT IF CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE:** One of his friends had been approached by a guide. But he thinks it was a child. He refused and they went away.

**CST IS A MAJOR PROBLEM IN INDIA – OPINION AND SUGGESTIONS TO PREVENT IT:** If it exists then definitely it is a major problem. The government and tourism industry must be pro active.

**WHETHER HE IS ACCOMPANIED BY ANYBODY DURING THE VISIT TO THE TOURIST SPOTS:** He is travelling with friends.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

The Golden Triangle of Delhi, Agra and Jaipur is famous for its historical and architectural splendour and tourists are attracted here most for these visual delights and less for relaxing and leisure as in the case of Goa.

North India is strangely both a hypocritical and a conservative part of the country that regales in the legends of *Johar* and practices Sati if only to glorify it. Thus there is a strong resistance to the queries posed. Especially in Jaipur our interaction with the local tourist operators, revealed the regard they had for the Khothewallis, who according to them, are involved not in flesh trade but preservation of traditional Indian dance and music.

Since we are aware of the presence of child sex tourism in other parts of the country, and also because the Bedia Community sends children for prostitution in the metros of Kolkata, Delhi and Mumbai, there is always a possibility that this 'highly profitable' industry does flourish here; and if not it might soon find a place in the Triangle as a viable tourist option. The children as it is are exposed to sexual abuse regularly and in most cases, without any economic factor involved. The presence of vulnerable children in the locality, the importance of the Triangle as a flourishing tourist spot and the tremendous network, which supports the child sex tourism in other parts of the country, makes it a definite possibility of this malaise afflicting the region soon.

Since poverty is rampant here as in other parts, and there is strange government apathy to the cause of poverty, it seems highly plausible that child sex tourism can operate since it is an easy way of income and children can be misguided with lures of a better future.

Though child sex tourism is not a common phenomenon in these areas, we have evidence that minor prostitutes do exist in the Bedia, Kanjars, Saharia, Bheel and Meena. So we cannot rest in peace and turn a blind eye because at the same time child sexual abuse has been on the rise and children are being exploited like commodities. We have to ensure a better future and cannot let the younger generation loose its childhood even before it is born.

## **8. RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **8.1. Tourism Authorities**

The tourism authorities should be oriented on the UN Convention of the Rights of Child and on the issues of child sexual abuse. They can design and produce audiovisual materials to use in major tourist spots.

The non-government organization should take initiative in orienting the tourism authorities.

### **8.2. Tour Operators and/or hoteliers**

Hotels, which serve as a site for prostitution, must be brought under regulation to combat child prostitution. NGOs should develop specific training and workshops for the tour operators so that they keep strong vigil on the tourist while conducting the tour.

### **8.3. NGOs**

Most of the NGOs are keen to work on health related issues. Since there are lots of children at risk the local NGOs should take an initiative to do an extensive research, which could provide a data base for the people willing to work in future.

The NGOs should implement regular workshops for tourism authorities and provide technical assistance to enable them to transfer their knowledge to the other relevant departments/agencies.

### **8.4. State Protection Services**

Child sex tourism has not been an issue for them previously. So they have not prepared any action plan. The Government of India has introduced Swadhar Scheme for trafficked children in 2002. It has been observed that Agra and Jaipur are main sources of trafficking and most of the girls are being trafficked from the above-mentioned communities. Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai are the destination places of those girls. The State Govt. for the rehabilitation and protection of trafficked children should properly implement Swadhar Scheme.

They should take an initiative to do an action research on child sex tourism. On the basis of the funding strategies could be designed.

### **8.5. Law Enforcement Agencies**

Law enforcement agencies must be oriented and trained to deal with the problem of child prostitution or sexual exploitation of women and children.

A process for monitoring crimes against women and girls related to prostitution must be initiated to address the problem.

The Juvenile Justice Act has been amended in 2000. In spite of that the issue of sex tourism has not been incorporated.  
Laws specifically on sex tourism should be introduced to deal with the issue.



## APPENDICES

### i. A Brief Profile of Customary Prostitution in Agra and Jaipur

#### *BEDIAS*

The Bedias are Nomads and are also settled in all the three states. During this particular trip they were found in Sivpuri particularly, which is a small town but has a big population of Bedia community. They were also seen in villages beside the highway from Chittorgarh to MP.

Some of them are settled in red light areas and others live in distant villages but are engaged in prostitution (women) and trafficking (men and older women). The first born of every family is expected to join prostitution and presently other children also, of these families are joining the flesh trade. The discussions with the different members of these families during this trip made it very clear that little girls are taken to the city to join prostitution without the knowledge and understanding of the little girls. It is not at all a confirmed choice but girls accept it because the parents agree to it. They are ensured good life and lot of income for the family, which the little girls would never protest or deny to have.

Recently in one of the cases that Sanlaap was handling (in Kolkata) it was found that two little Bedia girls had been brought from another family paying a small amount of two thousand rupees to the poor parents. This was quite a lot for the parents who needed money for food and alcohol and had no income of their own. The woman who bought these two children are from the Bedia community her self and owns couple of houses in the city of Kolkata and deals in buying and selling of children for prostitution.

The Bedias live in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and also in some other villages in Western UP. Most of them do not have much land as for a long time some of these communities were constantly moving and were accepted as nomads and as a result agriculture is not possible for them. But as prostitution is socially acceptable the adult men keep these women, and especially girl children, involved in prostitution. The men in the family are known to be lazy and indulge in trafficking of the children of their own family and community. The question of choosing prostitution does not arise and the child has to get involved in it to feed the parent and the siblings. The men are also part of the very organised crime of trafficking, where women and children are bought and sold for prostitution, cheap labour, beggary [boy children] and organ transplantation [we have no proof though].

The Bedias are found in Agra, Kanpur, Etah, Fatehpur districts of UP, Banda Barabanki, Lalitpur in Rajasthan and UP. They are found in prostitution in the red light areas of Varanasi, Meerut ,Manipuri, Jalauni, Etawa, Kanpur, Agra, Mirzapur and Saharanpur . The Bedia community were the biggest community involved in prostitution and are continuously found in big and small red light areas of towns situated in the areas where

the national highways are coming up. As they are nomads also they move in groups in search of work and these are the ones who are now involved in prostitution in road side restaurants, quarry work and other cheap and contractual labour. In the process many of them are taken to the city in search of jobs with the consent of their families and are actually trafficked for prostitution from the brothels of the big cities, Hotels and beer bars as dancer girls but actually are forced into prostitution.

### *KANJARS*

This is a wandering community engaged in singing, dancing and prostitution and are found in Balia, Banda, Bijnor, hardoi , Jalaun , Jhansi , Lakhimpur, Sharanpur, Unnao, Varanasi etc. The Kanjar women who marry do not involve themselves in prostitution but others girls in the same family are very involved or are forced into prostitution from a very small age.

### *SAHARIAS*

During the present study the researchers came to know about two more communities who involve themselves in prostitution and they are the Sahariyas and the Bachras.who live on Shahabad and Kishenganj, which is on the proposed highway. The Sahariyas have extramarital affairs and this is accepted by the community and the family, which lives on the gains from a woman who is living with another man. The men take alcoholism and women are thus very vulnerable to prostitution. This community was dependent on the forest produce and without the forest they can take to prostitution on the highways

### *BHEEL AND MEENAS*

These tribes are not spoken of in the earlier studies done by the researchers but today there is mention of these tribes involved in wage labour work and these tribes have also moved from one place to another in search income. Most recently they have been found involved in prostitution after severe drought in some of the districts in Rajasthan.

## **ii. List of Relevant NGOs**

### **DELHI:**

HAQ- Centre for child rights.

Jagori

JWP

Butterflies

PRAYAS

**AGRA**  
PATITA UDHAR SAMITI.

**JAIPUR**

Institute for Developmental Studies  
VIHAAN- Society for child development and education  
Save the children  
Mahila Salah Gram Surekha Kendra

**iii. List of Relevant Tourism Bodies**

Raaj Tourism  
Sabera Tourism  
Nightingale Tourism  
Royal Tourism  
Empire Tourism

**iv. List of Relevant State Services**

Rajasthan State Tourism  
U.P. State Tourism  
Delhi State Tourism

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