Chapter- VII

Summary, Conclusions and Recommendations

Introduction

Trafficking in persons has become an important issue transcending borders, affecting countries all over the world. Trafficking in persons, especially women and children, for the purpose of forced prostitution has been recognized as a problem of concern in India. India served as a destination and transit point of trafficking victims. The persons of trafficking are most vulnerable to human rights abuse, women right abuse, right to life and right to health. It is due to involvement of such critical issues persons in trafficking are called as victims of trafficking. Most important element in Indian context is trafficking of women for commercial sex purposes. To mitigate the trafficking, the Government of India and the State Governments made significant progress in law enforcement efforts against trafficking for commercial sex exploitation.

Trafficking is a serious problem in areas prone to poverty, hunger and drought as women and girls are pulled and pushed into trafficking by adopting coercive and manipulative methods. So far most of the studies on trafficking mainly covered the causes and process of trafficking in India or elsewhere. By reviewing the available literatures on trafficking issues, it has been realized that significant academic research has not been conducted covering various issues covering the women trafficking. Hence the present study makes an attempt to understand rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of trafficking victims in Anantapuramu District. The study was confined to women trafficking victims only. The sample selected was limited to just one revenue division in Anantapuramu district.
Objectives of the Study

Specific objectives of the study are to:

- Understand the socio-economic status of the trafficked victims;
- Analyze the various causes of human trafficking in drought prone areas and to understand the living conditions of trafficked victims at their work place;
- Know the process of rescue of trafficking victims and to study various programmes in rehabilitation and to study the impact of such programmes on trafficked victims;
- Examine the process of reintegration of victims with their family and to understand the assimilation of victims with their family and neighbourhood community; and
- Suggest measures for prevention of trafficking and implementation of rehabilitation and reintegration of trafficking victims.

Methodology

The study was undertaken in 11 revenue mandals, all known as trafficking prone mandals, in Kadiri division of Anantapuramu district. However, only 84 trafficked victims could be identified for the study due to constrains in identification of trafficked victims and their reluctance to interact. Interview schedules were canvassed among all these 84 victims. A structured interview schedule was used to collect the data from the victims. The data collection was taken place for more than six months and ended in May 2013.

Profile of Anantapuramu District

According to the 2011 census, Anantapuramu consists of nearly 7.8 lakh households with an average household size of five members. Population of the district increased more than three
times in seven decades ending with 2011, rural population increased less than three times and urban population increased by more than six times. It indicates that the people in the district are migrating to towns due to various reasons.

**Climate**

Anantapuramu is the second driest district of the country with the second lowest annual average rainfall of 520.4 mm after Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan. The rainfall is very scanty and highly erratic, and the average number of rainy days is only 32 in a year. The drought occurs once in three years, on an average. Intermittent dry spells ranging from 4 to 6 weeks in the crucial stage of crop growth period coupled with high velocity winds often result in low productivity of crops.

**Livelihood Opportunities in the District**

The district is known for mono-cropping of groundnut. The crop yields are low and uncertain. Crops like Paddy, lemon and oranges are raised to a limited extent mostly under bore well irrigation. Drying up of bore wells at frequent intervals makes the life of farmers, agricultural labourers and artisans miserable. Though there are a few major irrigation tanks in the district, scanty rainfall coupled with declined water table made non-functional often.

Decline of artisan and other traditional occupations and absence of alternative employment opportunities in organized sector force the people depend on dry land agriculture alone. Launching of Mahatma Gandhi Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme is the only alternative source of employment at present.
It is important to note that, ‘sacred prostitution’ known as ‘devadasi’ practice can be observed in most western part of Anantapuramu district. The above conditions explain the circumstances that force the girls and women into prostitution. It is in this background the socio-economic profile of the trafficked victims needs to be seen.

**Socio-Economic Profile of the Sample Victims**

Of the total sample, 77.3 per cent of the victims were following Hindu religion, 14.2 per cent Islam and the rest 8.4 per cent Christianity. The data disclosed that, 35.8 per cent of the victims belonged to STs, 16.7 per cent to SCs, 19.0 per cent to BCs, 15.5 per cent to Minority category and the rest 13.0 per cent to OCs. All SCs and STs together accounted for only 25 per cent of the population in the sample communities as compared to 52.3 per cent victims. Majority of the victims hailed from rural and tribal settlements; 80 per cent of the STs, 75 per cent BCs, 64.2 per cent SCs, 27.2 per cent OCs come from rural areas.

About 1.2 per cent of the victims were found to be below the age of 18 years, 74.9 per cent between 19 and 35 years and rest (23.9 per cent) above 35 years. Caste does play a significant role regarding age-wise distribution of sample victims; lower the caste status in society, more the chances of becoming at an early age and remain a victim for longer period.

About 29.8 per cent of the victims were illiterate and 10.7 per cent were neo-literates. Nearly half of the victims (47.6 per cent) had high school education. From among OC victims, 45.4 per cent had collegiate education. In the case of other castes, such percentage was 6.6, 7.2 and 12.5 respectively among SCs, STs and BCs. Illiterates were high among SC victims.
There was only 16.7 per cent of the victims who were married, 20.2 per cent were separated from husbands and another 20.2 per cent were living single. A significant percentage (15.5 per cent) of the victims was widows.

Average size of the household was 3.6, 4.8, 4.5, 4.1 and 4.2 among SCs, STs, BCs, Minorities and OCs respectively. Average size of the male members per household was 1.65. In the case of 8.3 per cent of the victims, no male members were reported. Average size of the female members per household was 2.37.

**Occupation, Income and Debt**

About 34.4 per cent of the households of the victims are mainly dependent on agricultural labour or on other manual labour for livelihood, and about 13 per cent of the households enjoyed salaried employment either in government or in private sector. About 11.9 per cent of the households are having business as their primary occupation. Nearly, 43.8 per cent of the BC households continue with their traditional occupations like washing, pottery, basket making etc. as primary occupations. About 36.3 per cent of the OC household’s primary occupation is business. For 26.8 per cent of the ST households, 25.0 per cent of the BC households and 21.4 per cent of the SC households, agricultural labour is the primary occupation. Beedi making is the primary occupation of 30.7 per cent of the Minority households. It was reported that the primary occupation of two ST victims is sex work, as per their own admission.

Monthly income of about 48.8 per cent of the total sample households was between Rs.5001 and Rs.10000. It is important to note that, 21.4 per cent of total households’ monthly income was less than Rs.5000. It is interesting to know that the main occupation of the two STs
whose monthly income was between Rs.25001 and Rs.30000 continue to practice prostitution as a livelihood.

Nearly, 50.0 per cent of the households do not possess any land. Only 7.2 per cent of the households are having more than 3 acres of land, followed by 16.6 per cent having land of 1 to 3 acres, and 26.1 per cent having less than one acre. Further, 69.2 per cent of the minority households, 60 per cent of the ST households and 50 per cent of the BC households do not possess any land. About 34.5 per cent of the households were getting an average annual income ranging between Rs.10000 and Rs.50000 from land. Another 3.6 per cent of the households were getting Rs.50001 and above annual income from land.

Only 13.1 per cent of the victims do not have any debts. As many as 41.7 per cent of the households were having debts up to Rs.100000, 27.4 per cent between Rs.100001 and Rs.300000 and 17.8 per cent having debt of Rs.300000 and above. About 17.8 per cent of the total victims’ households have taken loans for the purpose of marriage and 16.6 per cent have taken fresh loans to repay the old ones. About 14.4 per cent households have taken loans to invest on agriculture and 13.1 per cent for more than one purpose. Only 9.6 per cent of the households have taken loans from institutional sources like banks, indicating the failure of institutional sources in reaching the needy.

About 60.7 per cent of the victims were earning between Rs.31 and Rs.50 before their entry into trafficking and about 22.6 per cent of the victims were non-earners at that point of time, indicating the hand to mouth existence of the households of trafficked victims.

**Hypothesis Testing:** The above conditions of the households of trafficked victims prove the null hypotheses, “Socio-economic conditions have nothing to do with girl and women
trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation” wrong as none of the households owns either dependable assets or income. More number of SCs and STs in prostitution as compared to their population ratio in the sample communities also proves that, the low social status of caste added to the push factors leading to prostitution.

**Living Conditions of Trafficked Victims**

*Age at the Time of Entry:* About 10.7 per cent of the victims entered into prostitution before they reached 18 years. Nearly, 80.9 per cent victims entered into prostitution while they were between the age of 19 and 26 years and mere 8.4 per cent entered at the age of above 27 years. So, girls and women enter into prostitution when they just entered into adulthood, spend their prime time and experience all pains in it, and complete their life there before they mature into full-grown women.

*Reasons for Entry into Prostitution:* Only 2.4 per cent of the victims had no reason for entry into prostitution and 21.4 per cent had multiple reasons. Reasons as given by the victims for their entry are: cheated by husband/boyfriend/others (20.1 per cent); deserted by husbands (16.6 per cent); lack of awareness about difficulties in prostitution and influence of others (14.4 per cent); heavy debts/poor family conditions (13.1 per cent); harassment for dowry/money (7.2 per cent); and poor health of family members (4.8 per cent).

*Trafficking Practices:* Nearly, half of the victims had no knowledge about the profession to be taken up, and 40.4 per cent were aware of the profession to be taken up before leaving for destination.
More than half of the victims (54.7 per cent) were trafficked by others and another 39.3 per cent of the victims entered into prostitution with the help of others. Just 6.0 per cent of the total victims entered into prostitution on their own.

During transit journey to destination, about 35.7 per cent were accompanied by others which include family friends and known persons, while 25 per cent were accompanied by their friends who were already into prostitution. About 15.4 per cent of the total victims were accompanied by spouse/boyfriend and parents accompanied 7.2 per cent of the victims.

**Anti-Trafficking Cases and Victims:** Only 26.2 per cent of the victims filed cases against the traffickers. As many as 67.8 per cent of the victims have not filed any cases against the traffickers as these victims were trafficked on their own willing, either being promised of other occupations or prostitution, and another reason is most of the traffickers were relatives, family friends, husbands and parents of the victims. Some feared that their past of being trafficked and were into prostitution comes to open. About 9.4 per cent the victims faced problems from the accused while filing the cases, and 7.2 per cent from the accused person’s family members. In case of 6.0 per cent victims, own family members and relatives caused problems. Only 3.6 per cent of the total victims have not faced any problems regarding filing cases against the traffickers.

With regard to status of the cases filed against the traffickers, out of 22 cases filed against the traffickers only in four cases the accused were sentenced, and another 11 cases are in the court of the law. In seven cases, the victims don’t know the current status.

**Types of Prostitution:** Nearly, 54.7 per cent of the victims were mainly found in brothel-based prostitution and 25.0 per cent were into lodge-based prostitution. 11.9 per cent of the
victims were into home-based prostitution and 8.4 per cent were into street based prostitution. Nearly, 61.5 per cent of the Minority victims were into brothel-based prostitution as compared to 57.1 per cent SC victims, 54.5 per cent OC victims, 53.3 per cent ST victims and 50 per cent BC victims were into it. None of the victims belonging to Minority and OC castes were into street-based prostitution. Importantly, 23.1 per cent of Minority victims were into home-based prostitution.

**Making of Prostitutes:** Different types of treatments were used in making the girls and women as prostitutes during the initial days. Only 6.0 per cent of the victims received good treatment from gharwali/brothel owners since they cooperated with them and sometimes both victim and gharwali/brothel owner happened to be relatives. About 34.5 per cent of the victims were badly beaten and isolated from others until they accepted to do prostitution. Another 17.9 per cent of the victims were badly beaten and raped by the goons maintained by the gharwali/brothel owner. Nearly 20.2 per cent of the victims did not face any problems from gharwali/brothel owner because they willfully accepted to do prostitution. Nearly, 19 per cent of the victims were involved in lodge-based prostitution in which they haven’t had many contacts with gharwali/brothel owner.

**Life as Prostitutes:** Half of the sample victims faced both physical and sexual abuse, one-fourth faced sexual abuse and 13 per cent faced physical abuse. A mere 7.2 per cent did not experience either physical abuse or sexual abuse. And the rest 4.8 victims were not ready to share their experiences regarding the abuse faced.

**Police and Prostitution:** About 51.1 per cent of the victims revealed that the police usually collected share from gharwali/brothel owners. About 34.5 per cent of the victims told
that police usually collected bribes from the victims and sometimes from customers as well. Not surprisingly, 9.6 per cent of the victims expressed that the police demanded sexual favours too.

**Habits during Prostitution:** Nearly, 21.6 per cent of the victims developed habits like smoking, chewing tobacco and alcohol and the rest 78.4 per cent were not victims of habits. Victims of habits were more among STs (33.4 per cent) as compared to other caste victims.

**Secrecy of Prostitution:** As many as 23.8 per cent of the victims told that both their parents and spouses knew about their profession. Only 22.6 victims kept it a secret and no one in the family knew about it. In 20.2 per cent of the cases, the family members came to know about it after the victims returned. In 17.8 per cent cases, either other members of the family or close relatives knew about the profession of the victims.

**Period Spent in Prostitution:** Majority of the victims (54.6 per cent) spent nearly 4 years, 19 per cent spent 4 to 6 years and 9.6 per cent spent more than 10 years in prostitution. Only 6 per cent of the victims spent less than 2 years. Comparatively more number of ST victims spent longer periods in prostitution.

**Other Occupations Practiced:** For majority of the victims (67.8 per cent) prostitution was the only profession they practiced during their stay in prostitution and the rest 32.2 per cent of the victims were involved in prostitution as well as in other occupations. About 50 per cent of the BC victims, 35.7 per cent of the SC victims, 30.8 per cent of the Minority victims were involved in seasonal prostitution.

**Income:** About 4.8 per cent of victims earned less than Rs.1000 per day as compared to 32.1 per cent earning up to Rs. 1500, 11.9 per cent earning up to Rs.2000 and 15.5 per cent earning more than Rs.2000.
**Expenditure:** Nearly 26.1 per cent of the victims spending up to Rs. 3000 per month on their daily needs, 38.1 per cent spending up to Rs.4000 per month, 21.4 per cent were spending up to Rs.5000 and. It is not surprising to note that, 7.2 per cent of the victims were spending more than Rs.5000 per month to meet their daily needs.

Their highest expenditure for the victims was on gharwalis/brothel owners, brokers, pimps and police with 20.2 spending up to Rs.10000 per month, 28.6 per cent up to Rs.8000, 25.0 percent up to Rs.6000 and the rest 14.2 per cent up to Rs.4000. A merely 2.4 percent victims did not spend on the above sections.

**Savings:** Monthly savings of about 22.6 per cent of the victims was above Rs.5000. About 19.0 per cent of the victims were saving between Rs.3000 and Rs.4000, 20.2 per cent saved up to Rs.3000 and 9.6 per cent were saving between Rs.1000 and Rs.2000. The victims purchased by the gharwalis/brothel owners and frequently changed from one gharwali/brothel owner to another situation were not allowed saving.

**Remittances to Home:** It can be found that, about 78.6 per cent of the victims were able to send some amount to their families from their earnings. About 22.6 per cent of the victims sent up to Rs.2000 per month from their earnings as compared to 15.4 per cent sending between Rs.2000 and Rs.3000 per month, 11.9 per cent of the victims sending between Rs.3000 and Rs.4000 and another 11.9 per cent sending between Rs.4000 and Rs.5000. And only 8.4 per cent were able to send more than Rs.5000 per month.

About 42.9 per cent of the victims spent some portion of their earnings to meet the educational needs of the children of the family. About 14.2 per cent of the victims spent between
Rs.2000 and Rs. 3000 and 11.9 per cent spent between Rs.1000 and Rs.2000 on educational needs.

Nearly, 45 per cent of the victims incurred the expenditure towards medication of family members; about 16.7 per cent of the victims spent between Rs.2000 and Rs.3000 per month, 8.4 per cent between Rs.3000 and Rs.4000 and 14.2 per cent of spent up to Rs.1000.

About 62 per cent of the victims sent the amount every month to repay the loans; 15.5 per cent sent more than Rs.3000, 19.1 per cent sent between Rs.2000 and Rs.3000 and 27.4 per cent sent less than Rs.2000 per month.

About 48.8 per cent of the victims spent part of their earnings on agriculture: about 16.6 per cent spending up to Rs.1000, 13.1 per cent spending between Rs.1000 and Rs.2000, another 13.1 per cent spending between Rs.2000 and Rs.3000 and as many as 6.0 per cent spending beyond Rs.3000 per month.

Approximately 34.6 per cent of the victims spent money towards construction or repair of the house. It can be observed from the table that 44.1 per cent of the victims spent a part of their earnings on purchasing gold: 17.8 per cent of the victims spent up to Rs.25000, 9.6 per cent up to Rs.50000 and 11.9 per cent up to Rs.75000. Comparatively, the OC and BC victims spent more amounts on purchase of gold as compared to others.

Nearly 48.8 per cent of the victims spent earnings in conducting the marriages of family members and relatives; 16.7 per cent spent up to Rs.50000, while another 14.2 per cent spent up to Rs.100000, 10.7 per cent spent up to Rs. 150000. These findings indicate the cost of maintaining customs and traditions in rural India and the burden these women are undergoing
either in earning those amounts or struggle they are to undergo to repay the loans made for the purpose.

Nearly, 34.6 per cent of the victims given some savings as loan to others: 11.9 per cent of the victims gave up to Rs.25000 and 10.7 per cent of the victims gave up to Rs.50000. This amount need to be treated as an amount meant their maintenance during the next few years and not as a saving from the activity.

**Legal Complications and Prostitution:** The police arrested 85.7 per cent of the victims at least once. Almost 29.8 per cent of the victims were arrested thrice and 16.6 per cent of the victims four times by the police. In about 4.8 per cent of the cases the victims bribed the police to avoid arrest. Generally the amount bribed by gharwali/brothel owners was deducted from the earnings of the victims.

It can be seen that, about 34.5 per cent of the victims produced in court of law were not fined. About 26.1 per cent of the victims were fined and the fine was paid by the gharwali/brothel owners, 10.7 per cent of the victims were fined and the amount was paid by the family members and or relatives, and in 7.2 per cent of the cases fine was paid by the victims themselves. It is painful to note that, another 7.2 per cent of the victims were fined in the court of law, but as they were unable to pay the fine, they were imprisoned.

**Coming Out of Prostitution:** More than half of the victims felt that prostitution affected their social life and 11.9 per cent felt that prostitution is a sin. Nearly 28.5 per cent of the victims felt that the profession of prostitution involves unbearable torture. About 4.8 per cent of the victims did not felt like coming out.
Half of the victims did nothing to come out of the profession due to various reasons. About 33.4 per cent of the victims tried to escape several times but failed in their attempts, and 15.4 per cent tried several attempts to escape and at last became successful. About 14.2 per cent of the victims told that because of financial problems at their home they have not put any efforts to come out from prostitution. About 9.6 per cent of the victims told that because of high security at work place they did not try to come out from the work place.

**Rescue of the Trafficked Victims:** The NGOs did involve in rescuing only when police joined them and not on their own, that too confining to gharwali/brothel-based prostitution. They have not made efforts to rescue and rehabilitate the victims were involved either in lodge-based or street-based or home-based prostitution (45.3 per cent). The NGOs are not concentrating on those victims who are involved prostitution outside gharwalis/brothel houses. Both police and NGOs together rescued only 34.5 per cent victims and the remaining victims came out from prostitution in different ways; 11.9 per cent victims came out due to health problems, 11.9 per cent escaped with the help of customers, 7.2 per cent were rescued by police, 6.0 per cent came out due to old age and 2.4 per cent escaped from brothel houses on their own.

About 15.5 per cent of the victims were at brothel home at the time of rescue act and 13.1 per cent were at a lodge with customer. About 3.6 per cent of the victims were at other places and 2.4 per cent of the victims did not give the specific answer for the question.

Only 13.1 per cent of the victims told that they received good treatment from the rescuers during the rescue act, and in all other cases the rescuers either beat them or used abusive language or used both while rescuing them, which only indicates the behaviour gap in the police and NGOs.
Rehabilitation: About 14.2 per cent of the victims were shifted to Short Stay Homes managed by the NGOs and about 13.1 per cent were shifted to Service Homes run by Women and Child Welfare Department and the rest 4.8 per cent were sent directly to their homes.

It can be observed that 23.8 per cent of the victims received good treatment from the Shelter Home / Short Stay Home staff /management but with lot of restrictions on their movements, which indicates the facilitation required to the Shelter Home/Short Stay Home staff about the victims and circumstances that forced them in becoming the victims.

It can be found that about 65.4 per cent of the victims did not stay in any of the facilities offered by either the NGOs or Government managed Homes. Nearly, 15.5 per cent of the victims stayed for less than one year in these Homes. About 13 per cent of the victims stayed for more than a year and 6.0 per cent stayed nearly one year. Nearly 22.6 per cent of the victims felt that they were safe and secure during their stay at these Homes. About 22.6 per cent of the victims felt that the other inmate’s behaviour is good during their stay in these Homes and 8.4 per cent of the victims experienced bad behaviour from the other inmates.

Working of Shelter Homes: About 34.5 per cent of the victims received food and shelter during their stay in Shelter Home / Short Stay Home and protection from traffickers. This situation only indicates the long arm of the traffickers.

About 30.9 per cent of the victims received skill development training during their stay in these Homes. It needs to be noted that mere training lead the victims nowhere unless provided with logistical support to lead the life based on the trainings provided. But no such situation seems prevalent in these Homes.
About 21.4 per cent of the victims received medical aid, 20.2 per cent received joint adjustment counseling with parents and other family members and 19 per cent received psychological support and counseling. About the quality and usefulness of the counseling and the psychological support, the victims expressed no opinion.

About 17.8 per cent of the victims received legal aid and 10.7 per cent received formal and informal education during their stay in Homes. Only 2.4 per cent of the victims received employment opportunities as outreach workers, peer educators etc.

*Treatment of Victims by Family Members:* Only 13.1 per cent of the victims were treated well by their family member’s during their stay in Shelter Homes/ Short Stay Homes. Among the rest 4.8 per cent of the victims were not treated well, 8.4 per cent of the victims told that they have nothing to say about their family member’s behaviour and 8.4 per cent of the victims family members did not come to meet them during their stay in these Homes.

*Reintegration:* About 6.0 per cent of the victims continue to live as sex workers. Majority of 81.1 have settled by taking up different occupations like agricultural labour, non-agricultural labour, beedi worker to employees in NGOs. Among the rest 8.3 per cent did not have any occupation to depend upon and 4.8 per cent remained as housewives. Only minority victims were taken up the profession of beedi making.

About 64.3 per cent of the victims were settled in urban areas after their return and another 8.3 percent settled in semi-urban areas. Only 27.4 per cent of the victims dared to settle in rural whereas. Even from among this small percentage, majority of them expressed that they have no money to settle in urban areas and semi-urban areas.
**Debt Burden:** Nearly, 69.1 per cent of the victims were having debts even after returning. About 50 per cent of the total victims were having up to Rs.100000 debt, 14.3 per cent of the victims reported having debt between Rs.100000 to Rs.300000 and another 4.8 per cent of the victims were having more than Rs.300000. However, there is a significant decline in the amount of debt of the families at present as compared to their pre-prostitution days.

**Earnings:** It can be observed that, 34.5 per cent of the victims were earning more than Rs.100 per day and 50 per cent of the victims were earning between Rs.50 to Rs.100 per day. A few were earning between Rs.30 to Rs.50 per day. About 13.1 per cent of the victims were earning nothing due to various reasons.

**Health Condition:** About 19.0 per cent of the victims were having different kind of health problems. About 13.1 per cent of the victims were affected by HIV/AIDS. About 2.4 per cent of the victims were suffering from skin problems and 2.4 per cent suffering from other health problems.

**Reintegration of Victims:** About 13.1 per cent of the victims reached in to nearby town / city after returning. About 10.7 per cent of the victims were reached their father’s house. About 8.4 per cent of the victims were reached their husbands’ house. About 2.4 per cent of the victims reached to the brothel home after coming out from shelter home / short stay home.

**Management of Life at Present:** About 34.5 per cent of the victims were managing their daily needs with the help of daily wages/salary, 31 per cent with the help of spouses, 19 per cent with the help of parents and 15.5 per cent with the help of relatives and friends. Irrespective of caste, the situation is more or less same.
Nearly 76.2 per cent of the victims were facing some problem or other from their family members and relatives. About half of the victims complained that they were facing ill treatment and discrimination from their family members and relatives. Only 23.8 per cent of the victims did not experience any problems with their family members and relatives.

**Post Trafficking and Police:** Only 17.8 per cent of the victims told that they don’t have any problems with police and the rest 82.2 per cent were facing some problem or other from the local police. About 29.8 per cent of the victims complain harassment for sexual favours. About 25 per cent of the victims experienced the harassment for money and about 11.9 per cent of the victims complained that the police suspected them as potential traffickers.

**Post Trafficking and Community:** About 90.4 per cent of the victims were facing some problem or other from the community. Problems faced by them include, sexual harassment (34.5 per cent), social boycott and discrimination (30.9 per cent) and ill treatment (13.1 per cent).

**Financial Support from the Government:** Only 33.3 per cent of the victims received Rs.10,000 from Women and Child Welfare Department towards rehabilitation. About 50 per cent of the victims applied for support, but not yet received and the rest 16.7 per cent of the victims did not apply for the rehabilitation amount, fearing identification by neighbours and others as a trafficked victim.

Significant difference can be observed between different caste victims with regard to receipt of rehabilitation amount. For example, 46.2 per cent of the minority victims received the rehabilitation amount as compared to 40 per cent of the ST victims, 28.6 per cent of the SC victims, 25 per cent of the BC victims and 18.2 per cent of OC victims receiving the amount.
The services expected by the victims can be categorized into three: 1) 28.5 per cent of the victims are expecting strict enforcement of laws against traffickers; 2) financial help to help start a livelihood; and 3) welfare measures like pensions, health care and children education.

About 27.3 per cent of the victims wanted to lead a decent life. The other plans include, giving good future to their children, building their own house, to continue their studies and to get married / remarried.

_Hypothesis Testing_: Settlement of trafficked victims at fearing stigma from community, significant number of family members not treating the victims as part of the family, continuation of a few as prostitution even after rescue and rehabilitation, poor income levels of the victims households, problems in the maintenance of Shelter Homes, very few receiving only a token of financial support for rehabilitation and continued harassment of some of the victims prove beyond doubt that, “The present efforts to rehabilitate and to reintegrate the trafficking victims by governmental and non-governmental agencies are not sufficient”.

**Recommendations**

**Prevention strategy of trafficking**

The prevention strategy requires multiple action on the part of law enforcement agencies, administrators, planners, nongovernmental organizations, PRI members and victim families. The prime objective of this collective action will be to make an attempt to stop the entry of new girls and women in to trafficking especially among the most vulnerable groups and hot spots and to reduce the growing demand. The present scenario shows that many of the victims are trafficked from the tribal areas and drought prone areas. So the efforts to prevent trafficking should be linked with proper rural and tribal development programs like MGNREGA, especially in those
areas which have been identified as hot spots or high supply zones. It should also be ensured that the effective participation of PRI leaders, SHG members and other stakeholders. For this, it will also be necessary to develop strict monitoring mechanisms for proper and effective implementation of rural and tribal development programs stressing on sustainable livelihood programs, education and life skills, forming and organizing self-help groups for economic development of women.

**Monitoring of interstate migration**

Since many of the victims were trafficked forcibly to other states and exploited, there is a need to close monitoring of interstate migration. Despite of existing Interstate Migration Act, there is no comprehensive information or data on the interstate migration in India. Registration of migrants with contact address and telephone numbers is a must so that they could be contacted and rescued in case of sexual exploitation and harassment.

**Making of ITPA more victim friendly**

Most of the offenders caught and prosecuted by the police in trafficking cases are females and most of the times they were the victims of trafficking. But in reality, many of the male members also involved in this well-organized ‘Business’. Both government and nongovernmental organizations which are working in against women trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation can do lobbying to make the law more victim friendly. As per the existing sections of 7 and 8 of ITP act are dealing with the victims only, but it should change to prosecute clients.

**Strict implementation of existing laws**
At present, various laws like Indian Penal Code (IPC), bonded labour Act, Juvenile Justice Care and Protection Act (JJ Act), Child Labour Prohibition and Regulation Act etc. which could be implemented very strictly to check the trafficking of women and girls for commercial sexual exploitation. The nongovernmental organizations which are working for the welfare of trafficked women and children should play a greater role in applying pressure and highlighting individual cases. State governmental agencies and police also need to equip themselves with information.

**Formation of new laws to prevent child sexual exploitation**

The respective state governments needs to have a comprehensive and effective policy for the children of the trafficking women, who are vulnerable to trafficking. The existing schemes like Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS), SABLALA and UJJWALA should be implemented strictly to prevent the vulnerability of the children.

**Infrastructural Development**

There is a need to create the infrastructure facilities within the district and revenue divisional level to rehabilitate and reintegrate the rescued trafficking victims. Otherwise again they will be re-trafficked by the offenders. At present there are three Swadhar homes which was funded by the Women and Child Welfare Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh in Kadiri revenue division, of which two were already closed due to lack of financial support from the government. The existing one is also facing acute shortage of funds. Timely financial support will help these organizations to render better services to the trafficking victims.

**Trained personnel to deal with the victims**
At the block level and district level, there is need of trained personnel to counsel the trafficking victims who can offer proper guidance on their physical and mental conditions. They can also offer the various governmental and nongovernmental welfare programs and schemes which are available for the trafficking victims. At present there is only one counselor at district level in women and child welfare department who is also dealing with domestic violence cases. Another counselor who is recently appointed under Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) dealing with juvenile and vulnerable girl child.

**Need of community policing**

There is a need of community policing at the grassroots level that would give the community members an opportunity to maintain vigil at community level. This could create a sense of involvement among the community members. The Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) is such a novel experiment in community policing. The STHREE Ngo and Crime Investigation Department of Andhra Pradesh police has created some AHTUs at community level in the villages of Kediri revenue division. These units comprising the PRI members, SHG members, Anganwadi workers and Ngo representatives. These units are acting as a pressure group at gross root level. There is a need of such more units at community level in trafficking prone areas to control the trafficking.

**Sensitization of all stake holders on anti-trafficking laws and provisions during rescue and rehabilitation**

There is a need to sensitize the government and nongovernmental officials on anti-trafficking laws and rights of the victims. For instance, some police officials are unaware of victim’s rights while conducting rescue operations. Instead of helping the victims, they were
arresting the victims and many times they were abusing the victims. Sensitization of the police officers on anti-trafficking laws and victim’s rights will help them to establish strong cases against offenders and also provides adequate relief and security to the victims.

**Need of formation of special courts to deal with trafficking cases**

The law enforcement agency should consider the phenomena of trafficking as a socio-legal and human problem and accordingly take steps under the existing legal framework by organizing specially designed orientation / training programs for those involved in trafficking. In their efforts to do so, they should be tough and strict with the trafficking offenders, and be sympathetic and considerate to the girls and women who become the victims of circumstances without their fault. There is a need of establishment of special and fast track court to deal with the various cases related to trafficking for speedy disposal. It enable the trafficking victims to lead a decent life after returning.

**Formation of corpus fund**

A corpus fund should be created with the money which was received in the form of fines from the trafficking offenders. A suitable compensation from these corpus fund may be given to the trafficking victims. At present the women and child welfare department is giving Rs. 10,000 as one time rehabilitation amount which is not sufficient for the victims to create a sustainable livelihood.

**Establishment of a nodal agency**
So far there is no designated nodal agency to deal with the problem of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. A separate nodal agency is to be created to deal with the problem. A separate structure is to be created at district level as well as mandal level to identify the women who are more vulnerable to trafficking and assist them to come out of the situation. A designated police officer, a magistrate, an advocate and a social worker will be the members of the nodal agency.

**Creation of reliable data base**

So far not much quantitative data on trafficking of women and children exists in the district level and state level. Most of the available data is secondary data only. No special and independent body to create such data base in Andhra Pradesh, which is very essential to portray the magnitude of the problem. Mapping of vulnerable areas in the districts and survey to identify the vulnerable groups are very essential to understand the magnitude of the problem.

**Establishing special information cell in the vulnerable districts**

Many of the trafficking victims and their families are not aware of the legal and other assistance available for victims of trafficking. Information cells could formed at village level, mandal level and district level to increase the accessibility and adoptability of the needy people.

**Sensitization of community members, SHG leaders, PRI members etc.**

Sensitization programmes / awareness caps could be conducted at village level and mandal level for the community members, SHG leaders, PRI members etc. by showing films and documentaries on trafficking. They should also be made aware of the various anti-human
trafficking laws, victim assistance programs, and existing social security measures for the trafficking victims. And conducting issue based consultation workshops and seminars with block level administration officers, police personnel, judicial officers, PRI members, SHG members and women and child welfare department officials etc. would be of great help.

**Creation of sustainable livelihoods in rural areas**

There is need to create sustainable livelihoods in rural areas to prevent trafficking. It will help the vulnerable women to overcome the vulnerable situations. And the village level committees and PRI institute should monitor the various income generation activities like MGNREGA etc. so that the beneficiaries are actually identified and benefited. At present in many cases the actual needy people do not get required assistance and are forced to migrate for economic reasons in unacceptable conditions.

**Identifying vulnerable groups and hot spots**

Identification of vulnerable people and mapping of the hot spots will invariably mitigate the problem of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. Like poor families with tender aged girls or marriageable age girls, BPL families, families with low income and low esteem will fall easily in the trap of the traffickers and middlemen. Identification of such vulnerable families through vulnerable mapping will help the governmental and nongovernmental agencies to take necessary action to reduce the vulnerability. Sharing of the information regarding vulnerable groups and hot spots will show a great impact in prevention of trafficking.
Action plan for prevention of trafficking

An area specific action plan should be prepared with a special focus on prevention, awareness generation, community involvement, improving sustainable livelihoods, providing educational facilities and other basic facilities. Various stakeholders in the community in terms of trafficking such as the ward members, PRI members, village level workers, women and child department officials, police personnel, advocates and Ngo officials may be involved in preparation of regional specific action plan for prevention of trafficking.

Sensitization of youth

Sensitization of youth on trafficking issues is essential to eradicate the problem. Targeting the youth in colleges to spread anti-trafficking messages is also helpful as they are usually motivated, enthusiastic and eager to work on various issues related to human trafficking. The SABLA program which is recently implementing in 7 districts of Andhra Pradesh on pilot basis is an example for such type of efforts.

Involvement of NGOs in rescue and rehabilitation

The predominant cause for trafficking is found to be poverty and failure of monsoon and perpetual draughts. Besides that, disturbed marital life, dysfunctional and dis organized families are the other attributed causes. Though there are good number of NGOs working in Kadiri revenue division, only 4 NGOs are working in the division to prevent, rescue, rehabilitate and reintegration of trafficking victims. Many of the nongovernmental organizations are not involved in rescue and rehabilitation of trafficking victims because of lack of funding support for such type of programmes on trafficking, lack of required infrastructure and lack of qualified and
experienced staff to deal with such a sensitive problem. The nongovernmental organizations could be encouraged to take up the anti-trafficking activities with the help of financial assistance. One Ngo at district level may be identified as a nodal agency to involve other organizations in prevention of trafficking. These Ngo officials may also be involved in rescue operations conducted by the police department. More NGOs should come forward to specialize in rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration of trafficking victims, which is a more challenging task.

**Formation of a platform that can lobby with the government on trafficking issues**

A special platform could be created at district level as well as state level by the various stakeholders to lobby with the government on various rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration issues of trafficking. It can also be act as a pressure group. This forum can force the government to replicate the successful government and nongovernment collaborations in preventing trafficking.

**Regular follow-up of rescued victims**

Regular visits could be made to know the present status of the rescued victims. This will helps them to make non vulnerable to re-trafficking. Regular follow-ups, home visits and periodical joint counselling with spouse, parents and family members will help them to reintegrate with the family. Social mainstreaming and social adjustment are the important factors in the process of reintegration of trafficking and make them less vulnerable to re-trafficking. Local nongovernmental organizations may be actively involved in this process.
Establishing helplines

Like children help line 1098, there is a need to establish a toll free helpline for the victims of trafficking. So that victims can have easy accessibility and know whom to contact in distressed situations. Nongovernmental organizations may be involved in the establishment of such toll free help lines.

Creation of effective rehabilitation measures

The rehabilitation programs are aimed to help the victims after returning from prostitution and reestablish themselves in the main stream of society. The rehabilitation program should aim at psychological, social and economic rehabilitation of the victims. It should also aims to provide a life without any stigma and isolation. Consequently, the rehabilitation process requires the organization of multiple activities based on suitable and comprehensive planning. These activities includes, providing both formal and informal education, training on vocational and short term skill development programs, entrepreneurship development programs, medical care and treatment facilities, free legal aid, protection from traffickers, food and accommodation, help to get married / remarried, adjustment counselling to victims and their families etc. These activities should be organized considering the individual needs and requirements of the victims. Despite these efforts, nothing can be achieved with regard to rehabilitation of the women unless the social attitude towards these women changes and becomes congenial for the absorption. Large scale awareness building programs for development of appropriate attitudes has to be attempted along with the comprehensive rehabilitation programs.