Appendix III - News Clippings  p. 403 to p. 412
NHRC comes to rescue of Surat sex workers

By Anagpurna Jha

NEW DELHI: The NHRC has directed the Surat collector and the police commissioner to allow city sex workers, who were evicted from their homes, to return, and arrange for their rehabilitation.

The Commission stated that sex workers also have the right to dignity of person and equality in status as recognised in the universal declaration of human rights and secured in the preamble of the Constitution.

It asked the Gujarat Police to ensure that the sex workers, who were allegedly facing starvation following the eviction, should be able to earn two square meals a day.

It asked the police to open the locks on their houses and evolve suitable schemes for education of their children, regular health check-up and other appropriate measures to ameliorate their lot. The Commission directed the state government to send a compliance report within a week.

The chief secretary, in collaboration with the department of social welfare and the home secretary of the Gujarat government, should work out a plan of action for providing immediate succour to these sex workers, the Commission directed.

The NHRC gave these directions in a complaint by Bharatiya Patita Uddhar Sabha president Khairati Lal Bhola, alleging the sex workers were being continuously harassed by the Surat police for the last three years. Recently, police conducted raids and illegally arrested some of them and evicted others from the Mirza Swami Bapu locality.

Mr Bhola had alleged that the sex workers and their children were facing starvation and had been subjected to persistent atrocities by the police.

Earlier, in its report sent to the NHRC, the Surat police admitted it had conducted a raid on December 16 and taken some sex workers into custody. Cases were filed against them under the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act.

The NHRC noted that women are often dragged into the flesh trade due to poverty. Some are lured into the 'trade', or sold by agents of the mafia, very often in connivance with the local police. Thus the police also shares the blame for the perpetration of this infamous trade.

It said raids are conducted and cases filed against sex workers only for statistical purposes. Soon, they are once again dragged into the same trade. These are the ground realities, it added.

Criticising the police attitude, the NHRC observed "the commissioner and the assistant commissioner, perhaps in their zeal of having the power under the Act, have shown insensitivity to the sufferings of these sex workers".

The NHRC would, in consultation with the secretary of the women and child welfare department, issue directions for a permanent solution to the problem. (END)
પો. કમ. કુંઠીપ શરીબા વેશયા બજાર પાંચ
કરાવવાની હીશ્ષમાં: જાહેરનામ બદાલ પાક્યા હતા નીકળા પ્લાંટ

અત્યુદ્દેશ્યાત, વિવિધ વેશયારે શરીબા બજારની હીશ્ષમાં જાહેરનામના પાક્યા હતા. બજારની પાંચ પાંચ કરાવવાની હીશ્ષમાં જાહેરનામ પાક્યાએ હતી. બજારની પાંચ કરાવવાની હીશ્ષમાં જાહેરનામ પાક્યાએ હતી. બજારની પાંચ કરાવવાની હીશ્ષમાં જાહેરનામ પાક્યાએ હતી. બજારની પાંચ કરાવવાની હીશ્ષમાં જાહેરનામ પાક્યાએ હતી. બજારની પાંચ કરાવવાની હીશ્ષમાં જાહેરનામ પાક્યાએ હતી.
'Little done to end prostitution'

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SURAT, NOV 3

There are at least 27 commercial sex workers in Surat's red light area, who entered the profession as children or minors. The lowest age being 11 years.

This was highlighted by Dr Leena Mehta, a teacher at the Faculty of Social Work, M S University, Vadodara, while presenting a paper on 'Social Profile of Child Sex Workers in Gujarat' as part of a two-day seminar on 'Child Sex Workers in Gujarat', organised by the Centre for Social Studies.

She said the universal nature of prostitution and its wide magnitude made its prevention difficult.

"Our social, economic, political and religious systems have accepted prostitution as an unavoidable evil and have chosen to ignore it. While opinions differ whether adult flesh trade be formally permitted, there are no two opinions when children are involved. The scope of the problem was gigantic, both because children being vulnerable and dependent were open to exploitation; also because no accurate information was available. Many a time an abused child is initiated into prostitution and continues to be in the profession even as an adult," she observed.

Dr Mehta, who was part of a committee, set up by Gujarat Government to look into the issue of children of prostitutes and child prostitutes, admitted that precious little was done.

The committee was headed by additional chief secretary (Social Welfare).

Mehta conducted a study in her personal capacity and was able to prove that child prostitutes exist.

She grouped them as "street children in sex work", "urban slums girls in sex work", "minors as street walking sex workers", and "child sex workers in rural community." She listed marriage and job promises, enticement, poverty, destitution and ill-treatment by family members among some of the causes.

The problem may assume greater magnitude in that the state is underequipped, both in terms of information and motivation to combat the problem.

In the absence of a timely action to prevent children from entering into sex trade and rescue and rehabilitate the abused ones, the problem may compound, she pointed out.

Dr Satyakam Joshi of CSS felt "patriarchal social system, lack of political will, exploitation of third world's natural resources by the developed countries," as some of the structural factors responsible for sexual exploitation of children. It was a global phenomenon and at places had become a major tourist attraction.

Earlier, Municipal Commissioner S Jagadeesan, while inaugurating the seminar said the government, non-government organisations, local authorities and the Press would have to join hands to tackle the problem. The strategy to combat the problem was not broad enough, he felt.
Concerted effort needed to check child abuse: Jagdeesan

The Times of India News Service
SURAT: "NGOs, local authorities and the media must join hands and do all that is needed to prevent child sex in the state," said Surat municipal commissioner S Jagadeesan. He was speaking at a workshop organised by the Centre for Social Studies on 'Child sex in Gujarat' here on Monday.

Delivering his inaugural address Mr Jagadeesan said the problem of child abuse was more prevalent in Asian countries like India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh.

He reiterated that "children were most neglected in our country and, hence, least attention was paid to their problems." He further said that after Mumbai, incidence of AIDS and sexual abuse were quite high. According to him, studies and surveys alone would not serve the purpose.

What was needed was a well-formulated programme to prevent the children from falling prey to this abuse.

The municipal chief lamented the absence of any organisation working for the rehabilitation of the sex workers' children in the city. He said the SMC would soon set-up a child-care-cum-rehabilitation centre for the children of sex workers as well as a school which would be located near their homes so that they could easily attend classes.

Earlier, convenor of the workshop Dr Satyakam Joshi while speaking on the occasion said this workshop sponsored by the UNICEF on child sex was an eye-opener for academicians and social scientists like him who were generally too caught up in other serious economic and social issues.

Research scholar and CSS director Prof Lancy Lobo welcomed the delegates who had come from all parts of the state while Kuan Desai paid the vote of thanks.

November 3, 1998
सूरतनી રાજ્યમાં પુનરોધ્યાય માટે રાજય
સરકારની તેખાની: \textit{પરસ્પર વ્યવસ્થા પાસે અપાયે}

હાલની સૂચના અથવા પ્રશ્નોને સમાધ્ય કરવા માટે કોઈપણ વિભાગની સહકારકી શીખી તથા અન્ય સ્વાર્થીઓને હેઠળ ધ્યેય સદ્ધાન્ત સરકારની વિભાગોને \textit{પુનરોધ્યાય} માટે સરકારની સંપાદકી સહકારકી શીખી તથા અન્ય સ્વાર્થીઓ\textit{ હેઠળ ધ્યેય સદ્ધાન્ત} સરકારની \textit{પુનરોધ્યાય} માટે સરકારની સંપાદકી સહકારકી 

ા જલક્કાણ સ્વરૂપાંક, પેટા વાહ્ય નાટ્ય માટે સરકારની \textit{પુનરોધ્યાય} 


caption}
સૂચના ઇપ્સલીશનચોન (સાધારણ પાણી શરીર)

તમીટી સુખની શોલે અથવા કનેક્ટ, જે ભાગ, સમજ કરીને લખાયા, કેટલાક (સમાન સંખ્યામાં માટેવાળ) અને શોખી પોતાની પ્રકાર જેવા આ શરીરની બાજુ કે સોડાદેહ નાખણાર શરીર કરવામાં આવે હતી. 

રીટિના ભેટા સમાન શી ડેનિઝાજ પુષ્પ જૂના ઘણું જન જટલા બધમાં વિશેષાર્થ અંગ અને કુંદમ પ્રકારની કરવા માટે 

સ્પષ્ટતા પોતાની અદૈગણા કે આ તરીકે હોઈ જાહેર માટે પોતાની જોડણા કે પોતાની કરવા માટે પોતાની જોડણા. હોય તેમજ 

અંધકાર પેકમાં ખતરવાની સાહિત્ય 

અંધકાર ખતરવાની સાહિત્ય 

અંધકાર ખતરવાની સાહિત્ય
Sex workers of Surat,
a harassed lot

By Gautam Mehta

AHMEDABAD: As many as 2,000 sex workers of Surat city are up in arms against the harassment by the police and the builders’ lobby, and have knocked the doors of the Gujarat High Court demanding the setting up of rehabilitation homes for them, and immediate action against the police.

A detailed petition has been filed in the High Court last week jointly by 130 sex workers of Chawk Bazar raising several issues concerning the protection of their rights, violation of human rights by the police, persistent threats from the builders who were bent upon removing them from Chawk Bazar. Sex workers have, through their counsel Nimish Kapadia, raised some important issues in the petition pertaining to the Constitution of India and provisions of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act. The petition will come up for hearing on March 26.

Sharda Ramesh Chaudhary who is heading the group of sex workers in their legal battle and who was here said, “Under no circumstances would we give up our battle against the injustice meted out to us by the so-called reformists in consonance with the police and builders.”

According to Sharda, sex workers of Surat city are mere victims of the socio-economic framework of the society wherein it was very difficult to live without any support. The police would threaten the women of dire consequences.

Repeated pleas to the higher authorities in the police department had failed to yield any result. The whole idea was to create an atmosphere of terror so that sex-workers would leave the area.

Interestingly, despite being harassed by the police and of offence under the provisions of Immoral Traffic Act had been registered against the petitioners in the city who were doing business in their individual capacity and not collectively.

Referring to the provisions of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, the petitioners submitted that even in enacting this Act, the aim of the legislature was to prohibit or to abolish commercialised vice — namely, the traffic in women and girls for the purpose of prostitution as an organised means of living.

The object of the legislation was not to render prostitution as a criminal offence or punish a woman merely because she prostituted herself for her survival.

The aim of the Act was never to penalise an individual for prostitution.

The petitioners have prayed that the High Court, in exercise of its power under Article 226 of the Constitution, should also issue direction to the state government for setting up rehabilitation homes for them and also direct that till they were not provided with adequate facilities, they should not be asked to vacate their residences.

The situation had led to starvation. Not just this, sex workers are not permitted to open windows and doors and were compelled to sit inside closed rooms round-the-clock.

And such harassment has been going on for the past five months. Five SRP jawans, three constables and one lady constable had been posted in the area, though.

It was further alleged that if any went out, she would be greeted with filthy language, abuses and threats by the police. At nights, the police would forcefully enter their homes and make undue demands from the family members of the sex-workers. If not satisfied,
સુરતમાં વેશયાવર્તી પરના<br>પ્રતિબંધ સામે ઇચ્છા વિરોધ

(અંગે, અંગે, અંગે, અંગે..)<br>નંબર વિગ્રહ, તા. 15<br>સુરતમાં વેશયાવર્તી પર પ્રતિબંધ મૂકવા સામે વિરોધના વિચારવામાં માટલો છે. તેમજ સુરતમાં વેશયાવર્તી પરના પ્રતિબંધને બાધામાં તા. 15-13-98ના પત્રમાંક ભારતીય પાબંદી દિવસ માટે પ્રતિબંધની કલમ છે, તે જાણવા અને જાણવા દરેક વિભાગી સુરતમાં વેશયાબ્ધીઓના વ્યવસાય અને કરારની નિયમો છે ને ખેતરેલા ઉપર બધાના પરચાયા સામે વિરોધ કરી નથી।

તેમજ માટલાં વેશયાબ્ધી વિચારને અંગે વશયા ઉપલબ્ધ કરી શકીને મને જનરાલ તેમજ માટા વિરોધ કરશેા પરચાયા અને માટાની તલાશ પાટી પાટી. માટાની રાખાઓ શકીને માટલો સામે આ વાતો બધાના પરચાયા અંગે વશયાજાએ પરચાયા વિરોધ કરી શકીને માટલો તેમજ માટાની તલાશ પાટી પાટી.

શિક્ષણની રાજીવી શેરીયોને પૂરી કરી શકીને માટલો સામે આ વાતો બધાના પરચાયા અંગે વશયાજાએ પરચાયા વિરોધ કરી શકીને માટલો તેમજ માટલાં તલાશે પાટી પાટી.
Khairnar in city to rehabilitate sex-workers

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
SURAT, OCT 11

FORMER Mumbai municipal deputy commissioner Govind Khairnar was on a surprise visit to Surat on Friday.

He was on a mission to set free a couple of commercial sex workers willing to move out of red light area in Chakla Bazaar.

Two commercial sex workers from Nepal had confided to a Holland videographer, who was in Surat two months back to shoot a documentary commissioned by the Netherland Government on the life of prostitutes in a red light area, and ways to escape from the profession.

The videographer was directed to Khairnar by a non-government organisation from Calcutta.

However, when Khairnar accompanied by the videographer visited Chakla Bazaar the two sex workers were found missing.

His team checked every room from where girls operate in Chakla Bazaar and so his mission remained unsuccessful.

Khairnar, has helped about 450 such girls from Mumbai's red light areas to lead a new life.

Accompanied by the local police he talked to many of the girls but could not convince them to give up the profession.

He said despite offering them help they refused mainly fearing rejection by the society or an uncertain future.

He said it was possible to convince them with more counselling.

He promised to return to Surat again to finish his incomplete mission.

He later called on Surat Municipal Commissioner S R Rao at the latter's chamber.