

CONCLUSION AND DISCUSSION

The conclusion and discussion of the study as follows.

I. PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS.

It can be concluded that many Anti-human trafficking units are facing a problem of staff shortages. Despite the resolution, many positions are unfilled in numbers of Anti-human trafficking Unit (AHTU). Respondents are well educated. Many Anti-human trafficking units do not have female staff members. Respondents have good work experience in the police department but have less experience in Anti-human trafficking Units. The average period of work is fallen between one to six months for all staff members in Anti Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU). Respondents have poor awareness of the functions of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit. Frequent transfer of senior officials and staff enhance volatility of learning.

Respondents are found overburden because of an additional charge of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit. As result, they are not justifying the allotted work and are unable to focus on Anti Human Trafficking Units. (E.g. Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) in XYZ city is internally formed and administering under the woman police station. Hence, along with the work order of the woman police station and other police departments, it was found difficult to cop up with an additional charge or work order of AHTU). Awareness among respondents on the work order of anti-human trafficking is not good.

II. RESPONDENT'S AWARENESS OF PREVALENCE OF ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING CASES.

Children are more vulnerable compare to adult girls in many human trafficking units. Anti-human trafficking units start investigations four months later. Respondents complain about the insensitive attitude of the primary investigation branch towards investigating missing cases of children (The primary investigation branch is the place where the missing cases are registered and supposed to be investigated). It is good that pending cases of ITPA are very few. But they have a lack of effort to bring the case on the fast track board in court. Respondents are submitting charge sheets within

60 days but proper awareness for charge sheet submission is still missing. They have a good awareness of the jurisdiction of controversial cases.

III. EXPERIENCE RELATED TO VICTIMS / PERPETRATORS

Female NGO workers and Female police officials are collecting statements through personal interviews of female survivors in many AHTUs. It was shocking to know that female survivor in several AHTUs were interrogated by male officials in absence of female NGO workers. There was no standard victim identification tool found in Anti-human trafficking Units (AHTU). Respondents are facing problems in the classification of human trafficking cases without victims' identification tools. Instead of going to the convenient place of victims/witnesses, respondents are collecting statements by calling them in a police station. It is good that they are calling women witnesses in the daytime. The statement of the victim is collected one time in many anti-human trafficking units. However, it can be recorded one or more times, especially after counseling. Moreover, Staff members have spent a lot of money from their pocket to sustain the Anti Human Trafficking Unit. They have contributed collectively to buy furniture, printer machine, and computer. Indeed, special resources are not available and some of them required a lot of maintenance in many Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTU). The government is carefully doing unnecessary paperwork (Running horses on paper – Kagaj Ke Ghode Doda Rahi He) with very limited execution. (E.g. the Old Mahindra bolero (Four wheelers vehicle) is provided in Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTU) on paper but this vehicle required a lot of repairs. It was a fact that one cannot use this vehicle for following the traffickers because these vehicles have a capacity of running a maximum of four miles with the maximum speed of 20-40 km/hr on roads.)

Age verification of victims is done by asking them personally or by complainants. Respondents are using birth certificates or school leaving certificates to verify the age of the survivor. In many anti-human trafficking units, Cr.P.C. section 164 statements are collected through the magistrate only. There were no allocations of secret funds for the Anti Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU). They have not framed any secret network for getting information about organized gangs of human trafficking because of a poor fund allocation framework. They were unaware of the website of human trafficking. However, accumulating and adding information about missing and

trafficked victims on the computer is an important function of the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit but it was operated by different branches of the police department. These other branches have weak coordination with respondents. Home verification in many anti-human trafficking units is done by police officers. Respondents have not received any behavioral training. Respondents are not providing legal advice to the victims, however; it is expected to provide legal counseling to the victim(s) of human trafficking by a lawyer(s) in Anti Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU).

Many respondents are offering medical help to the victims of human trafficking, but it is a very time and money-consuming activity. Many lady police constables had spent a lot of money from their pockets for the medical test. It is very difficult for them to manage the family expenses in such lowest pay along, with this kind of extra expenses. Respondents are not aware of the government's support.

IV. CURRENT PROCESS OF ACTUAL FORMAL / INFORMAL PRACTICE FOLLOWED BY ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING UNITS.

Respondents have less awareness of NGOs working in their specific locations on human trafficking issues. However, they are using NGO services in Anti-human trafficking Units (AHTU) but they neither maintaining the NGO list nor notified any advisory committees of NGOs in Anti Human Trafficking Units.

Respondents are not aware that conducting raids/rescue/ search operations is an important function of the Anti-Human trafficking Unit. They believed that conducting raids/rescue/ search operations is the responsibility of other branches of the police department (i.e. Modus Operandi Bureau (MOB), Local Crime Branch (LCB) and etcetera). It is fact that many respondents are not aware of the important link between missing children and human trafficking. The victim's case was neither brief nor debrief by the respondents before and after the trial in court. Respondents are not taking any initiative to collect information about sex rackets. They are highly dependent on the First Information Report. Respondents are using the support of other government officials, but they are not maintaining their details in the formal register. Respondents are not much aware of the special legislation of human trafficking.

V. STANDARD PROCEDURE FOLLOWED BY RESPONDENTS.

Respondents are not aware of the guidelines issued by the Government of India / Ministry of Home Affairs for the Anti Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU). Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) was not at all available in several Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTU). Most of the Anti-Human Trafficking Units have special officials but with an additional charge. Nodal officers are organizing training workshops on human trafficking for Nodal in charge in Anti Human trafficking Units. But Nodal in charge of Anti-Human trafficking Units is not organizing training workshops on human trafficking for supporting staff.

Respondents neither participated in raids/rescue/search operations nor the Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTU) conducted raids/rescue/search operations last year. Several, responders are not aware of the importance of two witnesses in which one must be female during raid/rescue/search operation. They are unaware of female police requirements during raid/rescue/search operations. Respondents are not aware that special police officers do not require a search warrant for conducting a raid. Special/Trafficking police officials can search the premises without a warrant on logical grounds. Many respondents believed that child labour prevention is the actual responsibility of concern NGO/Government officials. Police are playing a supporting role by extending their support to NGOs / Government officials. However, it should be done in coordination with police, NGOs, and Government departments. Respondents are not aware of any monthly pamphlet.

VI. DIFFICULTIES FACED BY THE RESPONDENTS.

Following are the major problems faced by respondents while dealing with victims of human trafficking.

- Language related problems,
- Victims are not aware of their exploitation,
- The problem in face recognition of children,
- Lack of interest from the parent,
- Lack of public response,
- Less response from relatives,
- The time-consuming medical procedure of the victim,
- Fake victim identification and the problem of repatriation,
- Orphan cases consume more time.

Following are the major problems faced by respondents while working in AHTU at the ad ministerial level.

- Overburden of work because of Extra work like security in VIP functions, Additional charges, etc.
- Shortage of female staff
- Lack of basic facilities and dependence on other departments for GPS tracking in AHTU.
- No independent trained staff.
- Lack of knowledge
- Lack of support from senior officials and constant transfer
- Lack of inter-departmental coordination / support.
- Lack of interest among the staff members for AHTU work.
- TA & DA related problem
- The problem in establishing investigation links in old cases. (AHTU is receiving cases 4 months later)
- Jurisdiction limitation of court.
- Geographically large areas need to cover (For example 10 or more district police stations are covered by GRP-WR).
- Permission procedure is time-consuming / No emergency permission.
- No secret fund allocation in AHTU.
- Careless attitude of other investigation branches, they are just waiting for four months and immediately transferring the cases to AHTU with less or no progress on it.
- A problem in the temporary accommodation of victims.

It was good to know that many respondents are happy with their present duty but at the same time, several are unhappy and facing internal pressure from their senior officials.

This study gave me a lot of insights. Despite all the difficulties they are facing in Anti-Human Trafficking Units. It was heartening to note that they are taking full involvement and are very supportive.