

Third National Conference of Trafficking
Survivor Women
(4-5 June, 2014, Lalitpur Nepal)



Report

Published By
Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare
Shakti Samuha
AATWIN

Acknowledgement

Once Again Women Survivor of Human Trafficking Spoke and Stand up for their rights and Dignity at the Third National Conference of Trafficking Survivor Women in 4-5 June 2014. Recognizing human trafficking as a development challenge, continued crime fuelled by political power and support; realizing that without the leadership of survivors the movement may not be able enough to address the problem and wider collaboration and engagement of civil society and government sector is required; Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare, Shakti Samuha and Alliance Against Trafficking of Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN) jointly hosted the third national conference discussing on six key concerns to address survivors suffering and the emerging complexity of the problem.

We would like to thank all participants who shared their stories, experiences and ideas, all the facilitators whose skilled and knowledge engagement helped to frame the agenda, declaration and ideas; all the volunteers whose tireless efforts and 24 hours work made the conference efficiently organized and success. We are grateful towards all financial and technical supporters and contributors including international organizations, UN Agencies, Government officials and agencies and individual activists for their solidarity, support and cooperation.

We would like to thank all staff of Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, AATWIN and Shakti Samuha for their hard work and post conference follow up activities.

We are aware that the event of conference in itself is not everything we would like to see; rather we are hoping to witness the practical application of declaration, increased and improved coordination, networking and solidarity among stakeholders, enhanced and strengthened membership of survivors organization like Shakti Samuha. And these all is possible only with respect to the voices we heard at the conference and in other forums from survivors, activists and practitioners.

We call all stakeholders to join hands in this effort and encourage us to move ahead towards the end of human trafficking and better peaceful, just and society with equal opportunities.

Thank You !

Mr. Dineshhari Adhikari
Secretary, MoWCSW

Ms. Sunita Danuwar
Chair, SS

Ms. Bimala Jnawali
Chair, AATWIN

Abbreviations

AATWIN	Alliance Against Trafficking of Women and Children in Nepal
I/NGOs	International/ Non Government Organizations
MoWCSW	Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NCCHT	National Committee to Control Human Trafficking
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SAIEVAC	South Asian Initiative to End Violence against Children
UFFER	International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund

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Declaration of Conference

Third National Conference of Trafficking Survivor Women

(4-5 June 2014, Lalitpur Nepal)

Declaration

1. The conference highlights the need of all stakeholders including state authorities' active engagement on creating a favourable environment to end human trafficking as it confirms the human trafficking is a grave violation of human rights and crime against humanity.
2. It is significantly necessary to void all existing discriminatory legal provisions to end violation of women's human rights, end of all forms of violence against women which are the obstructions to a prosperous society; along with enacting effectively all legal and policy provisions that has been formulated for gender equity.
3. The use of stigmatizing and degrading words against survivor women and the media current media practice of exposing individuals identity of survivors without their consent have caused additional pain and psychological torture among survivors and their family; therefore the conference call for all the state's mechanisms including civil society and media to use human rights human rights oriented and sensitive language as well as maintain confidentiality of survivors.
4. It is important to draw the attention of the International Community towards the changes in the dynamics of Human Trafficking, and towards controlling crime against women in the name of foreign employment. As Nepal has already ratified the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crimes (2000), the conference urge Nepal government to ratify it's optional protocol (known as Palermo Protocol)¹ and to revisit SAARC Convention to control trafficking of women and children in light with emerging trends. Thus, the conference call to have a discussion on the human trafficking and regional mechanisms and instruments on upcoming SAARC conference.
5. The conference call to guarantee easy accessible health care and facilities including psychosocial services as survivors have been found with physical

¹ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

health complexities and psychosocial trauma. Along with it, the conference urge for survivor friendly and dignified behaviour of health practitioners towards the survivors.

6. It is identified that survivor friendly environment, improvement on investigation and allegation procedures as well as legal awareness is significant for enhancing survivor's access to justice. The conference call for victim witness protection provision, expedite justice delivery and long run rehabilitation support services for survivors in comprehensive and easy accessible way.
7. Recognizing the condition of government supported rehabilitation centers are not able to meet the minimum standards; the conference urge for allocation of adequate resources and facilities to ensure these rehabilitation centers operating with the minimum standards set by Nepal Government.
8. The rehabilitation center should operate with comprehensive programs not only for survivors but also their children and affected family members facilitating for access to services including health, education, skill training, citizenship certificates, birth registration, family reintegration and the program for social behaviour change.
9. It is important that the media, as the fourth state, should operate in favour of the affected and against the perpetrators. Also, it is important to expose the incidents of human trafficking and it's various dimension through an investigative journalism maintaining the confidentiality of victims/vulnerable and survivors and following the media code of conduct without adversely affecting the interest of victims.
10. Since discrimination and stigmatization against survivors of human trafficking are still prevalent in social, cultural practices, which are hindering survivors to live a social life in dignity and equity; the conference call for stakeholders and development partners as well as non government sectors to have massive awareness and sensitization programs among all professionals sectors and personnel working in service providing agencies.

Overview of Conference

The Third National conference of Trafficking Survivor Women was held during 4-5 June 2014 in Lalitpur of Nepal attended by 350 participants from various walk of movement including 191 trafficking survivor women. The conference discussed on six key issues of trafficking survivors and ending human trafficking problem in Nepal that includes socio economic condition of trafficking survivors; access to health facilities and health status; access to justice, emerging trends and dynamics of human trafficking; effective reintegration and respecting privacy rights of trafficking survivor. The conference came up with 10 points declaration, which was also owned by Nepal Government and considered as road map for future interventions in Nepal.

Inaugurated by vice chair of constitution assembly of Nepal Hon. Onsari Gharti, human rights activist, high level government officials and leaders of Shakti Samuha call for serious action and attention by government respecting dignity, human rights, freedom and equality for trafficking survivors. Speakers in the inauguration ceremony also recalled the history of anti trafficking movement and it's changing dynamics in modern days.

During the working session experts, academics and activists on human trafficking issues facilitated the discussion. Dr. Renu Rajbhandari, Professor Geeta Pathak Sangroula, Ms. Bhavati Nepal, Ms. Neelam Sharma, Mr. Ratnakaji Bajracharya, senior journalists Tanka Panta and Jaya Luitel facilitated the discussions.

Discussing about socioeconomic condition, participants of the conference confirmed that mostly marginalised and excluded communities women and children are highly vulnerable to trafficking often further exploited and excluded during reintegration. The socio cultural barriers, stigma and discrimination against women in society are still major hurdles for survivors to adjust and access social protection schemes. They identify the equal citizenry status of women is crucial to combat current difficulties.

In terms of Health Condition and access to health facilities, participants shared and identify that the survivors faces discrimination in health institution, by health personnel and have inadequate health facilities. HIV infected survivors are having less access to free ARV. Along with the psychosocial health of survivors have been ignored and have not been well facilitated by government system neither NGO sector.

Access to justice, as per participants have been denied in most of the cases due to the power access and influence by traffickers, along with the marginalised social

economic status of survivors further hurdles their access to service. Women and children along with survivors are not adequately aware of legal provisions, available free legal aid facilities. This needs easy accessible and wider awareness on legal provision, free legal aid and also victim friendly investigation and prosecution methods.

The modern day human trafficking has been intertwined with migration and labor opportunities; where on the name of better working opportunities people are entrapped and enslaved in various work sectors. The trafficking is no more limited for sexual slavery and to India from Nepal. Thus, Participants identified the crimes in foreign employment shall be investigated and considered with human trafficking dimension as well.

On the issue of privacy right of survivors, the crucial role of media on advocating rights and situation of survivors and human trafficking and the concern over revealing identity and use of insensitive words and languages have been discussed. Participants reconfirmed the need of engagement of media for rights advocacy on this field yet, media personal shall be educated and trained and encouraged to come up with investigative, crime/act centric, sensitive and ethical stories that promotes dignity and equality for survivors and also highlight the sensitivity of problem without harming personal image and life of survivors.

During the closing ceremony the conference was addressed by Chief Secretary of Nepal Government Mr. Lilamani Paudel; Secretary of MoWCSW Mr. Dineshhari Adhikari and Parliamentarian Hon. Nisha Shah. Guest Speakers express their solidarity and support to the declaration and express their commitment to take it forward. Ms. Sunita Danuwar, chair of closing ceremony call all stakeholders to listen to the voice of survivors, reflect human rights and non discrimination against women in any name in constitution and to have a hope and join the movement for survivors.

Chapter 1

Introduction

1. Human Trafficking in Nepal

Having almost 27 million populations with women's share more than men among the total population; Nepal witness several discrimination against women's lowering women's status and dignity. In past few years, Nepal has progressed in terms of women's education and economic engagement, in health status and access to legal justice. Yet, political representation and participation, control and ownership of property, citizenry position and improvement on the situation of violence against women have been not seen in steady progressive line.

In recent constitution assembly election, women's representation in parliament has remained less than 30 percent, on which representation through direct election was limited within 10 percent; the cases of sexual violence and rape against women have been seen in increasing number in media. The ownership of land and house stands at almost 20 percent with significant variation among urban women at 26 percent and rural women at 18 percent².

With deprivation from dignity, citizenry position and equal status as of men in economic, social and political activities; women faces severe poverty in Nepal. The women's poverty have been further multiplied with the non recognition of their contribution through informal economy, less legal protection on the labor sectors that have higher women's engagement. Increasing urbanization, migration, labor migration have further affected the lives of women in Nepal particularly increasing their vulnerability to violence, abuse, exploitation and slavery; double burden of the household activities; and reducing women's public engagement spheres. With increasing urbanization and free market economy, women's sexual exploitation have been further capitalised by the market resulting in unsafe migration and women's slavery and deprivation.

Such free market economy, discrimination against women and patriarchal nationalism depriving women from equal status have further contributed challenges and difficulties on addressing human trafficking, preventing, protecting, prosecuting and right based sustained reintegration of survivors.

² National population and housing census (National Report), Central Bureau of Statistics, Nepal 2011.

Various studies have marked a varied range of trafficking problem in Nepal ranging from 5000 to 17 thousand each year to India alone. With the new phenomena of foreign employment other thousands of Nepali people have been entrapped into slavery and trafficking nexus. But due to legal definitions and prosecution provisioned, such acts have not been still trialled under the human trafficking act. Since the high rise of conflict period (2000 A.D.) Internal trafficking of women and girls into night entertainment business have been found as new phenomena of trafficking; which was limited in domestic worker children and girls at past. The internal Asylums of exploitation in entertainment business and other exploitative business; cross country trapping of slavery in domestic service, construction and agriculture business have been seen as new dimension of human trafficking in Nepal.

There have been some positive efforts from government of Nepal to keep it's promises that it has expressed through ratification of international convention. Nepal government has ratified various UN conventions including seven core human rights treaties except convention on enforced disappearance and convention on migrant workers' rights. It has also ratified UN convention on transnational organised crimes, yet Palermo Protocol has not been ratified. The government of Nepal has criminalised human trafficking and slavery practices through civil code and special act to control human trafficking. It has formulated it's own national action plan. National Committee to Control Human Trafficking is in existence and such committee at district and village level are being formulated. Numbers of initiatives are taking place from government and non-government sector to provide services such as counselling, shelter, safe house and reintegration facilities. There are also efforts made enhance capacity of police personnel and judicial officials including judges through training and workshops. As per the report of US Department on Trafficking in Person (TIP Report 2014) Nepal has prosecuted 375 defendants and out of them 119 were convicted which is in increment from previous year. Some of example court decisions of multiple criminal liabilities have been also decided with 170 years imprisonment sentencing.

In such context to identify the first hand experience and empirical reflection on reintegration and rehabilitation services, prevention and prosecution action by survivor women; Shakti Samuha together with AATWIN (Alliance against Trafficking of Women and Children in Nepal) and Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare Hosted 3rd National Conference of Women Survivors of Trafficking

on 4-5 June 2014, in Lalitpur Nepal. Various other organization working together on anti human trafficking campaign also supported the conference.

2. The National Conference

Though Human Trafficking victimize all sectors of population both men and women; women and the girls are affected most both as vulnerable, victim and survivors. The Human Development Report of 2004 estimates that almost 20 percent of total trafficking victim to India and other countries are minors. Women survivors of trafficking have to face several difficulties in returning, reintegration and rehabilitation process often deprived and discriminated on access to basic opportunities and fundamental right to basic facilities.

Shakti Samuha, as an organization founded and lead by trafficking survivor women and movement oriented institution, together with other actors on the field of human trafficking have been hosting national conference of women survivors since 2007 and the second conference was held in 2008.

The third national conference have been organized mainly with three strategic objectives: to further strengthen nationwide networking and organizations of survivor women for continuing movement to end human trafficking and justice; to assess the living situation of survivors women with focused to the access to services and justice based on the first hand experiences of survivors women; and to advocate contemporary concerns identified by survivors women among government agencies, parliament, constitution assembly and civil society including media.

In January 2014, an international conference on human trafficking was organized in 22-31 March in Lalitpur by UFFER (International Movement for Fraternal Union among Races and Peoples) Where Shakti Samuha was also a co-organizer. Following that



international conference outcome, Shakti Samuha encouraged to hold a national conference of women survivors.

The third national conference of women survivors was significant and strategic to campaign for the rights and justice as well as to draw national attention on human trafficking issues in Nepal for number of reasons and national political situation.

The 2nd constitution assembly have been recently elected and the assembly has committed to promulgate new constitution by Mid February 2015; it is important to make constitution making process to listen and respond the voices of survivors particularly guaranteeing equal citizen status for men and women; addressing complexities for single and survivor women, married to foreign nationals to access citizenship; constitutionally provisioning right to compensation and banning all forms of discrimination and violence against women. Secondly it has been already five years past with the accomplishment of 2nd women survivors' national conference; in past five years the trafficking dynamics and issues have emerged new dimensions and new concerns; there were new challenges and progress faced by survivors women which needs to address by government and civil society actors.

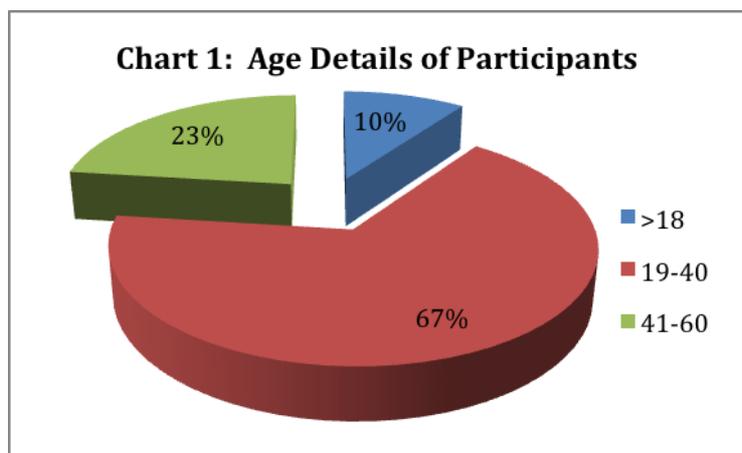
Shakti Samuha, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) and Alliance against Trafficking of Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN) jointly hosted the national conference during 4-5 June, 2014 in Lalitpur. UNICEF (United Nations Children Fund), Plan International Nepal, Caritas Nepal, UFFER Team, Child Reach Nepal, Planete Enfants and Australian Survivors Group, Japanese supporter Masako Tanaka joined hand with their financial and technical support to make this conference a success. Foudnder Members, general members and volunteers of Shakti Samuha were actively engaged on organizing and managing the conference. Altogether 350 Participants including 191 women survivors have participated in conference and discussed in various six sessions. The major discussion sessions were about: current socio-economic situation and access to basic facilities of survivor women; access to health facilities of survivor women; Opportunities and difficulties faced for accessing justice by survivor women; issues and concerns on sustaining reintegration and rehabilitation of survivors; privacy right of survivors and media role; Emerging trends and dimensions in human trafficking.

The conference successfully brought together survivors from all five development regions and of Nepal and consulted about the challenges they have been facing and their contemporary needs; it has developed specific recommendations, declared strategic actions and inform the major stakeholders, influence social campaigners and the leaders of Nepal; the conference also advocated with constitution assembly members and mobilize mass media in favour of survivors rights and their concerns. More importantly the conversion from I to we among

survivor is a significant step on movement to stop human trafficking in Nepal. The post conference action of authorities and organizers along with other civil society actors are expected to sustain the constitutional guarantee of right to compensation, equality of citizenship, efficient and effective service delivery to the survivors by respective state agencies and response to the necessary legal and policy changes by government and legislature.

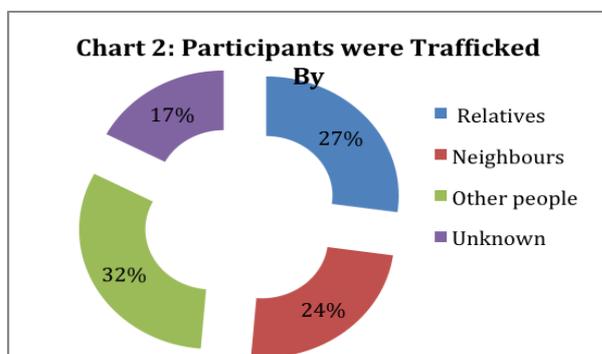
3. Participants of National Conference

Altogether 191 women survivors from 31 districts from east to far west and uphill to the plain terai of Nepal have participated on the conference. In terms of geographical representation mid region of the country heavily dominate the number of participants with 113 followed by mid western region (35), eastern region (33), far western region (5) and western region (3). The participants were representing through various chapters of Shakti Samuha, where 101 were Shakti Samuha



Members and remaining were not. On the basis of age 19 were below the age of 18 years; 44 were between 41-60 years and remaining of 19-40 years of age. Among the participants 109 were from janajati ethnic communities; 40 were from dalits and remaining were from other cast groups. Out of the total participants only 157 were literate and 137 were married; whereas 35 were unmarried, 5 were single women and 11 were living separated life.

Among the participating survivor women only 16 (8.4%) mentioned that they have



some knowledge about human trafficking before they entrapped in trafficking. 102 participants mentioned that they were minor when they were trafficked, among which 21 were less than 10 years of age. 106 participants have been trafficked to India; 15 were victim of in country

trafficking and remained have been trafficked to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Qatar. 112 of them have lived in trafficked and bonded situation for more than a year in

destination. Among the participant survivor women 52 were trafficked by relatives; 46 were by neighbours; 60 were by other people and remaining have been trafficked by person/group unknown to them. Among them 61 had survived sexual slavery, 24 had been to circus, 58 were in domestic work, 15 were been to restaurants/hotels. They were freed from trafficked situation through police raid (35), escaped (26), clients (11), interfered on the way (5). 162 have been rescued with their own willingness and 6 were with use of force.

4. About Organizers

Numbers of organizations have provided technical and financial support along with solidarity by other many NGOs active in Nepal for human rights and justice. Shakti Samuha together with Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare of Nepal Government and Alliance Against Trafficking of Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN) has jointly organized the conference.

Brief Introduction of MoWCSW

Founded in 1996, Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare is the focal ministry of Nepal government for operating developmental and rights fulfilment duties on the area of women, children, senior citizens and people living with disability. As Nepal governments focal executive authority on women and children's rights the MoWCSW has launched number of programs and initiatives for the protection, promotion and fulfilment of rights of women and children in Nepal. It has Department for Women, Central Child Welfare Board and National Committee for Controlling Human Trafficking, along with Division of Children Welfare for the efficient and effective implementation of Nepal government's policies and programs. MoWCSW has started publishing National Report on Trafficking in Person (TIP), formulated national plan of action for combating human trafficking and also national child policy and plan of action for child rights in Nepal. The Ministry also operate as the national coordinator for South Asian Initiatives for Eliminating All forms of Violence Against Children (SAIEVAC), which is an SAARC Apex body for combating violence against children. Recently ministry has also launched national program on preventing early marriage in Nepal.

Shakti Samuha

Shakti Samuha is founded in 1996 by human trafficking survivors in Nepal. The organization serves as a forum for trafficking survivors empowering and organizing

them and running various social actions at grass root level. Shakti Samuha has been advocating for the dignity, freedom and equality for human trafficking survivors in Nepal through various actions including policy review and advocacy, services for human trafficking survivors, building solidarity and collaborating with other social movements, NGOs and government agencies to combat human trafficking problems in Nepal. Shakti Samuha has been operating number of activities in partnership with various national and international organizations and is also member of National Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (NCCHT) & District Committee to Combat Human Trafficking (DCCHT), Alliance Against trafficking in women and children in Nepal (AATWIN), NGO Federation Nepal, Demonstration Monitoring Networking, Network of Survivor of Trafficking (SOT) in Nepal, Women and Human Rights (WHR) Network, Network of Women's rights to Safe Migration, and Global Alliance against Trafficking of Women (GAATW). Shakti Samuha is currently active in 11 districts in Nepal having it's district committees and programs. Shakti Samuha was honoured with Ramon Magsaysay Award in 2013.

AATWIN

Alliance against Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN) was established on June 6, 1997 to raise the strong and collective voice against the human trafficking. Before its establishment there was an extensive discussion, deliberation, study and reflection for a long time amongst the organization working against trafficking in women and preservation of human rights. After all these they came to the conclusion that the movement would be incomplete and less effective if only a single organization was involved in the struggle for crimes against humanity like trafficking and human rights violations.

From the very beginning of its establishment AATWIN has been working for the policy change in local, national to international level. Besides it has made great effort for the conceptual clarity among the member organizations and people in general.

Chapter 2

Details of Proceedings

1. Inauguration Ceremony

The third national conference of trafficking survivor women was inaugurated by Ms. Onsari Gharti Magar, Vice Chair of Constitution Assembly of Nepal in a grand ceremony attended by 300 plus people representing various sectors of society on 5th of June 2014. The speakers in the inauguration session highlighted the need of women's equal citizenry status in country, state accountability and responsible action from civil society along with wider social mobilization to combat human trafficking. In their remarks during the inauguration, speakers also acknowledge few positive steps taken by the government, appreciate the empowered action by



Shakti Samuha and recognized the efforts made by civil society organization through collaborative actions on combating human trafficking in Nepal. Ms. Radhika Aryal, Joint Secretary and Chief of Women and Children Section of Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare had chaired the

inauguration ceremony. Ms. Meena Bista extended warm welcome to all guests and participants mentioning that *“the conference outcome will be well addressed by stakeholders and participants would share their experiences and reality they faces so that we can provide more realistic options to the government. Government shall perform in responsibility and accountability.”* The speakers in the Inauguration ceremony were, Vice Chair of Constitution Assembly Ms. Onsari Gharti Magar, Secretary of Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare Mr. Dineshari Adhikari, Chair of National Women Human Rights Defenders' Network Dr. Renu Raj Bhandari, Chair of AATWIN Ms. Bimala Jnawali and Chair of Shakti Samuha Ms. Sunita Danuwar had addressed the opening ceremony.

During the Opening ceremony, Members of Shakti Smauha presented a dance calling for unity among the Nepali people; Ms. Chari Maya Tamang, Former Chair of Shakti Samuha highlighted the objectives of the program. Ms. Tamang shared that *“Shakti Samuha despite of many challenges is the first organization founded*

by survivors; we are grateful to all those who have supported us. It is an immense pleasure and proud feeling that Ministry has joined their hands today with us. Now we have a hope that they would listen to us. We have already held two such conference at past in 2007 and 2008. This is third and happening in six years gaps. We need to explore the information gaps on trafficking dimensions such as new destination, new routes, new vulnerable, new purpose and new forms. We need to also identify the difficulties faced by survivors and positive outcomes of available services and we need to recommend action steps for government and stakeholders. This platform is also a platform to educate, influence each other, build network and advocate for policies and programs at local and national level. We would be sharing the outcome document and declaration at the end of the conference to all who are interested to have it and who are responsible to act on.”

Ms. Bhagavati Nepal, Advisor of Shakti Samuha, shared about the program details. Ms. Nepal shared *“the conference will discuss on six various themes through parallel sessions, where some are designated only participation by survivors and some are by all. The sessions are selected because of it’s current relevancy on addressing the needs of survivors and required action from the sate.”*

Finally from the seat of Chair Ms. Radhika Aryal extended vote of thanks to all guests and participants and closed the opening ceremony. On her closing remarks, Ms. Aryal mentioned, *“Human Trafficking is a global problem having transnational relation and networking; Nepal is within this criminal trap. On the one hand political instability, past conflict, deprivation, lack of employment opportunities have been pushing vulnerable to this trap and on the other side consumerism, modernisation and urban attractions along with criminals’ illusive influence about city life are pulling the vulnerable. We have to address both through prevention, protection and prosecution action. Nepal government has been always engaged with civil society actors for such actions. Thus I request all participants and speakers to be pro active, present in more practical and solvable way; in Ministry your voices will be heard and responded, I assure you all.”*

In addition to the guest speakers, the inauguration ceremony was attended by prominent personalities including country representative of UNICEF Office in Nepal, parliamentarians, representative high level officials from Ministry of Home Affairs, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Ministry for Labor and Employment, Minsitry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Ministry of Health and Population, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, National Human Rights Commission,

National Women's Commission, Ministry of Education, NGO Federation, Human Rights Alliance, Federation of Journalists' and Metropolitan Police Circle representative. Advisors of Shakti Samuha had also joined the inauguration ceremony of this conference.

Following paragraphs have the summary of the remarks delivered by guest speakers during inauguration ceremony.

Chief Guest, Hon. Onsari Gharti Magar, Vice Chair, Constitution Assembly of Nepal

It is an honour and pleasant opportunity for me to join the inauguration of this historical moment together with the campaigners, development partners and the government officials on combating human trafficking in Nepal.

Despite of the progress made in few areas of livelihood, it is an irony that Nepali women have been suffering discrimination and dehumanization in many aspects of the social, state and familial functioning. In this context, a larger population of this country, young girls and women are highly vulnerable, being victim of trafficking and slavery type of heinous crimes. The state has some policies, laws and programs to address this problem; but it is



empirical fact that only documents do not solve the problem; we need practical action. The constitutional provision of equality on citizenship has been challenged in practice by state authorities itself; numbers of women have been complaining violence and discrimination everyday in this country.

We have to challenges such economic, political, social barriers against women, we need to break all the discriminatory practices and cultures, we need to uproot the dehumanization of women in our society. Of course it is a challenging job, it needs courage and efforts, and together we can. This conference is such an event that will strengthen our courage, build our unity and come up with practical steps of action for future.

I would like to express my honour to Shakti Samuha and Ms. Charimaya, whose courage, hard work and efforts has made it possible that the survivors women can

reattain a dignity, prevented other thousand of women and girls from being victim. This is what we have to learn and multiply.

We are in the process of formulating new constitution and we have owned the decisions and documentation of previous constitution assembly too. However there are still heavy debates going on to have gender friendly and equality based constitution. I do express my commitment to extend my best efforts for promulgating new constitution that address discrimination against women. And I recommend the activist to be alert and take action as require preventing any continuation of discrimination against women in constitution and state policies and programs.

Guest Speaker, Mr. Dineshhari Adhikari, Secretary, Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare

The dynamics of human trafficking is changing its faces from the conventional one to India and sex market, now it is happening in various other names such as foreign employment, adoption and other many forms. Open Boarder with India has been found as major challenge to control trafficking at least to India and in absence of treaty to handover criminals; it has become critical to prosecute traffickers. In addition to this in country trafficking has been also emerged as new phenomena.



Nepal government has taken human trafficking issue as a serious concern and already enacted various laws and policies including National Plan of Action on Controlling Human Trafficking, Human Trafficking Controlling and Punishment Act are some to name. The Government has established secretariat of National Committee to Control Human Trafficking (NCCHT) along with leading at SAARC level to advocate among the governments for acting against Human Trafficking through SAIEVAC. The local committees for controlling human trafficking have been now initiated in number of districts and villages. In addition to this Nepal government has also supported to operate transit shelter for survivors in eight districts and implementing few social protection schemes.

We know that the efforts are not adequate; we acknowledge the contribution made by civil society organization such as AATWIN and Shakti Samuha are significant in national plan to end human trafficking. We believe in collaboration and cooperation, thus we call for all stakeholders including private sector and non government organizations to coordinate and collaborate with government. This conference in itself is an example of joint work of non-government and government sector.

I am full confident that the conference will explore hidden issues, recognized unresolved problems and recommend effective remedies in combating human trafficking in Nepal and my best wishes are with all the participants and organizers.

Guest Speaker, Ms. Bimala Gyawali, Chairperson, AATWIN

AATWIN is a pioneer networks that campaign to end human trafficking problems and build collaboration and synergies among the actors on this field. Since the beginning we have been advocating rights based approaches and actions on combating trafficking. We are the first to recognize human trafficking as a human rights violation and organized crime in Nepal rather just minor crimes conducted by some naïve people. From the days of Foundation, we have advocated for collaboration and coordination, where we have a firmed belief.



The data has evidenced that almost half of the trafficked persons are minors, and further new areas and phenomena of trafficking has been emerging. We have challenges on compensation for victim, despite of conviction compensation are not paid because the right to compensation provision made compensation as transaction between victim and criminal only, state has refrained it's role. Equal Citizenry status is another problem in Nepal where women are denied from citizenry relationship. We have been advocating for women's right to citizenship too as it is a fundamental structural cause for human trafficking.

ATTWIN believes that the survivor/affected group shall have the voice and that voice shall be heard. Thus we collaborate with Shakti Samuha. We believe this conference is platform where the survivors/affected will raise their voice, which will

be aired to the stakeholders and government. My best wishes for you all that your voices will be heard.

Guest Speaker, Dr. Renu Rajbhandari, Chairperson, NWHRDs

I still remember the day of 1996, when group Nepalese women have been rescued and landed in Nepal airport. We had to be aggressive and even throw stones to photographers for preventing taking photos of rescued girls. The education, training attended by the girls rescued that year resulted into foundation of Shakti



Samuha. AATWIN was founded to advocate the concept that human trafficking is an organized crime and shall be considered as grave human rights violation. The very time girls were rescued from India, even we heard a ironic voice in parliament that “these girls shall not be allowed to stay in Nepal and

shall be send out from country, they brought aids to our homeland”.

From such a critical days, we are here now among this mass and with a momentum of movements and action. The result of trust and confident in collaboration, transparent action and dedicate activism is what we are having today. We need dynamism on this movement and for that we need leadership dynamism, progressing, new leadership emerging and taking lead of these social actions.

Obviously days are challenging and critical, nobody might help. Even at past when UNICEF started intervening then the government started having few initiatives. But we must not forget that though the 51 percent population of women and girls in this country are vulnerable and victim; the 100 percent population are going to be affected. So, it is our common agenda, common needs and that is why we need be together while fighting human trafficking.

Documenting, formulating laws and policies and delivering good speeches are not enough, we need action and each action can contribute for change. Let’s continue to act together.

Speaker, Ms. Sunita Danuwar, Chairperson Shakti Samuha

Days have changed a lot and we have been empowered too. In 1996, when we returned only 15 out of 128 started this Shakti Samuha. We have been a matter of sensation for newspapers, we have been projected as prostitute, we have been



blamed for bringing aids into country; in our bus some people even threw stones. We did not scare. We got support from many good people and organization, Dr. Renu is in front to help us, we can even call her the founding mother of our group.

In this 18 years, much progress have been made, but still survivors can not come out openly, they still face stigma and discrimination, thus hide

identity. We have experienced that if we are empowered rehabilitation sustained and possible; therefore Shakti Samuha focused on empowering women survivors.

Citizenship has become a serious challenge to many of us; with current state policy and practice we re denied and ultimately pushed into statelessness. The absence of citizenry position has pushed us into deprivation; further discrimination and out of legal protection. We have experienced few organizations and people even does not like to come and stand together with us, deliver speeches in our programs; this is clear that stigma and discrimination still prevails and institutionally established. We call for government to effectively address the concern raised by survivors, monitor safe houses and transit facilities, establish and implement minimum care standards on services to the survivors.

2.2 Session I: Socio-economic Status of Survivors

With the intention to explore current socio-economic condition of survivors women particularly their economic status, engagement, acceptance in family and society and the perception of survivor women about other's treatment towards them; the conference had a session on socio-economic status of survivors.

The session was facilitated by Dr, Renu Rajbhandari, who is a prominent human rights activists and campaigner of women's rights, on ending violence against women, for feminist movement building. Dr. Rajbhandari is also chair of national

women human rights defenders movement. Dr. Rajbhandari's contribution on human right based action to respond human trafficking is significant in Nepalese anti trafficking movement.

Ms. Sunita Danuwar, Chairperson of Shakti Samuha, and a recognized activist on Nepalese campaign to Stop Human Trafficking, has chaired the session. Ms. Danuwar is an inspiring figure for lot of trafficking survivors, who together with others founded Shakti Samuha and have been leading the anti trafficking movement in Nepal.

In this session participants discussed about current status of women and survivors in ground level at family and society as well as work place, vulnerability factors and possible action to reduce vulnerability of women for stopping human trafficking.

Participants in discussion shared number of vulnerable factors and discrimination faced at society in family with various

socio-economic contexts with few success stories. The major factors pushing participants into the trap of

"When my family knew that i was trafficked they neglected me. I was latter approached by my family once they knew that i was employed."

trafficking was violence particularly inflicted by male members of the family (mainly husband, in laws and the step father); in some cases participants expressed they

"I married when i was very small. My husband used to accuse me of infidelity, he never trusted me. We went through a very difficult time. We were struggling financially then. So, my husband went for a foreign employment. But he didn't send me any money so i decided to go for foreign employment. I faced lot of problems abroad. I was both physically and sexually abused. I came back to Nepal. Back here i couldn't find any work. Latter my family also neglected me. I am without any support now."

got early marriage, tortured at married home; left by husband with children and without single support. In such context, women as an alternative choose foreign

employment often through a broker without having chance to explore more and ability to ask detailed information; ultimately fall into slavery and trafficked situation where they were physically, sexually exploited and bondage. After returning to country for a significant period they did not receive any employment opportunity, neither their poverty ended, nor the violence, stigma, harassment and discrimination at family and societal level. As evidenced by survivor participants' survey, 57 percent are from Janajati and 21 percent are dalit communities indicating the unjust distribution of opportunities among various ethnic community and marginalized cast group are increasing vulnerability of women and girls in these community to trafficking. Most of the survivors are depend on agriculture

engagement with 36 percent of participants followed by 17 percent in official jobs; 14 percent currently doing small business and 7 percent are as daily wage workers. Though 72 percent of participants are found married; some 6 percent have divorced from their family. Only 6 percent of the participants are found completed school education, whereas 60 percent have attended only upto grade 7 and dropped out. With the current income status, only 22.5 percent of survivor women have mentioned that they can cover their living expenses upto 9 to 12 months; 40 percent can cover living expenses only upto 3 months and 23 percent upto 4 to 6 months. 68 percent of participating women survivors have no ownership of any land or house property. One participant shared that with support from a local NGO, she got opportunity to start up animal husbandry and situation has much improved; similarly another shard being in contact with local NGO knew rights and justice, built confident and now educating others about the issues.

“Since I experienced domestic violence at home i decided to go

Participants have faced multiple difficulties on adjusting in current situation. 21.5

“I don’t have any job, as I am uneducated and unskilled.”

percent of participating women survivors mentioned that they have faced more than

four difficult situations in family. The various difficulties mentioned by participants are: hate (17), rejection by family (7), difficulty in adjusting in family (7), scolding by family members (6), stigma (5), problem in marriage (1) and exclusion even in family issues and concern (1). Other 19 participants mentioned other difficulties they are facing in family.

Problem Faced at Society	Number
Stigma	6
Scold	2
Hate	20
Problem for marriage	2
Difficulty in adjustment	5
Others	33
More than four multiple problems	50

Facilitator Dr. Rajbhandari suggested participants, though the problems shared by participants seems an acute action and only by their family members; in fact it remains largely in society and since a long history of patriarchy that reinforce male supremacy and women as object

owned by men.

Dr. Rajbhandari suggested that the reason behind all these problems is society is not aware of how to deal with survivors, what are their rights and it is not their fault

to be trafficked. The stereotypical way of perceiving women and girls as a object rather than an individual with right has gripped Nepali society since time immemorial. People of the society are adamant towards change. Due to which the survivors are facing social stigma. And the lack of social protection pushes these survivors towards further risk. Since they don't have any alternative of social and economic opportunities they are compelled to continue with the hazardous jobs. Hence, it is important for our government to enforce social protection for these women and girls. From the seat of Chair, Ms. Danuwar shared that it is significant that we need to change the attitude of our society, and for that we need to be organized; we need to be aware and we need to be together. Being together we can claim our rights, loud our voice and people will listen to us. It is important to end all forms of discrimination and violence against women. We have to come in contact with organizations and government authorities, which could help women for addressing their vulnerability. Poverty is not a single cause of this problem, rather policy provisions, inadequacy of programs and interventions that enable us to access better opportunity are important. She thanked all participants for sharing their experience and sharing their perception. She also thanked to facilitator for igniting the discussion and contributing on this movement since a long time.

Stories from Participants in the Session

"I was 5 years old when my father died and since then i have been facing domestic violence. I was sexually abused. My husband used to beat me. There was no any support for me."

"I was married in a very tender age. I was isolated after my husband left me and remarried. I then worked for an employer as a child labor. I wanted to study, back then i wasn't allowed to study so i had to abandon my dream of studying. Then in a young age i went to work for a circus in India where i worked for a short time. I broke my vertebra there so i returned to Nepal. After coming back i remarried but then my luck didn't turned out. My husband used to beat me. Then i came in contact with 'Nari Ship Srijana Kendra'. Now this Kendra has become my home. Today whenever i meet someone like me, i encourage them to speak out about their problem and face the challenge."

"I was victim of domestic violence. My husband and in laws tortured me. Even police physically abused me when i complained about my husband and in laws. My husband latter went for foreign employment but he didn't send me any financial support. I couldn't face any further torture for my family so i also went for foreign employment however, i couldn't stay there for a longer period of time. I returned to Nepal after my grandmother's death."

"Because i was from a very poor family i decided to marry a shepherd in a very early age. After marriage our financial condition worsened so i decided to go abroad for employment. I went abroad but it wasn't an easy job. I was physically exploited. Now, i have started animal husbandry which has helped me sustain my livelihood."

"My husband and in laws accused me of practicing witchcraft. I was both mentally and physically abused. I didn't see any reason of staying with my husband so i returned to my maternal home where with support with my family i started a tea shop. Latter with the support of my bother in law i went for a foreign employment. Unfortunately, the working environment was dreadful. I was treated very badly. I couldn't stay there so with the help of a relative of the employer i ran away from that place to work at different place. But there also my luck didn't support me, i was exploited there. When i expressed my desire to return to my country my employer didn't allow me. I borrowed 80 thousand rupees from Nepal and then came back. Till this day my husband tortures me."

"I was 12 year when i got married. My husband left me after 6 years. I went for foreign employment where i was sexually exploited. My family didn't help me. With all the difficulties faced i came back to Nepal. Here i started to run a small tea shop."

2.3 Session II: Health Condition of Survivors

The Third National Conference has considered Health Concerns of Survivors as one of the key agenda to discuss in the conference. The session was designed to explore the empirical reality of health conditions and access to health services for survivors in the society. Ms. Bhagawati Nepal, a pioneer activist on women rights and against human trafficking facilitated the discussion and chaired by Ms. Dilkumari, member of Shakti Samuha.

The session started with an introductory remarks by Ms. Dil Kumari, where she highlighted why the organizers have arranged the discussion session and encouraged participants to share their experiences which expose both positive and difficulties that survivors are facing on accessing health facilities at local level. Ms. Nepal, as facilitator, reconfirmed that the discussion will remain confidential, only key suggestions; experiences and the problems shared by participants will be documented with

The access to health services for survivors have lot's of barriers compounded with stigma, discrimination, expensive service and medicine cost and clinical facilities.

Survivor cannot have easy and open access to the health facilities due to social stigma and discrimination, due to costly facilities and weak financial position they have, due to the

"After returning back I have been receiving mental treatment. I have to regularly take medicine and I am worried about my health conditions as it is getting worse".

discriminatory behaviours towards trafficking survivors among health/medical/clinical practitioners. The limited availability of psychosocial care and support is another challenge for survivors to recover mental health status.

"I was trafficked when she was 11 years. I have operated my uterus after I started to have problems. My hand and legs don't move properly".

Among the participating women survivors, only 30 percent mentioned have conducted health check up after returning and 24 percent mentioned have not done. Remaining

did not mentioned about their health check up status. Regarding various physical and mental health problems, 27 percent mentioned having more than 3 physical health problems and 61 percent mentioned having more than 3 stress situation. Among the physical health problem referring participants, Headache (22), lower abdominal pain (6), genital infection/STIs (3), Tuberculosis (1), HIV (2), Pain in hands and feet (5), Problem of Uterus (4), Chest Pain (1), Body Swelling (1) and many others (69).

Similarly those who mentioned about psychosocial problems, mentioned about Feeling Worried (11), Crying (2), Sleeping Disturbance (1), Self Isolation (1), Aggressive Feeling (5), Self Guild Feeling (4), Low Self Confidence (3), problem in concentration (1).

Participants raised that existing social stigma, discrimination against girls and women, lack of women's control over economy and property and less sensitivity among clinical/medicine/health practitioners towards trafficking survivors are major hindering factors for accessing the health facilities.

"I agree with other participant's view that society will not show any respect once it is revealed that the girl or the women is the trafficked one. Even in hospital nurses misbehave with survivors. I also have health problems like pulsation, headache, stomach ache".

Participants suggested following points for promoting equitable access to health facilities among survivors:

- Empower trafficking survivors to access and share their health problems in public health facilities.
- Educate Health practitioners on issues and sensitive approach to the trafficking survivors.
- Availability of psychosocial cares and support facilities at health post/village level and mandatorily at shelter facilities.
- Complete free service facility, including medicine and other clinical/surgical facilities if required, which are consequence of trafficking, sexual exploitation, violence and slavery practices.
- Initiate social awareness and sensitization campaign at community level for promoting independent and equal status of women and to reduce stigma against survivor women and girls.
- Promote sexual and reproductive health facilities and education in all forms of educational programs (school level, non formal and university education).

At the end of session, Ms, Bhagavati Nepal shared that that no women should hide their problem, instead they should try to make an early effort to meet experts who can provide better suggestions to minimize the risks. Survivors shall organize them and claim the facilities promised by government; if denied or delayed shall complaint and contact organization. The discrimination against women shall be ended and trafficking survivor women are in forefront of this struggle.

Chair of the session Ms. Dil Kumari thanked participants for sharing their problems in the sessions. She identified the urgency of counselling for improving the mental

conditions of such survivors is significantly needed. Finally thanking all participants and facilitator, she closed the discussion session.

The session was facilitated by Ms. Bhagwati Nepal and chaired by Ms. Dil Kumari. Ms. Dil Kumari started the session by requesting participants to openly express their problems and queries related to their health if there are any. She added that solution to all the problems and answers to all the queries can be found through discussions during the session. This was followed by the introduction of all the participants.

Stories from Participants in the Session

"I was ill treated by the people after I am found H.I.V. infected. Society still hasn't changed their perception towards the trafficked women. Government data shows the rate of H.I.V infection among housewives has accelerated. Despite being affected by H.I.V one should not lose hope as they can live a healthy and dignified life with the regular intake of medicine".

"I was married with a man when I was 15. I suffered physical violence due to which I can't speak properly and I trembles quite often".

"I started experiencing health issues and mental problems after my husband married someone else".

"Our society beholds negative perceptions towards trafficked women. I have experienced multiple health problems. I am taking medicines of diabetes, blood pressure and pneumonia".

"I would like to express my gratitude towards Sakti Samuha for proving support throughout the struggle".

"I was trafficked 7 years ago. I was cheated by saying that I was being taken to foreign land for work. I now have a problem while speaking and I can't properly use my hand".

2.4 Session III: Access to Justice for Survivors

Aiming to identify the status of access to justice, the conference had a special session on Survivors' Access to Justice. The session mainly consulted about the access to justice, hindering and enabling factors on prosecution and legal justice for survivors.

Professor Geeta Pathak Sangroula, Director of Kathmandu School of Law and a renowned women rights activist had facilitated the session. Ms. Chari Maya Tamang, former chair of Shakti Samuha, had chaired the session. Ms. Chari Maya is renowned activist against human trafficking and awarded with 2011 Hero Acting to End Modern Day Slavery award in Washington DC.

Ms. Chari Maya from the seat of chair of the session said that we are all equal. No individual shall be discriminated, just because someone gets trafficked. She encouraged the participant to share their views and experiences, which will be confidentially discussed.

Professor Geeta Pathak started the session by asking participants about their knowledge and understanding about national laws, policies and mechanisms including human rights commission, police and court procedures, survivors' entitlement.

Participants have shared their inability to access citizenship, file cases, forced

"The family does not accept trafficked women. We are perceived as a sinful person. People try to take advantage after knowing that the woman was once trafficked.

reconciliation at local government level, threats and fear from the culprit, as well as lack of social and legal support to access legal justice and entitled services

from government. Among the participating survivors 69 percent (131) have not been found adopted any legal prosecution against the traffickers/brokers/culprits; only 19 percent (36) survivors mentioned they have used legal prosecution. Among those who mentioned the reasons for not adopting legal prosecution; mentioned

various reasons such as the brokers/traffickers/agent have already escaped (7), death of trafficker (12), trafficker was

"Nobody supported me during that time except my husband. Latter even my husband started torturing me. I heard that government agencies provide support for people like us but I didn't get any support."

already in prison (4), Are not aware of legal process (24), have no financial strength (2), have no support from family and other agencies (5), due to the threat (6) , because trafficker is an relative and reconciled (5), because have no interest

(2), because could not recognize the trafficker for legal process (15) and in some cases they blamed their luck and consider the nexus as not a trafficking case.

Out of 32 legal cases identified filed as per the participant survivors, only one case reached to Supreme Court, 4 cases were dealt at Appellate court and 27 cases

The services for the survivors and affected women are limited in the district. V.D.Cs usually focus on the reconciliation process rather than finding the true culprit and giving justice to the survivors or any other affected women.

were dealt by District Court. Out of the 21 cases mentioned finalised by the respective court, in 18 cases defendant have been convicted

and in 3 cases defendant acquitted by the court decisions. Among these in all 26 cases family members closely supported by NGOs and in 2 cases survivors.

As mentioned earlier 26 participants mentioned not having citizenship, mainly due to the lack of support from family members, because married to an Indian citizen, because parents are dead and brother did not supported and are not aware of importance of citizenship.

In another question about their knowledge on legal provisions only 42 percent mentioned they have some sort of information, remained have no idea about legal process and provision.

In this context, Professor Geeta Pathak stressed on the fact that there has been various discussion over this issue however we haven't been able to change the status of the survivors. We as an individual can play a significant role in changing the life of those survivors. She shared; the survivors fail to get justice mostly because they are unaware of the laws, policies and legal procedures. Our government's has failed to provide basic opportunities to the people such as employment. Hence, people are compelled to opt for foreign employment without assessing the risk of such employment. Usually, police investigates the cases of trafficking but the offender though identified is set scot free because of the influence of dominant figures of the society who have vested interest. She further added that the scenario is changing in comparison to the past, but we have not been able to ease the life of survivors as there is significant stigma attached to the life of such survivors. We have to focus on legal services and social reintegration approaches to restructure the lives of the survivors. Similarly, we should establish the agenda from right-based approach. She further insisted the participants to openly share their experiences and difficulties that have faced in the process of seeking justice.

At the end of the session, Thanking to all participants for sharing their views and experiences and to facilitator for addressing participants' queries and concern closed the session. As conclusion of the session, Ms. Charimaya concluded that it is identified that *“we all need to have citizenship, we should have legal knowledge and information and we should access to the service providers but we need a safer and supportive, easy accessible legal services at local level too”*.

Stories from Participants in the Session

“Women are at risk in Nepal as well as in foreign land. Women are trafficked in the name of foreign employment.”

“I went to abroad for employment. Initially it was good. I came back and I wanted to go back again but my husband and mother in law tortured me. Despite their resistance I went to Kuwait but I was raped there. My husband said he will accept me whatsoever but latter my mother in law told me that she will not accept me and threaten me not to come back.”

“I stayed at Kuwait for 4 years. I came back with the support of Nepali women. My husband married another woman and we got separated. Now, i am supported by my maternal home.”

“I went to Malaysia by keeping mortgage. I have 4 children. After returning i started agriculture.”

“I was trafficked by my own sister in law. She took me to India saying she will find me a good job. She sold me there. One day there was a police raid in the place I was staying at. They did a medical check up and i was rescued by the police and was kept in a shelter home. I learned various life skills in the shelter.”

“I was raped in Saudi Arabia. I worked there. I came back after 6 years. Our agent didn't support us. We even didn't have our passport. We were helped by the embassy. Latter we came back to Nepal. I have a child but he doesn't have birth registration. Now i am running a sewing business even though it is really hard for me to sustain my livelihood.

“My husband married another woman, when my first daughter was 1 month old; he left us. Then i faced financial difficulties and i went to Kuwait. I experienced labor exploitation there. I then decided to contact my agent but he didn't responded. “

“I got married when i was 15. My husband used to batter me; despite that I was compelled to stay with my husband. “

“Badi, the traditionally sexually exploited are the most disadvantaged group. Government have not been able to concentrate on the betterment of these groups. Most women from this community have not received citizenship certificates yet. They are not identified as a member of this society.”

“Children of higher class get to go to school but the children of lower class are stigmatized and face difficulties going to school. There is no equality.”

2.5 Session IV: Emerging Trends on Human Trafficking

As human trafficking problem have new dimensions and new dynamics with increasing labor migration along with new tactics and tricks by traffickers; the conference also discussed on the emerging trends and dynamics of trafficking in Nepal. The session has aimed to explore the destinations, process, and vulnerable groups of trafficking; better approaches form prevention and protection as well as new forms of trafficking in various guise of performance.

Laxmi Puri, executive member of Shakti Samuha, chaired this session and Former joint secretary and expert on Human Trafficking issues Mr. Ratnkaji Bajracharya and expert Ms. Nilam KC have jointly facilitated the discussion among participants. Beginning the session facilitators asked participants impression and understanding on human trafficking problem with asking questions for thinking and sharing: What are the ways of trafficking? Who are the most vulnerable population? Why do we think women are the most vulnerable? Why media doesn't highlight the news of trafficking?

Along with participants, the facilitator also shared some facts and status of human trafficking and it's various dimension. As per the presentation by facilitator, most vulnerable are the uneducated, poor especially from marginalized and disadvantaged group. Most of the traffickers have a strong networking and connection that includes people who posses power and money. Such traffickers have politicians and police in their contact, support and power exercise. On the other hand victims don't have enough political, social and economic power, protection and opportunity to seek justice for themselves. According to the facilitator with the increasing urbanization, people's needs and demands have also increased. People are searching ways to increase their economic status and consumerism is becoming higher as a result peoples' financial needs have been increasing day by day making them more vulnerable to the trafficking.

Participants also shared that people get entrapped into trafficking mainly because of unsafe family, society and community along with hard striking poverty they are facing. Participants mentioned that there are news seen in mass media of grandparents raping their own grand daughter; which has made even home insecure for children. It has been identified that most of the victims have faced different kind of troubles at home like poverty, disputes among family members, abuse by the family members due to which they aspire to move out from there.

These are the kind of people who can be easily influenced by the traffickers because these kind of troubled people don't anticipate the consequences.

During the discussion, participants identified that people living rural area found more vulnerable than living in urban, as urban society has more opportunities and access to information. Yet, they also mentioned that people living in urban areas specially small and emerging towns are also vulnerable as we have seen incidences and data shows that problem of trafficking is massive even in the cities and villages of Makawanpur, Sindhupalchok and Nuwakot which lies near Kathmandu.

Facilitators shared about the history of trafficking suggesting that trafficking practice has a historical link with slavery practices, when rich people of township legally paid and purchase individuals from others who were used to fulfil labor need and also sexual desires of the owners, even in Nepal such practices had been seen at past along with continuity of similar practices such as Kamaiya, Kamlhri and other conventional bonded labor.

Facilitators then explained about how new practices of trafficking and sexual exploitation have been found mainly in the forms of surrogate mother, practice of cultural dance, marriage, massage parlour. Facilitator explained that no matter how strict our rules and regulation, the traffickers are getting more and more clever. He added that the girls and women who aspire to go abroad are always in risk because the traffickers are always in search of such people who have problems. Facilitator shared few cases of trafficking during the session. Facilitator also discussed over the culture of work in Nepal; he further explained that women are the one who performs all the household work and hence women are preferred the preferred choice of the manpower agencies.

With a general discussion among the participants and facilitators' presentation on the new trends ad dynamics of human trafficking, participants were divided In three different groups based on geographical representations and asked to discuss and make a plenary presentation on the current methods and forms of trafficking; possible ways to trace traffickers and overall recommendation on stopping trafficking in current situation.

Participants discussed in group and came out with following suggestions. Participants identified foreign employment, adoption, marriage, surrogate mother, for organs transplantation. They have identified that trafficking is emerging more in country and within labor migration; the gray area between trafficking and migration,

particularly foreign employment, undocumented migration are current phenomena of trafficking.

In second concern about the recommended action on controlling and stopping human trafficking, participants shared following ideas to tackle the problem of human trafficking in Nepal: Raising more awareness with simple and local languages and through the channels that could reach wider population, ensuring equality in education for girls and boys along with promoting employable education, Education; grass root based structures and programs such as activities at village and settlement level to form groups, supporting their local actions, promoting safe city/village for women and girls through community assessment, action and building community resilience. Participants concluded that all advocacy and awareness action should have closely linked with enhancing their financial status and combating poverty, income generating activities and income generating programs could play crucial role on practical realization of women and girls empowerment.

Further to the presentation made by participants, facilitators suggested that only punishing traffickers would not reduce trafficking. It is important to work with government agencies and pressurize them to make them accountable towards their citizen as well. Also, social security/protection investment for girls and women need to be promoted. Now the focus should be on the structural development: development and implementation of anti trafficking policies to improving the living standards of the population especially the vulnerable groups.

The session concluded that as trafficking has been continuing in new faces and guise; it is important to keep up evidence based, research suggested activities. It is also concluded that the importance of government responsible act and need of civil society on seeking state accountability, enabling state to act responsibly and have wider social mobilization shall not be forgotten. Participants of the session also highlighted the need of coordinated action among government agencies, inter-government level and also with non-government sector.

2.6 Session VI: Effective Reintegration and Reunion: Responsibility of Stakeholders

As sustaining reintegration and rehabilitation of survivors in society have been still found as a significant challenge on protection action; the anti trafficking action are found not being efficient enough on capitalising strength and interest of survivors; the conference designated a special session on discussion on “Effective Reintegration and Reunion: Responsibility of Stakeholders”.

Ms. Benumaya Gurung, coordinator of AATWIN and Ms. Puja Mahato, Executive Member of Shakti Samuha jointly facilitated the discussion session, which was chaired by Ms. Sunita Nepal, Under Secretary of Nepal Government Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare. Ms. Nepal is also the focal person for National Committee on Controlling Human Trafficking (NCCHT).

As reintegration and rehabilitation have lot of concern about service providers, to maintain the confidentiality of the expression shared, facilitators informed participants that the discussion will remain confidential and no individual identity will be identified in reporting and communication about the session.

The session was followed by the presentation of Ms. Benu Maya Gurung on ' Role of Individual, social organization and government organizations'. During her presentation she highlighted the policies, rules and regulation developed to combat trafficking in Nepal. She shared that minimum standards should be maintained in order to take care of women in safe houses. For example: distribution of basic facilities like sanitary pad during the menstrual period. It is very much necessary to take care of things like security, clothes, food in the shelter house. Providing the service of professional counsellor can play a significant role during the rehabilitation of the survivors. However, she also manifested the current challenges that have hindered safer and secured rehabilitation of the survivors. Lack of resource, lack of awareness, lack of budget, lack of safe and managed rehabilitation shelters, complicated referral system, lack of coordination between non-government and government agencies etc were few of the challenges addressed by the facilitator.

The presentation was followed by another presentation by Ms. Puja Mahato. She shared about four stages of care provided by Shakti Samuha: Intake; healing and strengthening; preparation for reintegration; and post reintegration. She also

explained about the challenges that has been faced in the rehabilitation process of the survivors: lack of uniform rules of the rehabilitation centers; inadequacy of budget allocated especially for education for the survivors, and for regular check up of the survivors; communicable diseases are also a problem in safe homes; lack of job opportunity as survivors faces lot of stigmas; lack of skills and knowhow to start business/entrepreneurship, No/less support from the family. She further shared Shakti samuha has been functioning to rehabilitate the survivors in the best possible ways and have tried to create a favourable environment for the survivors residing there. However she also mentioned about the most pressing issue: sustainability of rehabilitation centers.

After two presentations the floor discussion was initiated, where participants shared their views and experiences. Participants suggested despite of number of organization working to provide reintegration and rehabilitation services; it is very less information known to the people about their services and procedures and limitation. Thus, it is significant for making people, specially survivors and

"Reintegration process should be such that it should contribute to make survivors more independent".

vulnerable about the available services, limitations, rules to follow and contact details.

Participant also highlighted Negative perception of the society over us (trafficked women) has pushed survivors into disadvantage position. Therefore, organization

should develop a plan of actions to increase the awareness and understanding among people in order to change the stereotypical vision that

The survivors are kept for only 6 months in the rehabilitation centers which are not enough for any survivor to bounce back to their life".

society beholds of the survivors. Suggestion to manage reservation quota on jobs and opportunities; making family more supportive and favourable through sensitization and family communication activities, action to enable survivor live an

"The survivors have to come to Kathmandu for all the basic services like for counseling and other legal services because we lack professional counselor at district level."

independent life both economically as well as socially, flexibility on the duration to stay at transit care as per the need/requirement of case, extending psychosocial care

facilities; decentralization of rehabilitation services out of Kathmandu as well and need of follow up contact and communication with survivors are made by the participants during the discussion.

Closing the session Ms. Nepal, from the seat of chair expressed her contentment on behalf of ministry to consider the views shared by survivors and conclusion from the conference. She shared her views agreeing on the fact that there are not enough budget allocation has been made and facilitated to survivors for scholarship/education. She added that it has been well acknowledged that NGOs are working efficiently and effectively to tackle trafficking but there need to be a mutual coordination between non government organization and the government for more positive and sustaining outcomes. We are working to build a trafficking free society and to attain the aim coordination between all the other agencies working against trafficking is necessary, she added. Thanking all participants and facilitators, Ms. Nepal declared the closing of session.

2.7 Session VII: Guaranteeing Privacy Rights of Survivors: Media Responsibility

Role of media has been always found important and influential on attaining peoples' informed engagement; policy influence and advocacy and also to educate survivors and stakeholders on the problems, tackling strategies and encouraging the work. Yet, media have been found sometime problematic when it breaches the privacy of survivors; mainly their identity and making news matter a sensational one rather informing, educating, sensitizing and advocating. To understand how

“The media should play a role of advocate rather than higher highlighting particular cases of an individual.”

survivors have experienced on role of media particularly on issue advocacy and respecting the privacy of survivors; the conference held a discussion on the theme of “Guaranteeing Privacy Rights of Survivors: Media Responsibility”. The session was jointly chaired by Mr. Tanka Panta and Ms. Bal Kumari; both are reputed journalists and leaders of various journalists' association and groups in Nepal. Another media person, Ms. Jaya Luitel facilitated the discussion on this session.

With screening of a documentary “Trafficked Girls in Nepal”, facilitator presented

“When the news comes the name is changed but the address remains same. So, how can we call it confidential?”

an overview of human trafficking Nepal including it’s dimensions, victims and legal provisions. In terms of media role on human trafficking, Ms. Luitel highlighted that media

can play both preventive action as well as policy influence and empower the survivors. Yet, the confidentiality issue always become crucial in media practice. Ms. Luitel highlighted beyond regular news reporting and communication media can take action on human trafficking through various ways such as article writing, investigative reporting and documentary as well as radio magazines. Whatever the way media communicate the main message of the documentary shall be break the silence- each one of us is responsible to act against trafficking, Ms. Luitel Shared. According to Ms. Luitel, the perception of media (journalists) are changing. Initially, they used to ask very personal question like where were you sold, how did they sold you, how was the environment there, what you did there etc. But now journalist/media has become sensitive towards the issue survivors and other affected women. Previously, we had dealt with lot of such cases where media exaggerate the cases of survivors, which eventually stigmatized survivors in the society. She reminded that one small mistake of the media personnel can finish obligation of media workers.

During the discussion participants shared their experience and expectation from

“Role of media is very important in present context in terms of presenting facts to the society. We cannot over look the contribution of media in educating public about social evils. It has also become a medium to breach survivors to the justice system.”

media. Participants mentioned that media shall advocate and create actors both government and non government, to address causes of trafficking; to maintain the privacy of identity of survivors while covering news and highlighting the issue

than individuals.

In addition few media representative participating in the discussion shared their views that just reporting don’t make them

happy, they also want to build working relation with organizations so that if they found any victim/survivor can refer to the;

“We really find it hard in selecting appropriate words to write about survivors.”- Media Person

another important aspect is as media need to act neutrally it is hard to use accusation against suspected only as it might caused defamation case later on.

From the seat of Chair, both chairpersons highlighted that media cooperation and engagement is significant on combating trafficking. And such interaction together with media and survivors help each others to have better understanding and create a common ground, might also help to develop a code of positive practice in future. They highlighted that such interaction shall be continued in future, along with trainings and developing a code of conduct could be better way for addressing better media engagement on combating human trafficking. Thanking to all participants and presenters, the session declared ended by the chairpersons.

Views Shared by Participants

Survivors' Sharing

"Amidst rapid advocacy about women rights, cases of domestic violence and sexual abuse directed towards women still remains as a greater challenge."

"I would like to request journalist not to publish photos of survivors in any media. This does make our lives ever harder."

"Quite often, actual name of family members are mentioned in the news. Every single detail is provided of the survivors but nothing regarding the offender comes out in the news."

"Mainstream media should be careful in terms of developing news and disseminating the views to general public. These media should assess the risk of the news and reviews published in media in the life of the survivors."

"Our movement has significant role of media, we can't avoid it. The media should stop victimizing the victims. Rather they should promote social justice approaches and advocacy to aware public about social problem."

"It is the responsibility of journalist to take permission from the survivors. It is important to develop a reporting guideline to regulate the media reporting."

Media Persons' views

"Few months back we received a news of a women. She was raped when she was working abroad. After the incident she came back to Nepal as she was pregnant. She wanted us to help her get justice. However, we couldn't find enough and appropriate information about the case. Even though we wanted to help we couldn't. Therefore, some time due to lack of information we can't help the survivors."

"Some organizations are advocating the agenda of trafficking for their vested interest."

"Until and unless court identifies someone as culprit we can't declare anything about that individual. We have our difficulty."

"The photos of rapist are published which let the society to speculate about the women and girls being raped."

"Don't use the word victim; we would appreciate if people call us survivors."

2.8 Session VIII: Movie on Women Trafficking

The conference had an infotainment session with screening of a feature film titled “Salgi”. The movie is based on a story (The Raped Salgi and Her Cry; Saalgi ko Balatkrit Aasu) written by renowned Nepali writer, Parizat (a leading feminist literary personality of her time).

The movie was about a girl who had been trafficked to India and enslaved in sex work by her known village neighbour on the name of employing her in cities. The movie explained that not only the financial poverty, but the innocence, ignorance and aspiration for earning an independent economic life, hope to support parents to come out of loan and poverty are factors that pushed rural girls into trafficking trap which are mostly laid by their known person such as villagers and relatives.

“The movie reflected the real situation we have passed through”

The movie also explained the demand of the girl to stay in family, together with villagers and prosecution and punishment to the traffickers through the dream of the girl that she had during her life in the brothel.

“It is a pity that the movie ends without screening the traffickers get punished.”

Participants after the screening also shared their feedback about the movie; most of them shared that the movie had been able to reflect the reality of trafficking nexus mainly in rural area and enslaved life of girls in brothel. They feel happy when the trafficker was beaten and killed; they also want if at the end the woman was freed and reunite with family.

“I liked the scene when in the dream of the girl that she killed the trafficker”.

2.9 Closing Ceremony

Closing ceremony of the Third National Conference of Trafficking Survivor Women was held on 5th June 2014 in Staff College in presence of human rights activist, government officials, parliamentarians, participants of conference, organizers and media personnel.

The closing ceremony was chaired by chair of Shakti Samuha Ms. Sunita Danuwar and moderated by treasure of Shakti Samuha Ms. Laxmi Puri. Mr. Lilamani Paudel, Chief Secretary of Nepal Government as chief guest along with Mr. Dinesh Hari Adhikari, Secretary of Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare and parliamentarian Hon. Rita Shahi and senior journalist Mr. Tanka Panta, Hon. Sumitra Tharuni, Madeshi Jana Adhkar Forum, Nepal (loktantrik), Hon. Nisha Shah and Hon. Mithila Chaudhari from , UCPN Maoist have also attended the program .

attended closing ceremony. During the closing ceremony Under Secretary Ms. Sunuta Nepal from Ministry of women children and social welfare briefed to the guests and participants about the conference session and discussion held over there. Ms. Sunita Shared the declaration of the conference as outcome and demand of trafficking survivors and human rights defenders to combat human trafficking in Nepal.

Speaking from the chair of guest, Secretary of MoWCSW shared *“Shakti Samuha once again proved it’s Shakti (power) to stand up against the heinous crimes happening against human particularly women and children. It is good to see AATWIN is collaborating and other many organization joined hand for this action. As Nepal Government is also an organizer of this event we do own the outcome and will take it forward for future action. We call all collaborators and organization to respect the declaration and reflect it on their action plan. On behalf of MoWCSW we would like to reassure that we are open to collaborate and coordinate on right based actions to combat human trafficking and end this problem.”*

Speaking on the program parliamentarian Hon. Nisha Shah shared, *“Discrimination against women is rampant in Nepal and in almost all sectors, trafficking of women and children is an outcome of such discriminatory practices. Our Party (UCPN Maoist) has kept in it’s manifesto that we would combat human trafficking and I want to reaffirm the commitment we have. The discrimination in Nepalese society is also hindering for a dignified life for human trafficking survivors. I have empathy and solidarity with the survivors struggling for equality, freedom and dignity.”*

From the chair of chief Guest, Chief Secretary Mr. Lilamani Paudel congratulated the organizers and participants for successful accomplishment of the conference and expressed his empathy with survivors on the struggles and acknowledged their resiliency. Mr. Paudel suggested that the second point of declaration is already in process of response as Nepal government ahs already forwarded the act to end discrimination and void discriminatory laws and policies. He also shared *“Only laws and policies doesn’t work as we have witnessed lacking of effective application of laws and policies. We know that the principal accountability for effective application of law is with government; but without adequate coordination, cooperation and engagement of civil society actors it is not possible. Therefore, it is important that we collaborate and coordinate and engage on this call to end human trafficking and on behalf of Nepal government I assure that government will take it progressively in due course of implementation.”*

From the chair of closing ceremony, Ms. Sunita Danuwar shared vote of thanks to all guests, organizers, supports and importantly participants of the program. She expressed her hope that *“the stakeholders would listen to the call of conference and one day there will be end of discrimination as well as Human Trafficking Problem; which needs wider networking and collaboration; strong social actions and solidarity and engagement of every sectors of society; which the organizers and survivors have a hope.”*

.Ends Here.

Annex: 1. Program Schedule

DATE : 2071-02-21(4-06-2014)			Remark
SN	Time	Schedule	
1	8:00 am-10:00 am	Opening ceremony – chief guest – Onsari Gharti Magar, Deputy Chairperson-CA Committee.	
2	10:00 am-11:00 am	Back ground and information about parallel session.	
3	11 :00-1:00 pm	Lunch	
4	1:00 pm- 3:00 pm	<p>Parallel session with survivors</p> <p>Recent condition problems and solutions of human trafficking. (मानव बेचबिखनका वर्तमान अवस्था समस्या तथा समाधानका उपायहरु</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Socio-economic status/condition of survivors (प्रभावितको आर्थिक सामाजिक अवस्था विश्लेषण) • Health condition/ status of survivors(प्रभावितको स्वास्थ्य अवस्थाको विश्लेषण) • Access to Justices of trafficking survivors (प्रभावितको न्यायमा पहुँच) • Emerging trend of trafficking (मानव बेचबिखनको बदलिदो स्वरुप <p style="text-align: center;">Two other Session</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective reintegration and reunion; our responsibility.- with stake holder(प्रभावितको अर्थपूर्ण पुर्नस्थापना तथा पुर्नमिलन हाम्रो उत्तरदायित्व) • Guarantee privacy rights of trafficking survivors ; media responsibility- with media (प्रभावितको गोपनियताको अधिकारको सुनिश्चितता संचारको उत्तरदायित्व) 	
5	3 :00 pm- 4:00 pm	Tea break	
6	4 :00 pm-6 :00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movie showing about human trafficking “Salgi” Salgi' is a feature film presented by Rang Films and TV Creation, produced by Sudarshan Shrestha and directed by Badri Adhikari. The film is based on the popular story 'Salgi Ko Balaatkrit Aansu' written by the renowned Nepali writer Parijat famous for her novel Sirish ko Phool (Blue Mimosa). The story tells a harrowing tale of how innocent Nepali village girls are lured of a luxurious city life and sold to the brothels of India and the sufferings they undergo thereafter. This film has already received four awards for Best Film, Best Director, Best Story and Best Script in the TAFON-MEDIA HUB Tele Awards 2067/2010. 	
DATE : 2071-02-22 (5-06-2014)			
7	7:00 am-11:00am	Information collection of participants	
8	11 :00 am-1 :00pm	Lunch	
9	1 :00pm 3 :00pm	<p>Closing session- chief guest- Mr. Lilamani Poudel, Chief secretary-secretarial office of Ministry.</p> <p>Memorandum handover to Participated CA members and concern stake holders</p> <p>Group Photo session</p>	

बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावितहरूका दुई दिने राष्ट्रिय मेला

नेपाल समाचारपत्र

काठमाडौं

नयाँ संविधानको परिकल्पना : मानव बेचबिखनरहित राज्यको पुनर्संरचना भन्ने नारासहित मानव बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूको दुई दिने तेस्रो राष्ट्रिय मेला राजधानीमा प्रारम्भ भएको छ।

बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूका समस्या र समाधानका उपाय खोज्ने र विद्यमान ऐन नियमको कार्यान्वयन एवम् सामाजिक न्यायमुखी समाज निर्माण गर्न राष्ट्रिय मेलाको उद्देश्य रहेको छ।

मानव बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूद्वारा १७ वर्षअघि गठित शक्ति समूह, महिला बालबालिका तथा समाज कल्याण मन्त्रालय र एटवीनको आयोजनामा भएको

राष्ट्रिय मेलाका सहभागी महिलाहरूले देशका विभिन्न जिल्लामा अहिले पनि महिलाविरुद्ध हुने हिंसा व्याप्त रहेकाले राज्य र सबै सरोकारवाला निकायले समुन्नत समाज निर्माणका लागि विशेष भूमिका खेल्न आह्वान गरेका छन्।

महिला बालबालिका तथा समाज कल्याण मन्त्रालयका सहसचिव राधिका अर्याल र शक्ति समूहकी अध्यक्ष सुप्रिता दनुवारको सह-अध्यक्षतामा भएको मेलाले मानव बेचबिखनजस्तो अपराध अन्त्य गर्ने वातावरण बनाउन पनि आग्रह गरेको छ।

७५वटै जिल्लाबाट ग्रामीण तहका महिलाहरूको सहभागिता रहेको राष्ट्रिय मेलालाई सम्बोधन गर्दै संविधानसभाका उपाध्यक्ष ओनसरी घर्तीमगरले नेपालले मानव अधिकार, महिला अधिकार र सामाजिक न्यायका अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय सन्धि महासन्धिमा हस्ताक्षर गरेको छ तर व्यवहारमा कार्यान्वयन नभएको प्रति

राज्यको गम्भीर ध्यानाकर्षण गराउनुभएको छ। उपाध्यक्ष घर्तीमगरले घरघरबाट हिसारहित मानसिकतामा परिवर्तन गरी समन्त समाज निर्माण गर्नुपर्ने तब मात्र देशको विकास हुने बताउनुभएको छ।

उहाँले संविधान निर्माण प्रक्रिया सकारात्मक रूपमा अगाडि बढेकाले निर्धारित समयमा नै संविधान निर्माण हुने सम्भावना बढेको जानकारी गराउनुभएको छ। उहाँले महिलासमैत्री, जनसैत्री, मानवअधिकारमुखी र विश्वेद विरुद्धको संविधान बन्ने विश्वास पनि दिलाउनुभएको छ। महिला बालबालिका तथा समाज कल्याण मन्त्रालयका सचिव दिनेशशर्मा अधिकारीले मानव बेचबिखन अन्त्यका लागि नीतिगत र कानुनी रूपमा थप पहल गर्न सरकार प्रतिबद्ध रहेको जानकारी गराउनुभएको छ।

मानव बेचबिखनको वर्तमान अवस्था, समस्या तथा समाधानका उपायहरू, प्रभावितको सामाजिक

आर्थिक अवस्था, प्रभावितहरूको स्वास्थ्य अवस्था, प्रभावितहरूको न्यायमा पहुँच, बेचबिखनको नयाँ आयाम अर्चपूर्ण पुनर्स्थापना तथा पुनर्मिलन र हाम्रो भूमिका र प्रभावितहरूको गोपनीयताको अधिकारको सुनिश्चतता जस्ता विषयमा समानान्तर छलफल चलिरेको छ।

राष्ट्रिय मेलामा नेपाल समाचारपत्र दैनिकका सम्पादक एवम् नेपाल टेलिभिजन सञ्चालक समितिका सदस्य टंक पन्त, पत्रकार एण्टना फाउन्डेसनकी सञ्चालक समिति सदस्य जया लुईटेल, एटवीनकी अध्यक्ष विमला जवाही, महिला मानव अधिकार रक्षक संजालकी अध्यक्ष डा. रेणु राजभण्डारी, शक्ति समूहकी पूर्व अध्यक्ष चरिमाया तामाङ, अधिकारकर्मी भगवती नेपाल, रत्नकाजी वज्राचार्य, एटवीनकी कार्यक्रमा संयोजक बेनमाया गुरुङले मानव बेचबिखनविरुद्ध चालुपर्ने कदमबारे प्रकाश पार्नुभएको थियो।

बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूको मेला



गत महिना नयाँ संविधानको परिकल्पना मानव बेचबिखनरहित राज्यको पुनःसंरचना भन्ने नारासहित मानव बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूको तेस्रो राष्ट्रिय मेला राजधानीमा सम्पन्न भयो। बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूको समस्या र त्यसको समाधानका उपाय खोज्ने

तथा विद्यमान ऐन-नियमको कार्यान्वयन एवम् सामाजिक न्याययुक्त समाज निर्माण गर्नु मेलाको उद्देश्य थियो। मानव बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूद्वारा १७ वर्षअघि गठित शक्ति समूह, महिला बालबालिका तथा समाज कल्याण मन्त्रालय एवं एटवीनद्वारा आयोजित उक्त राष्ट्रिय मेलामा सहभागी महिलाहरूले देशका विभिन्न जिल्लामा अहिले पनि महिलाविरुद्ध हुने हिंसा व्याप्त रहेकाले राज्य र सरोकारवाला सबै निकायले समुन्नत समाज निर्माणका लागि विशेष भूमिका खेल्न आह्वान गरे। मेलामा विभिन्न जिल्लाका भन्डै र सय १० भन्दा बढी महिलाको उपस्थिति थियो। उक्त अवसरमा सहभागीहरूले आफूना भोगाइ, अनुभव, विचार, जिज्ञासा तथा सुझावहरू प्रस्तुत गरेका थिए।

मानव बेचबिखनको वर्तमान अवस्था, समस्या तथा समाधानका उपायहरू, प्रभावितको सामाजिक

बेचबिखन प्रभावित महिलाहरूको भेलाद्वारा पारित घोषणापत्र

मानव बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूको तेस्रो राष्ट्रिय मेला जेठ २१ र २२ गते भएको छ। मेलाले १५ बुँदे घोषणापत्र पनि जारी गरेको छ। घोषणापत्रमा समेटिएका विषयवस्तु निम्नानुसार रहेको छ।

१। मानव बेचबिखन तथा औसारपसारका घटनाहरू मानव अधिकारको हनन एवम् मानवता विरुद्धको गम्भीर अपराध भएकोले त्यसको अन्त्य गर्ने वातावरण बनाउन राज्य एवम् सबै पक्षको सक्रिय भूमिका आवश्यक छ।

२। समुन्नत समाजको बाधकको रूपमा रहेको महिलाहरूको मानव अधिकार हनन लगायत महिला विरुद्ध हुने सबैखाले विभेद र हिंसा अन्त्यका लागि विद्यमान विभेदकारी कानूनहरू खारेज हुनुका साथै लैङ्गिक समानताका लागि निर्माण भएका पाठ्यक्रमहरूको प्रभावकारी रूपमा कार्यान्वयन हुनु पर्दछ।

३। मानव बेचबिखन तथा औसारपसारबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूप्रति दैनिक जीवनमा हीनता बोध हुने गरी शब्दहरू प्रयोग गरिदिना र मिडियाले प्रभावितहरूको अनुमति बिना घटनाभन्दा व्यक्तित्वगत विवरण ल्याइदिना थप भोगाइ र मानसिक यतना हुने गरेकोले राज्यका सबै संयन्त्र, नागरिक समाज र मिडियाले संवेदनशील भई मानव अधिकारमुखी शब्द प्रयोग गर्नु पर्दछ।

४। मानव बेचबिखन तथा औसारपसारका आयामहरूमा परिवर्तन आएको र वैदेशिक रोजगारका नाममा हुने बेचबिखन लगायत महिलाउपर हुने जघन्य अपराधका घटनाहरूलाई नियन्त्रण गर्न अन्तर्राष्ट्रिय समुदायको ध्यानाकर्षण गराउनु पनि अत्यन्त आवश्यक छ। नेपाल सरकारले अन्तरदेशीय संगठित अपराध विरुद्धको संयुक्त राष्ट्रसंघीय महासन्धी अनुमोदन गरि सकेको सन्दर्भमा मानव बेचबिखनविरुद्धको इच्छादिन आलेख (पार्लो प्रोटोकल) अनुमोदन गर्नुका साथै वैश्यावृत्तिक लागि हुने

बेचबिखन विरुद्धको सार्क महासन्धिलाई समयानुकूल पुनरावलोकन गरी त्यसको प्रभावकारी कार्यान्वयन र अनुगमन गर्नुपर्ने खाँचो छ। निकट भविष्यमा काठमाण्डौमा आयोजना हुने सार्क शिखर सम्मेलनमा वैदेशिक रोजगार र यससँग जोडिएका विभिन्न आयामहरूका साथै मानव बेचबिखन तथा औसारपसार नियन्त्रण गर्ने विषयले पनि प्राथमिकता पाउनु पर्दछ।

५। बेचबिखनबाट प्रभावित महिलाहरूको शारीरिक र मानसिक स्वास्थ्य समस्या बढी देखिएकोले सर्वशुभ रूपमा स्वास्थ्य उपचार, मनोसामाजिक सेवाको सुनिश्चितता हुनु पर्दछ। स्वास्थ्यकर्मीहरूबाट प्रभावितप्रति गरिने व्यवहार मैत्रीपूर्ण हुनु पर्दछ।

६। प्रभावितहरूको न्यायमा पहुँच बढाउनका लागि कानून कार्यान्वयन गर्ने निकायहरूमा प्रभावितलाई विशेष ध्यान दिनुका साथै प्रभावितहरूको हित प्रतिबन्धन गर्ने अन्वयनका प्रक्रियाहरूमा सुधार गरी कानूनी सचेतनाका अभियान सञ्चालन गर्ने जरुरी छ। न्यायका लागि साक्षी सुरक्षा नीतिको व्यवस्था गर्नुका साथै दुरत न्याय प्रणाली अवलम्बन गर्नु आवश्यक छ। दीर्घकालीन पुनर्स्थापना केन्द्रको आवश्यकता समेत

9/29/2014

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क्रमश अनुभव हुँदै आइरहेको अवस्था छ।

७। राज्यको सहयोगमा सञ्चालित पुनर्स्थापना केन्द्रहरू नेपाल सरकारबाट स्वीकृत न्यूनतम मापदण्ड अनुरूप सञ्चालनमा आउनुपर्नेछ।

८। पुनर्स्थापना केन्द्रहरूमा प्रभावित र प्रभावितहरूका अभिभावकहरूलाई विशेष ध्यान दिनुका साथै प्रभावितहरूको हित प्रतिबन्धन गर्ने अन्वयनका प्रक्रियाहरूमा सुधार गरी कानूनी सचेतनाका अभियान सञ्चालन गर्ने जरुरी छ। न्यायका लागि साक्षी सुरक्षा नीतिको व्यवस्था गर्नुका साथै दुरत न्याय प्रणाली अवलम्बन गर्नु आवश्यक छ। दीर्घकालीन पुनर्स्थापना केन्द्रको आवश्यकता समेत

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