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WHITE BLACK LEGAL is an open access, peer-reviewed and refereed journal provided dedicated to express views on topical legal issues, thereby generating a cross current of ideas on emerging matters. This platform shall also ignite the initiative and desire of young law students to contribute in the field of law. The erudite response of legal luminaries shall be solicited to enable readers to explore challenges that lie before law makers, lawyers and the society at large, in the event of the ever changing social, economic and technological scenario.

With this thought, we hereby present to you

# **HUMAN TRAFFICKING: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN INDIA**

AUTHORED BY - KANKSHA GUPTA

## **ABSTRACT**

Human trafficking constitutes a profound and pervasive infringement of human rights, significantly affecting millions worldwide. This nefarious crime entails the illicit trafficking of humans for the purposes of coerced labor, sexual exploitation, and other forms of involuntary servitude. It surpasses national boundaries and political divisions, impacting individuals of all genders and ages—across every continent and in every region of the globe. The worrisome nature of human trafficking is exacerbated by its disproportionate impact on vulnerable populations, frequently targeting the most disadvantaged individuals in society, including those in poverty, refugees, and members of disenfranchised communities. Traffickers capitalize on the exploitation of those in precarious circumstances, leveraging their restricted choices and deceiving them with assurances of improved prospects or illusory hopes. No demographic group is entirely exempt from the dangers associated with human trafficking. Traffickers exploit the most vulnerable individuals in destitute urban slums, remote rural regions, and conflict-affected combat zones, disregarding age, gender, or country. The widespread occurrence of this crime underscores its malevolent character: it functions covertly, frequently obscured by deceit and corruption, rendering it a persistent menace that society continually confronts. Notwithstanding the vigorous endeavors of international organizations, including the United Nations, and the enactment of several treaties, conventions, and state legislation designed to prevent human trafficking, this crime persists alarmingly. This is attributable to the intricacy and flexibility of the trafficking networks. These networks continuously adapt, discovering novel methods to elude detection and prosecution, which accounts for their persistence despite worldwide efforts to dismantle them.

## **KEYWORDS**

Human Trafficking, Anti-trafficking, India, Prostitution, Sexual Abuse, Human Rights, Immoral Trafficking, Immoral Traffic Prevention Act, 1956, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, Women Power Connect (WPC)



## **INTRODUCTION**

Human trafficking constitutes one of the most egregious and widespread crimes of our era, affecting millions of victims globally. This egregious practice exploits individuals of all genders and ages for many objectives, including coerced labor, sexual exploitation, and involuntary servitude.<sup>1</sup> Although sex trafficking frequently dominates media coverage, the problem encompasses a far broader spectrum. Trafficking may also include various forms of exploitation, including domestic servitude, coerced labor in agriculture, construction, hospitality, and the entertainment sector. The harsh truth of human trafficking is that it impacts individuals from many backgrounds, irrespective of age, gender, or nationality. Its victims are subjected to unthinkable conditions—severe, degrading, and frequently atrociously brutal.<sup>2</sup> Human trafficking fundamentally relies on deception, compulsion, and violence. Traffickers exploit their victims' vulnerabilities by deception, promises of improved prospects, or physical coercion, ensnaring them in circumstances from which escape appears unattainable. The United Nations characterizes human trafficking as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, accommodation, or receiving of individuals using force, threats, or other coercive means for the purpose of exploitation. This term underscores the diverse tactics employed by traffickers to entrap their victims, including deceptive assurances of work or an improved existence, as well as overt physical violence and coercion.

The magnitude of human trafficking is astonishing. It is estimated that millions of individuals are trafficked annually worldwide. This amount is challenging to completely understand, yet it underscores the enormity of the issue. Regrettably, as trafficking networks grow increasingly sophisticated, they continually modify their techniques to avoid discovery. Innovative techniques and pathways are regularly utilized, rendering it progressively challenging for law enforcement to maintain pace.<sup>3</sup> Traffickers function transnationally, capitalizing on vulnerabilities in both national and international legal frameworks, frequently with less apprehension regarding prosecution. Notwithstanding the increasing awareness and collaborative initiatives by governments, NGOs, and international organizations to address trafficking, these criminal networks persistently endure, with their capacity to elude discovery consistently advancing.

The victims' path to liberation is laden with almost insurmountable challenges. The trauma experienced by trafficking victims is significant, with emotional and psychological



repercussions that may persist indefinitely. Numerous victims endure perpetual apprehension of retaliation, whether from their traffickers or from other entities that may jeopardize their safety. This apprehension frequently renders it exceedingly challenging for individuals to place trust in law enforcement or other potential sources of assistance. Victims frequently experience societal isolation, lacking access to vital resources such as legal assistance, healthcare, and financial autonomy. These variables create a detrimental circle, rendering escape from the atrocities of trafficking nearly unattainable. The prolonged entrapment of victims exacerbates the difficulty of escaping the abuse, frequently resulting in years—occasionally decades—of exploitation.<sup>4</sup>

The intricacy of human trafficking is a principal cause it continues to be a challenging issue to tackle. The crime encompasses various sectors, including agriculture, construction, and sex labor, presenting a complex challenge that necessitates a coordinated response at local, national, and international levels. Nonetheless, law enforcement agencies frequently encounter substantial obstacles in addressing the issue, including inadequate cooperation among nations and organizations with varying resources, goals, and legal structures. Moreover, traffickers proficiently utilize legal and regulatory loopholes, hence complicating the detection and termination of trafficking operations. Once these behaviors are recognized, it is frequently too late to avert additional damage.

In addition to practical problems, entrenched sociological and cultural variables further intensify the issue. Factors such as immigration policies, labor rights, and gender inequalities can render some populations more susceptible to trafficking. Migrants frequently have apprehension regarding deportation or harbor distrust towards law enforcement due to linguistic obstacles or cultural disparities, rendering them more vulnerable to exploitation.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, individuals from disadvantaged communities—characterized by restricted access to education, economic advancement, and social assistance—are perfect candidates for traffickers who exploit their despair. This susceptibility is frequently exacerbated by systemic concerns like gender-based violence, which disproportionately impacts women and girls, hence heightening their risk of trafficking.

This essay aims to thoroughly examine the problems, offering a detailed analysis of the reasons that hinder progress in combating human trafficking. This will examine the obstacles hindering effective trafficking fight and suggest interventions that could provide significant

improvements. Essential proposals encompass enhancing cross-border law enforcement cooperation, augmenting victim support services, and tackling the underlying causes of trafficking, including poverty, gender disparity, and insufficient education.<sup>6</sup> It will emphasize the necessity of a comprehensive, integrated strategy that amalgamates legal, social, and economic measures to dismantle trafficking networks and avert future exploitation. The struggle against human trafficking transcends legal and political dimensions; it becomes a moral and humanitarian obligation. Eradicating the exploitation of millions of vulnerable individuals worldwide necessitates a unified, global initiative. This initiative must be based on heightened awareness, more robust legislation, and extensive victim support programs.<sup>7</sup> Through collaborative efforts across borders and industries, we can establish a society in which trafficking is unequivocally condemned, and every human, irrespective of their background or circumstances, is granted the protection, dignity, and freedom they rightfully deserve.

### **KEY ISSUES CONTRIBUTING TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

#### Poverty and Socioeconomic Inequality:

Poverty is a significant and widespread catalyst for human trafficking. Individuals experiencing severe poverty or significant economic instability are particularly susceptible to the exploitation of traffickers who offer them an escape—a vision of an improved existence or prospects that seem nearly unattainable in their present situation. These folks, frequently eager to flee their everyday adversities, are lured by the illusory promise of a more favorable future, only to get trapped in egregious exploitation.

In numerous developing nations, characterized by elevated unemployment rates, poor incomes, and inadequate or absent social safety nets, possibilities for individuals to enhance their situations are scarce.<sup>8</sup> This economic despair creates an advantageous environment for traffickers, who exploit the aspirations of individuals convinced that even a minimal opportunity for an improved life justifies the peril. Traffickers frequently guarantee employment opportunities that appear excessively advantageous—positions in factories, domestic assistance, or even roles in distant nations with elevated salaries.

#### Gender Inequality and Discrimination:

Gender is a significant determinant that profoundly impacts the dynamics of human trafficking, especially concerning women and girls, who are disproportionately victimized by sex

trafficking. In numerous regions globally, traffickers exploit women and girls because to prevailing societal and structural gender disparities. These disparities foster an environment where women, particularly from impoverished areas, are increasingly susceptible to exploitation. In areas characterized by gender-based violence, discrimination, and restricted economic prospects, the probability of women and girls being trafficked for sexual exploitation significantly escalates.<sup>9</sup>

#### Conflict and Political Instability:

Areas impacted by armed conflict, warfare, and political instability are particularly susceptible to the catastrophic consequences of human trafficking. During crises, whether civil conflicts, natural disasters, or political turmoil, vulnerable communities face exacerbated hardships. Displacement frequently occurs, leaving individuals compelled to abandon their residences—be they refugees, asylum seekers, or internally displaced persons (IDPs)—in a condition of significant vulnerability. Devoid of resources, secure home, and security, these displaced persons become excellent targets for traffickers seeking to exploit their despair.

#### Corruption and Weak Legal Systems

Corruption in law enforcement and judicial systems severely obstructs the battle against human trafficking. In nations where government officials are either complicit in trafficking or inadequately enforce anti-trafficking legislation, traffickers can operate with less apprehension of detection or retribution. In these circumstances, traffickers exploit systemic vulnerabilities, aware that they can use loopholes or corrupt officials to evade identification and apprehension. Corruption at essential institutions, like law enforcement, immigration authorities, and border control agencies, is particularly detrimental. When law enforcement personnel and officials wilfully ignore trafficking, whether via collusion or bribery, they enable traffickers to operate without restraint. This may encompass officials receiving bribes to disregard dubious acts, as well as entire networks within law enforcement that actively facilitate traffickers in transporting victims across borders or concealing their conduct.<sup>10</sup>

## **CHALLENGES IN COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING**

#### Identification of Victims:

One of the most formidable problems in combating human trafficking is identifying the victims. Individuals who are trafficked frequently endure profound physical and psychological trauma,



rendering it exceedingly challenging for them to seek assistance or articulate their circumstances. Numerous individuals are confined in secluded locations, where traffickers employ fear, intimidation, or coercion to maintain dominance over them. In certain instances, victims remain unaware of their trafficking status, particularly when coerced into circumstances such as domestic servitude or labor, believing they possess no alternative. Compounding the difficulty is the fact that law enforcement authorities and social workers, who may provide assistance, frequently lack training to recognize the indicators of trafficking. Consequently, it gets very simple for these susceptible individuals to remain concealed, ensnared in their situations.

#### Lack of Victim Support Systems:

In several nations, victims of human trafficking frequently lack the essential support required for recovery and the reconstruction of their life. Limited resources exist, including secure accommodations, legal assistance, psychological services, and initiatives aimed at facilitating societal reintegration. Individuals who successfully escape or are rescued may encounter further trauma if they lack access to these resources. Furthermore, the absence of regulations prioritizing the welfare of victims results in numerous survivors being perceived as criminals or undocumented immigrants rather than being acknowledged as genuine victims of a grave offense. Consequently, instead of obtaining the necessary care and support, they may confront deportation or incarceration, thereby exacerbating their struggle to break free from the cycle of exploitation.

#### Inadequate International Cooperation:

To successfully combat human trafficking, international collaboration is essential. However, owing to insufficient resources or political will, many governments fail to adequately address it. Disparities in legal systems, a lack of cooperation among law enforcement organizations, and competing national objectives all make matters worse. A single global strategy is difficult to design due to these issues. Because traffickers frequently traverse international borders and take advantage of legal loopholes, it is extremely difficult to apprehend and punish them.

#### Evolving Trafficking Tactics:

To stay one step ahead of law enforcement, human trafficking networks are continually innovating and adjusting to new technological and social norms. New chances for human traffickers to exploit people have arisen with the rise of the internet and social media, and they

frequently leave no trace of their exploits. The ease with which traffickers can exploit these platforms to lure unsuspecting victims with false employment offers, empty promises, and other forms of manipulation makes it all the more difficult for authorities to detect the threat and act swiftly.

### **WHAT MAKES COMMUNITIES VULNERABLE TO HUMAN TRAFFICKING?**

People often assume that only low-income areas are at risk of being victims of human trafficking, but in reality, anyone can become a victim. Anyone can fall victim to traffickers if they have the hope of a better life. This includes those who seek education, financial security, or a feeling of opportunity. Many individuals are susceptible to exploitation, particularly those who are uneducated or unaware.

Some groups are more susceptible than others due to a combination of factors, including widespread lack of education and information. To begin, there is a severe lack of infrastructure in many rural villages. There is usually a dearth of phone lines and other basic infrastructure like roads. It is common for families to be at a loss for what to do after learning a member has been a victim of human trafficking. There may be miles between you and the closest police station, and local government entities like Panchayats aren't prepared to help. Because of their relative isolation, families sometimes feel powerless to save their loved ones.

Secondly, there is usually a severe lack of educational and leisure options for young females in these rural areas. Many young women try to find a way out of their oppressive communities by getting involved with males, but unfortunately, these men often end up being traffickers. The lack of alternatives makes it all too simple for traffickers to exploit their hopes for a better life into something much riskier.

Several West Bengali communities were identified as having a high vulnerability to human trafficking in a recent study. Parts of adjacent Bihar and Jharkhand, as well as districts like Murshidabad, Nadia, and Malda, were found to be vulnerable. Victims of human trafficking, some of whom originate in neighboring Bangladesh, have made these areas known as both entry and exit locations. This emphasizes the importance of raising consciousness and taking measures to stop continued exploitation in these regions.

## **LEGALAND OTHER EFFORTS FOR COMBATING TRAFFICKING AND SUPPORT SURVIVORS**

The principal statute in India tackling human trafficking is the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act (ITPA) of 1956<sup>11</sup>; nevertheless, it does have its limitations. It doesn't take into consideration trafficking in men or work, but it does cover trafficking in women and children for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation. Despite the fact that Article 23(1)<sup>12</sup> of the Indian Constitution and Section 370<sup>13</sup> of the Indian Penal Code, now Section 143 BNS<sup>14</sup> make it a crime to engage in trafficking, the ITPA's limited scope does not allow it to fully tackle all types of trafficking. Human trafficking for the sake of prostitution or ransom has been recently labeled as a "organized crime" in the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023<sup>15</sup>, carrying harsh punishments such as life in prison without the possibility of parole or even the death penalty. But there is still room for improvement in the legislation; for example, the conviction rate is low, and it does not cover all types of trafficking. Because of their extensive networks, human traffickers are able to elude punishment in areas such as West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh, where the conviction rate for trafficking charges is around 1% (Maqbool, 2024).<sup>16</sup>

In spite of this, there are a number of charitable groups in India that are doing their absolute best to aid victims and survivors of human trafficking. The anti-trafficking group Kamonohashi is one example; it supports initiatives with a regional focus. Researchers are able to work more closely with survivors and grassroots organizations because to these initiatives. Taftesh (meaning "investigation") is an important project that aims to combat human trafficking by uniting survivors, civil society organizations, lawyers, social workers, psychologists, and researchers (India Programme, 2023).<sup>17</sup>

The Asia Foundation and other groups are working to compile a database of resources for victims of human trafficking in India. One of these groups is Women Power Connect (WPC). Helpline numbers, anti-human trafficking units, legal aid, shelter houses, and government projects for child protection and empowerment are all part of their resource list, which is focused on Delhi-NCR, Uttar Pradesh, and Haryana. Victims in Delhi can expect the largest compensation, between INR 1,00,000 and 3,00,000, according to the Delhi Victim Compensation Scheme 2015, which is detailed in this directory together with the offerings of other states. When compared to this, the state of Haryana only offers up to 50,000 INR (WPC, 2017). In spite of these safeguards, compensation is typically not provided until after sentencing—a process that happens very rarely—



and even then, the sums are generally insufficient in relation to the gravity of the offence.

The government should improve its own mechanisms to provide victims with more thorough and timely assistance, even though nonprofits are doing a great deal to aid victims' rehabilitation and supply them with essential services. With human trafficking being such a pervasive and alarming issue in India, this is of the utmost importance. Urgent action is required to combat trafficking and assist victims through the implementation of stronger regulations, stricter enforcement of laws, and increased victim services.

### **ILLEGAL MIGRATION, HUMAN SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING:**

As a general word, "illegal migration" refers to any and all forms of cross-border smuggling. In order to avoid detection or inspection, it is usual practice to enter a country covertly. Another one is getting in with fake or falsified documents. The third possible outcome is that people enter the country lawfully but remain for longer than allowed. Even if migrants enter the country lawfully, they may be in violation of their visa conditions if they work illegally. Taking the risk of crossing borders without authorization, using false documents, overstaying one's legal stay, or working above one's visa limits are all examples of illegal migration.

According to Jorgen Carling, "human smuggling" usually occurs when an aspirant for migration makes a deal with a smuggler, who, in return for money or fake documents, facilitates the aspirant's entry into the country (Carling, 2006). On the other hand, human trafficking is characterized by the use of force, deceit, exploitation, and coercion. In 2000, the United Nations signed the Palermo Protocol, which provides the consensus definition of trafficking. According to it, human trafficking occurs when someone recruits, transports, or harbors another human being for the intention of exploiting them via the use of coercion, threats, deceit, or abuse of authority.<sup>18</sup> Organ harvesting is one kind of exploitation among many others, including sexual exploitation, slavery, servitude, and forced labor.<sup>19</sup>

Some victims of human trafficking may enter a nation lawfully, with all the necessary paperwork, but they may still be subjected to manipulation or coercion once they get there. Forcible labor, such as prostitution, may be practiced after women enter a nation as spouses. Even within legitimate immigration systems, exploitation and deceit can happen, according to Bridget Anderson and Julia O'Connell Davidson.<sup>20</sup> Unpaid salaries, confiscated passports, imprisonment, and even assault are

common problems for migrant workers, even though they enter a nation lawfully with work permits. Because their work permits bind them to a particular company, victims of these crimes are more likely to be exploited.

In addition, Anderson and Davidson point out that the Palermo Protocol has a hard time determining who is considered a "trafficked person." Despite being an important step in combating human trafficking, this problem persists.<sup>21</sup> The complicated and overlapping meanings of terms like migration, smuggling, and trafficking make it difficult to distinguish between them. As a result, there is a failure to adequately recognize and aid individuals in need.

### **DIFFERENCE BETWEEN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING**

The fundamental differences between smuggling and trafficking are being actively promoted by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and international organizations (UN) to dispel the common misconception that the two are interchangeable. Many people engage in smuggling as a form of voluntary migration, paying smugglers to assist them in crossing borders, frequently in pursuit of better economic prospects.<sup>22</sup> As opposed to that, most cases of trafficking are not voluntary. For the sake of exploitation, victims are deceived, coerced, or, in the worst instances, abducted. In order to keep their victims under their control, traffickers resort to various tactics such as deceit, sexual assault, physical brutality, malnutrition, incarceration, and threats against loved ones.

Some victims of human trafficking may be aware that they are being forcibly removed from their families, but they are frequently misled about the kind of labor they will be subjected to and the living conditions they may expect. Human traffickers may, for instance, approach low-income rural families during droughts or just before harvest seasons in an effort to coerce them into selling their daughters for a pittance. Other instances involve the abduction of girls from their homes or orphanages, while susceptible women are enticed to foreign nations by the promise of greater employment opportunities, only to end up ensnared in forced labor or prostitution.

The entry method into the target country is another important distinction between smuggling and trafficking. Criminal or legal entry is not a barrier for victims of human trafficking who are taken abroad for sexual exploitation. In order for them to cross borders in what appears to be a lawful manner, frequently with the help of their traffickers, many are granted tourist or student visas or

given fake credentials. In contrast, the typical perception of smuggling is that it involves the illegal transportation of huge numbers of migrants across borders, usually in trucks or boats, and frequently without proper identification.

The gender of the migrants engaged is a key differentiator between smuggling and trafficking. While most people involved in smuggling are men, women make up the great majority of victims of human trafficking. This gender gap emphasizes how trafficked women are more susceptible to exploitation and vulnerabilities than smuggled migrants.

## **POLICY DISCUSSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

When it comes to tackling serious crimes like human trafficking, a robust legal system is crucial. However, India's system is severely lacking in this regard, with a low conviction rate and multiple loopholes. For India, resolving human trafficking cases through the courts is a top priority so that victims can get justice and perpetrators can be discouraged.

When it comes to combating human trafficking, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are indispensable. NGOs shield victims from harm and fight for victims' rights through the legal system.<sup>23</sup> Even if they try, NGOs encounter a lot of obstacles, such as a lack of finances and capacity, which makes it hard for them to fight the legal fights that are essential to getting justice.

The 2013 Criminal Amendment Act was a watershed moment because it broadened the scope of trafficking as defined in Section 370 of the Indian Penal Code. Every link in the trafficking chain, from the original trafficker to those who harbor, transport, or exploit victims, was criminalized by the amendment. Additionally, it made it clear that the victim's permission is immaterial when crimes involving compulsion, threats, or false promises are involved and made these offenses non-bailable. For India's legislative framework to combat human trafficking, this legislation was a watershed moment.

The most recent legal framework, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita 2023, which superseded the Indian Penal Code of 1860, added more teeth to the system by classifying organized crime involving compulsion into prostitution. Absconding with, attempting to commit, or conspiring to conduct such crimes are now all punishable under the new law, with penalties of up to five years in certain instances.



Human trafficking cases still take a long time and a lot of resources to resolve, even though there have been significant reforms to the law. Due to an excessive number of cases, the criminal justice system in India is overburdened, and trials can take two to six years. Victims, particularly those from historically oppressed groups, confront heavy social stigmatization, which further hinders their ability to seek justice and assistance.

To top it all off, victims of human trafficking and their loved ones frequently endure terrifying levels of intimidation and dread.<sup>24</sup> Victims or their families may face verbal or physical threats to prevent them from coming forward and reporting the crime, and traffickers are often linked to influential political networks. Investigations by government personnel might occasionally take an insensitive attitude, which further damages victims' faith in the system.

Multiple reforms are necessary to fortify the judicial system and enhance results for victims of human trafficking. Better funding for non-governmental organizations (NGOs), increased training for law enforcement, and a holistic strategy to assist victims through social and legal services are all part of the solution. The government should also take action to fix the systemic problems with the court system, such as decreasing case backlogs and making sure victims are safe from harassment. To strengthen the legal system the following changes can be incorporated:

- 1. Data Collection:** Improving the justice system necessitates first and foremost gaining insight into trends and identifying vulnerable populations. Due to the widespread nature of the issue, the government should take the lead in gathering information and developing a database to aid in legal proceedings and provide assistance to victims. The government can establish a reliable support system by collaborating with local nonprofits that have assisted victims in the past.
- 2. Enabling Legal Recourse through Anti-Trafficking Cells:** An Anti-Trafficking Cell has been set up by the Ministry of Home Affairs to handle issues concerning the response of law enforcement to human trafficking. The victims of human trafficking can be even better assisted if anti-trafficking cells are designated as the main hotline numbers and pro bono legal assistance is made accessible so that victims can seek justice.
- 3. Sensitivity Training:** Despite this, police personnel are becoming more aware of the importance of taking the right steps when dealing with cases of this sensitivity. Police officers must receive specialized training on how to handle such situations in order to reduce the likelihood of further victimization.

- 4. Implementing new legislation:** There has not been enough attention paid to the intricacy of human trafficking, despite the implementation of new criminal legislation. Addressing this crime requires a distinct law, like the Trafficking in Persons (Prevention, Care and Rehabilitation) Bill, which was introduced in 2018 with the goal of rescuing and ensuring the survivor's protection and reintegration. In addition to women and children, the Bill expands the definition of "victim" to include transgender persons. Since the Bill does not contain any regulations for rescue operations, it will need to be amended before it can be put into effect. Furthermore, it fails to acknowledge the exploitation of laborers due to trafficking, particularly in relation to males. It fails to address the need for structural reform and increased public awareness of the problem. It is important to acknowledge the situation as it is through grassroots efforts and involve the entire public in developing safeguards.

## CONCLUSION

As the idea of "agency" becomes more central to debates about human rights, human trafficking becomes more apparent as a crime that violates both personal freedom and the collective conscience. Women, children, members of tribal communities, and transgender people are among the most susceptible populations, and their safety must be the first priority in any effort to eradicate human trafficking in India. India is now known to be a country where human trafficking occurs at all stages of the supply chain. However, the country's legal system is severely lacking, with several loopholes that have enabled traffickers to avoid punishment for many years. Victims are frequently left vulnerable to additional forms of abuse and exploitation due to these gaps in the law, which perpetuates their victimization.

By providing essential services and lobbying for changes in policy, NGOs are vital in finding solutions to these problems. But it's hard to tackle the problem on the scale that's required because of a lack of resources and money, which limits their impact. Governments should prioritize enhancing legislative protections and raising awareness among law enforcement and the judiciary on the specific needs of survivors of human trafficking.

There is an immediate need for a system that safeguards survivors of human trafficking while also addressing the underlying issues that allow this crime to continue in marginalized communities in India, where victims continue to be victimized. Emphasizing the urgent need to establish a strong support system for survivors, prevention must take precedence. It is very difficult to reduce crime,

especially people trafficking, in India because of the country's huge population and the persistently widening socioeconomic gaps. If this doesn't improve, the nation's attempts to build its economy and industry will be half-hearted and ultimately useless.

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