



Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

**Bangladesh Country Report, 2016
Combating Human Trafficking**

**Public Security Division
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Dhaka, Bangladesh**

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Foreword



Human trafficking is a rapidly evolving and clandestinely organized crime that severely encroaches on the fundamental human rights of its victims. Combating human trafficking is a global challenge that affects many millions of men, women and children. The goals of trafficking globally are to trade trafficking victims as commodities in order to generate profits. Bangladesh is a source and transit country for men, women, and children subjected to trafficking in persons, specifically forced labor and forced prostitution. A significant share of Bangladesh's trafficking victims is men recruited for work overseas with fraudulent employment offers.

The Government of Bangladesh has been making sincere efforts to combat all forms of trafficking in persons. The Constitution of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh prohibits forced and compulsory labor, imposes a duty on the state to prevent and suppress prostitution and guarantees a number of fundamental rights. Also to address the SDG the Government of Bangladesh is effectively engaged in prevention and suppression of this crime.

Efforts of the Government of Bangladesh thus far have included enactment of the specific law 'The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012', working in partnership with national non-government organizations and international non-government organizations and the formulation of the National Plan of Action 2015-2017 that focuses on providing a consolidated framework for the national response to internal and cross-border human trafficking in Bangladesh with a zero tolerance policy towards human trafficking. Bangladesh has made considerable strides in the fight against human trafficking; still there remains further room for coordinated and comprehensive approach as this is a global challenge. We hope that working hand in hand with NGOs and UN bodies will help us to transform our commitments to combat human trafficking into realities.

The Bangladesh Country Report on Combating Human Trafficking is the Annual Country Report highlighting the activities taken by concerned Government Ministries, Departments, INGOs and NGOs and the achievements towards combating human trafficking. The report indicates the reflection of the future course of action. It is an outcome of participatory contribution of all key government and non-government agencies who are taking part in the action of upholding humanity by reducing human trafficking.

I would like to extend my gratitude to Professor Ishrat Shamim for compiling and editing the country report and members of the Report Drafting Committee for their valuable contributions in preparing the report.

I believe that this Country Report will amply help us in realizing our collective goal to combat the trafficking in person in the country.

Asaduzzaman Khan, MP
Minister
Ministry of Home Affairs
Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh
Bangladesh secretariat, Dhaka

Foreword



Migration of human beings started at the beginning of human civilization for various purposes. The twenty-first century witnesses fundamental changes in the pattern of mobility and migration of people creating hopes and high expectations some while at the same time frustrations and agonies for many others. Human trafficking has caused great concern for the Governments both in South Asia and extended in recent times to South East Asia region.

Trafficking in persons has become a major social and political concern globally as well as nationally. It has also become the fastest growing criminal enterprise in the world. Bangladesh, having a huge population in a small land area, is notably affected by the organized crime of Trafficking in Persons. The crime of trafficking is mainly committed against persons who are socially and economically vulnerable. Economic underdevelopment generates huge exodus of men and women to affluent countries.

The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 is an instrument to restrain the bridle of the perpetrators. The National Plan of Action 2015-2017 plays an important role to combat human trafficking. Bangladesh Police, Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), RAB along with other law enforcing agencies have been actively participating in the government's collective effort on combating human trafficking for a long time with the special preference for rescuing women and children. In partnership with national and international development partners, the Government of Bangladesh is effectively engaged in prevention and suppression of this crime.

I believe, Bangladesh Country Report will be useful in understanding the overall situation and measures taken to combat human trafficking and thus contribute to further policymaking in this regard.

I sincerely thank and acknowledge the contribution of all concerned whose tireless efforts have led to the publication of Bangladesh Country Report.

Mostafa Kamal Uddin

Secretary

Public Security Division

Ministry of Home Affairs

Government of the people's Republic of Bangladesh

Abbreviations and Acronyms

ACD	Association for Community Development
ACT	Actions for Combating Trafficking in Persons Program
ACTWC	Alliance to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children
AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ATU	Anti-Trafficking Unit
BAIRA	Bangladesh Association for International Recruiting Agencies
BB	Bangladesh Betar
BGB	Border Guard Bangladesh
BMET	Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training
BNWLA	Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association
BOESL	Bangladesh Overseas Employment Services Limited
BOP	Border Out Post
BSF	Border Security Force
BSP	Bangladesh Sentry Post
BTV	Bangladesh Television
CBMP	Coordinated Border Management Plan
CBO	Community Based Organization
CDMS	Crime Database Management Software
CDP	Child Development Programme
CFIS	Child Friendly Interviewing Skills
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women
CFIS	Child Friendly Interview Skill
CIC	Community Information Centre
CID	Central Investigation Department
CPG	Child Protection Group
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSNP	Child Safety Net Project
CTC	Counter Trafficking Committee
CTWF	Counter Trafficking Women Forum
CWC	Community Watchdog Committee
CWCS	Centre for Women and Children Studies
CWG	Community Watch Group
CWTP	Children and Women Trafficking Prevention
DAM	Dhaka Ahsania Mission
DC	District Commissioner
DEMO	District Employment and Migration Office
DIG	Deputy Inspector General of Police
DIP	Department of Immigration and Passport
DMP	Dhaka Metropolitan Police
DSS	Department of Social Services
DWA	Department of Women Affairs
GoB	Government of Bangladesh
HT	Human Trafficking
HIV	Human Immune Virus
IEC	Information, Education and Communication
IGP	Inspector General of Police
IHB	Information Health Booth
ILO	International Labour Organization
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
LEAs	Law Enforcement Agencies
LEO	Law Enforcing Officials

LGI	Local Government Institutes
LGB	Local Elected Bodies
IGA	Income Generating Activities
LGD	Local Government Department
LGI	Local Government Institutes
LSBE	Life Skill Based Education
MDP	Micro Finance Program
MCA	Missing Child Alert
MoEWOE	Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment
MoI	Ministry of Information
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs
MoLJPA	Ministry of Law Justice and Parliamentary Affairs
MoSW	Ministry of Service Welfare
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MoWCA	Ministry of Women and Children Affairs
MRP	Machine Readable Passport
MP	Member of Parliament
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NSI	National Security Intelligence
NIHB	Niramoy Information Health Booth
NPA	National Plan of Action
PHQ	Police Headquarters
PID	Press Information Department
PNGO	Partner NGO
PP	Public Prosecutor
PRP	Police Reform Programme
PSHT	Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking
RJ	Rights Jessore
RRRI	Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Integration
SAARC	South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
SDP	Social Development Program
SH	Shelter Home
SMC	Social Marketing Committee
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
TED	Theatre for Development
THB	Trafficking in Human Beings Cell
TIP	Trafficking in Persons
ToR	Terms of Reference
ToT	Training of Trainers
TTC	Technical Training Center
TV	Television
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UP	Union Parishad
US	United States
VDP	Village Defence Party
VGD	Vulnerable Group Development
VGf	Vulnerable Group Feeding
WI	Winrock International
WVB	World Vision Bangladesh
YMG	Youth Media Group

1. Introduction

Global trends of human mobility in and across borders have been changing due to rapid political, economic and social transformation of our world. Migration is a complex but essential force of development. While orderly migration creates hopes for people but generate miseries for those who fall victims of human smuggling and trafficking, two negative outcomes of migration. Growing concern over security issues including terrorism has added significance for international community in promoting safe migration and to combat human trafficking.

Trafficking, smuggling and migration are separate, but interconnected issues. Migration mostly takes place through regular channels and may be freely chosen or forced upon migrants as a means of survival during a conflict, economic crisis or an environmental disaster. If the process of migration is irregular then the migrants are usually assisted by a smuggler who facilitate illegal entry into a country in exchange of a fee or benefit. The smuggler usually demand an exorbitant fee and may expose the migrant to serious dangers in the course of their journey, but on arrival at the destination, the migrants are free to make their own way.

Trafficking is fundamentally different as it involves the movement of people for the purpose of exploiting their labour or services. Trafficking usually starts as recruitment or movement, and ends with abuse and exploitation. Human trafficking, a gross violation of human rights affects almost all regions and most countries of the world. Human rights violations such as the right to life, liberty and security; right to freedom of movement; right not to be subjected to torture and/or cruel, inhuman, degrading treatment or punishment occur at different stages of the trafficking cycle. Therefore, it is a matter of deep concern to combat human trafficking for governments, human rights organizations and activists.

There was long debate on defining human trafficking. However, the widely agreed definition of human trafficking was incorporated into the 2000 Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children Crime (widely known as the Trafficking/ Palermo Protocol), supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized. Since then, this definition has been incorporated into many legal and policy instruments as well as national laws.

Article 3, paragraph (a) of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons defines Trafficking in Persons as "the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation. Exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labour or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or the removal of organs." However, the consent of a victim of trafficking in persons to the intended exploitation given above shall be irrelevant where any of the means have been used for the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of a child for the purpose of exploitation shall be considered "trafficking in persons" even if this does not involve any of the means and the child shall mean any person under eighteen years of age.

Bangladesh is considered primarily as a source and to a lesser extent, a transit and destination of human trafficking. Quite a large number of Bangladeshi men and women who migrate to the Middle East to work in the construction, garments and domestic service sectors are subjected to forced labour. Many migrant workers have to pay exorbitant recruitment fees

imposed by unscrupulous labour recruitment agencies and their sub-agents. Before their departure, many migrant workers either sell their inherited lands and properties in low price or borrow money from neighbours, friends, family members and even from money lenders with high interest rate to pay recruitment fees. Those migrants who have to pay debts to members of their family, friends, and neighbours back home usually feel that they have no alternatives as they cannot return home without the money they owe.

Labour traffickers often make false promises of a high paid jobs or exciting travel opportunities to allure innocent people into abusive working conditions. Victims find that the realities of their jobs are far different than promised. They frequently work long hours for little or no pay. Their employers exert such physical or psychological control including physical abuse, debt bondage, confiscation of passports and money that the victims believe they have no other choice but to continue working for the employers. Migrants are given the impression that if they go to the authorities they will be deported or prosecuted. Women who mostly work as domestic help are exposed to forced labour, abuse and sexual violence as they are isolated in houses, not allowed to go out and hardly have any contact with the outside world.

In Bangladesh, young girls and boys from impoverished families of the bordering areas are often lured by the agents of traffickers with opportunities of employment, marriage and sightseeing in the neighbouring countries. Majority of these young boys are sold at the brick fields and other industries while girls are forced into commercial sexual exploitation and prostitution. Traffickers pretend to be fiancé or often offer false marriages and emotionally blackmail girls to travel to neighbouring country for a better life. Although the trust is being broken but it takes sometimes for the girls to realize that they have been trapped into trafficked situation to be sexually exploited and sold into prostitution. While bonded and sex labour comprise the vast majority, forced begging and organ harvesting have also been identified as the endpoint of human trafficking. As victims enter without valid travel documents, they remain under constant threat of apprehension and deportation.

The human trafficking networks in the South East region are well organized and ruthless. Victims, primarily Rohingya Muslims from Myanmar along with aspirant migrants of Bangladesh were forced on overcrowded ships that set sail in the Bay of Bengal on a perilous journey. Several hundred died from starvation, disease and abuse before reaching their promised destination. Moreover, instead of being released when they reached the Thai-Malaysian border, the refugees from Myanmar and migrants from Bangladesh were held captive in inhumane detained camps in the jungles. The traffickers then demanded ransoms from their families back home. They often demand exorbitant fees for transportation and then extract even more by threatening them of physical torture or death. Even then safe arrival in promised destination is also not guaranteed.

Escaping from trafficking is extremely difficult and dangerous, putting the victims at great personal risk. If rescued, integration back into society is incredibly difficult because of the shame, stigma, threat of retribution and trauma experienced, especially in the case of women and girls.

Women and children have a right to be protected from any forms of trafficking and to be treated with dignity. This requires a comprehensive anti-human trafficking strategy embedded in a human rights approach since violations of human rights are both the cause and consequence of human trafficking. Such approach requires the systematic development and implementation of policies and programme that address the socio-economic, political, environmental and cultural factors which are the root causes of vulnerability to trafficking at the local, national, regional and international levels.

The Constitution of Bangladesh deals specifically with two forms of trafficking - labour and commercial sexual exploitation. In Article 34(1), all forms of forced labour are prohibited, and Article 18(2) places a duty upon the State to prevent prostitution. Article 31 of the Constitution guarantees every citizen the right to enjoy the protection of law wherever they may be. The implication of this provision is that to enjoy the protection of law it is not essential for a citizen to be in the territory of Bangladesh. In other words, the state is obliged to ensure the protection of law internally and extraterritorially. Therefore, the obligation of Bangladesh government for repatriation of trafficked victims is very much implied in this fundamental right provision of the Constitution of Bangladesh.

2. Activities of Government Ministries and Departments

2.1 Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA)

The Ministry of Home Affairs has been in the lead role of coordinating counter-trafficking activities in Bangladesh. There are various committees and sub-committees working under the Ministry of Home Affairs for formulating policy including GO-NGO National Coordination Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, Committee to Monitor the National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking 2015-17 and RRRI Task Force. These committees include inter-ministerial representatives, NGOs and INGOs who are working to combat human trafficking in a concerted way. Moreover, other relevant ministries and departments are also actively engaged in counter-trafficking activities and are extending their cooperation to the Ministry of Home Affairs in implementation of The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 in line with National Plan of Action. The National Plan of Action (NPA) has been implemented with concerted effort of relevant government ministries, departments, agencies, UN agencies, INGOs and NGOs and members of the community. The reports prepared by relevant ministries, departments, NGOs and INGOs are the manifestation of implementing the 5 Goals set in the NPA 2015-2017.

The Rules of Procedures under The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 is in the process to be finalized soon which will be a step forward to execute the law in ensuring punishment to the traffickers *The Ministry of Home Affairs is working with UNICEF in mobilizing the RRRI Task Force for quick repatriation of victims from India. Bangladesh government is also working hard on enhancing partnership with destination countries in promoting safe migration with a view to preventing human trafficking.

In the 4th Meeting of the RRRI Task Force on Human Trafficking between India and Bangladesh held in Mumbai, India, 6-7 April, 2014, the draft Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Prevention of Human Trafficking especially Trafficking in Women and Children: Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Reintegration of Victims of Human Trafficking was finalized. Subsequently the MoU was signed in Dhaka at the Home Secretary level.

*Three rules have already been published to implement and execute the law.

Task Force on Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Integration (RRRI) of victims of Human Trafficking

As a heinous and inhuman cross border crime, human trafficking, especially trafficking in women and children gets highest priority and attention as a thrust issue to fight the crime by the states of Bangladesh and neighbour country India. Considering the offence, particularly causes and consequences of grave violation of human rights, the government of both countries agreed to establish a joint mechanism for combating human trafficking. Besides,

understanding the complex fact which is resulting vulnerable situation for its victims and undermines the value, worth and dignity of the persons, the responsible stakeholders of both governments took initiatives to activate the joint mechanism for smooth Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Integration (RRRI) of the victims of human trafficking. At the beginning, the RRRI Task Force was initiated by Government of Bangladesh and State Government of West Bengal.

Bangladesh government took initiatives to stop cross-border human trafficking through coordination and cooperation of the RRRI Task Force in India and Bangladesh. Additional Secretary/Joint Secretary of Ministry of Home Affairs took lead of the Bangladesh RRRI Task Force with other members from different Government and NGOs in different joint actions concerning counter trafficking policies and practices. Consequently, many bilateral initiatives have been undertaken in 2016 through implementing *Anti-Trafficking Monitoring and Mechanisms* project supported by UNICEF, Bangladesh. The Ministry also developed a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for smooth and on scheduled Rescue, Recovery, Repatriation and Integration (RRRI) of victims of human trafficking. In addition, a unified SOP for RRRI Task Force of Bangladesh and India was agreed upon and a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 30 May 2015 at Dhaka for strengthening RRRI Task Force of Bangladesh and India considering the frequency and magnitude of the crime in both countries.

Activities and achievements of RRRI Task Force

Activities	Achievements in 2016
Identification and Repatriation of Trafficked Victims following SOP	RRRI Task Force in MoHA received applications for repatriation of 2,201 trafficked victims from different countries, especially from India. Out of them MoHA issued repatriation order for 1,137 victims and took initiatives for their safe return through diplomatic channel, Till to date, a total number of 1,269 trafficked victim's final repatriation related information were received and most of them were repatriated from India following the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) with coordination of RRRI Task Force member organizations (GO/NGOs) of both countries. Besides, 3 (one minor girl & 2 men) victims of Indian nationality were sent back to their native country with support from member NGOs of the Task Force.
Policy Initiatives to make a change in practice and ensure justice for the victims	RRRI Task Force has taken initiatives to enforce The Children Act, 2013 by establishing Child Affairs Desk and assigning Child Affairs Police Officers in every police station throughout the country.
Bilateral Initiatives for smooth process of RRRI for trafficked victims	Ministry of Home Affairs along with support of the RRRI Task Force has organised the 3 rd Bilateral Meeting held in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh on 8-9 December, 2012, 4 th Bilateral Meeting held in Mumbai, India on 6-7 April, 2014 and 5 th Bilateral Meeting held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on 17-18 August, 2015 between Bangladesh and India. MoHA has been taking preparation for organizing next bilateral meeting to be held in New Delhi, India.

Moreover, a Database on Rescued and Repatriated Trafficked Victims has been maintained by RRRI Task Force with joint support of MoHA and UNICEF funded project. Besides, Website: www.antitraffickingcell.gov.bd is also being maintained and monitored by MoHA. Other agencies like Police Headquarters, BGB, MoEWOE, MoFA, MoWCA and MoSW are maintaining their own websites for coordinating activities and sharing information among agencies. The websites of relevant agencies are linked with RRRI Task Force website.

2.2 Bangladesh Police Headquarters (Special Crime - SC)

Human trafficking is an offence under the Bangladesh legal system. Complete elimination of human trafficking in Bangladesh is a difficult goal to attain. However, as a main law enforcement agency Bangladesh Police is playing a vital role to combat human trafficking.

Bangladesh Police is responsible to implement The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012 as well as the National Plan of Action 2015-17. In Police Headquarters there is a Human Trafficking Monitoring Cell. The main function of this cell is to collect update information regarding TIP cases. This cell also coordinates with different government ministries and NGOs. Besides, there is District Monitoring Committee in all the districts of Bangladesh.

In 2016, a total number of 677 TIP cases were lodged in different police stations of Bangladesh. Out of these, 398 are still under investigation. Towards the end of 2016, there were a total of 2,451 TIP cases under trial in different courts of Bangladesh. In the lower court, some 3 persons were convicted in one case while 72 persons were acquitted in 14 cases up to 31 December 2016.

In the Bangladesh Police website, the data on human trafficking is being uploaded regularly. A web-based software “Crime Data Management System” is controlled by Police Headquarters where detail information about TIP cases, traffickers, victims, investigations etc are preserved and analyzed.

All the units of police are highly sensitized and working very hard against this crime. Special Branch is responsible for immigration clearance at the border checkpoints and the immigration officers are trained in this regard. The Special Branch has established the central connectivity between Special Branch Headquarters with other major airports and land check posts. Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) Cell has also been set up in the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) which also investigates and monitors TIP cases.

To encounter the TIP cases and for the prevention of the crime by sensitizing and raising awareness of the people, Bangladesh Police emphasize the importance of the following aspects:

- **Prevention:** Police officers at the field level take part in mass awareness, motivational and sensitization programmes at different levels in the society including educational and religious institutions. They also participate in electronic media programmes, seminars and workshops both at home and abroad. Training institutes of Bangladesh Police have incorporated modules on TIP in different training curricula. As of 2016, a total number of 29,889 police officers of different ranks were trained on TIP in 186 training programmes.
- **Protection:** In 2016, Bangladesh Police recovered and rescued 523 TIP victims among whom 523 were finally reintegrated with their families. Bangladesh Police has established 8 Victim Support Centers (VSC) across the country. VSCs are located in divisional headquarters with an additional in Rangamati Hill District.

- **Investigation, Prosecution and Rehabilitation:** The statistics related to TIP for the period January - December 2016 are given below:

Status of TIP cases being lodged	Number
TIP cases lodged	677
Accused arrested/surrendered	1,361
Charge Sheet submitted	211
Final Report submitted	68
Under investigation	398
Status of cases disposed after trial	
Cases ended in conviction	1
Cases ended in acquittal	14
Persons convicted	3
Death sentence	-
Life imprisonment	-
Other terms	3
Persons acquitted	72
Status of trafficked persons	
Trafficked persons (as mentioned in the FIRs)	770
Trafficked persons rescued/recovered	523
Rehabilitation of trafficked persons to parents	523
Trafficked persons sent to government safe homes	-

Moreover, TIP Monitoring Cell at the Police Headquarters received some 69 summons/warrants from DMP Magistrates and Sessions courts and carried out their duty of the timely appearance of some 102 witnesses before the competent courts.

2.3 Criminal Investigation Department (CID)

The status of the investigation cases of Trafficking in Human Beings (THB) in CID for the period January to December 2016 are given below:

Status of the investigation cases of Trafficking in Human Beings	Number of cases
Pending cases of the previous year 2015	182
Cases during January-December 2016	175
Total	357
Results of the investigation cases	
Charge sheet	180
FRT	6
FIR as false	15
Mistake of fact	34
Total cases disposed	235
Accused arrested	727
Victims rescued	129 (82 males, 45 females & 2 children)
Pending of the investigation cases	122
Training course on trafficking of human beings	
Training course about trafficking of human beings at Forensic Training Institute (FTI), CID Headquarters, Dhaka	1,828

2.4 Special Branch (SB) Security Control Organization Wing (SCO)

In 2016 Security Control Organization Wing (SCO) of Special Branch, Bangladesh Police conducted inquiry, vetting and verification of different Bangladeshi nationals who were stranded at different countries, including other assigned duties and responsibilities. During January-December 2016, inquiry, vetting and verifications of Bangladesh nationals conducted by SCO wing are given below:

Month	Name of the country						Report received	Report submitted	Pending
	India	Pakistan	Myanmar	Malaysia	USA	Others			
January	4,404	71	180	79	21	319	5,074	5,033	41
February	119	33	9	85	1	133	380	345	35
March	734	46	46	3	162	8	999	987	12
April	680	37	-	1	38	6	762	762	-
May	321	87	101	-	-	265	774	717	57
June	543	53	199	-	36	163	994	917	77
July	153	-	-	-	-	24	177	152	25
August	215	172	62	-	-	91	540	479	61
September	206	83	-	1	-	45	335	182	153
October	433	97	-	283	11	106	930	314	616
November	349	100	-	-	-	154	603	233	370
December	504	105	-	-	-	102	711	-	711
Total	8,661	884	597	452	269	1,416	12,279	10,121	2,158
Report submitted	7,488	549	503	200	269	1,112	10,121	-	-
Pending	1,173	335	94	252	-	304	2,158	-	-

Security Control Organization Wing (SCO), Special Branch conducted inquiry, vetting and verification of 10,121 in 2016, while reports of 2,158 Bangladesh nationals are still pending, awaiting report from different units.

2.5 Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB)

Preventive efforts

The role of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) is to guard and control the land border of the country. BGB also controls the border in regards to interception/apprehension of traffickers/smugglers, rescue, recovery of victims and repatriation of victims. BGB organizes public awareness programmes in the bordering area to prevent human trafficking. There are several instances that apart from ill intention citizens of both the neighbouring countries, illegally cross the international boundary for a short period of time due to varied reasons like going for medical treatment, visiting relatives, buying essential commodities etc. BGB personnel are even preventing such inadvertent trans-border crossing by gearing up intelligence and exhaustive patrolling/monitoring.

BGB members are trained and motivated to take stern actions against human trafficking. At various levels of meetings with counterpart, BGB also requested them not to allow such type of illegal trafficking. BGB and BSF also carry out coordinated patrolling along the Bangladesh-India border regularly to prevent such illegal crossings.

Rescue and recovery of trafficked women and children

BGB takes all out efforts to rescue and recover trafficked women and children including apprehension of the traffickers. The rescue of victims and traffickers apprehended by BGB during January-December 2016 are as follows:

Year	Total number of arrested traffickers	Rescued victims	
		Women	Children
2016	5	198	81

Training activities

BGB plans and designs a good number of multi-dimensional training courses for its members every year. In every course, the trainers follow specific lesson plans on different subjects as per the need and nature of the training but the subject of Combating/Preventing Trafficking of Women and Children is always included in the entire syllabus. This lesson plan mostly covers general concept of human trafficking, target groups, causes and consequences of trafficking in women and children, probable preventive measures against trafficking etc.

Awareness raising activities against trafficking in women and children

- BGB support and attend trainings, workshops and seminars organized by NGOs on trafficking in women and children, violence against women, etc.
- Members of Border Guard Bangladesh attend the national, district and upazila level meetings of Counter Trafficking Committees on regular basis and participate in discussion on how to combat trafficking in women and children.
- About 515 BGB soldiers were trained on Child Friendly Interview Skills (CFIS) by BGB with support of Ministry of Home Affairs. The aim of the training was to teach and sensitize them about the child-friendly behaviours with child victims of trafficking, especially how to behave with the child and process of handing them over to the local police stations for legal actions.
- There are 653 border outposts to prevent human trafficking and recently 128 border sentry posts have also been constructed to facilitate further vigilance by the BGB patrols to prevent human trafficking.
- BGB procured 1535 motor cycles from the Anti Women and Children Trafficking Project and allotted these to all the Border Outposts for carrying out effective mobile patrolling against any human trafficking.

2.6 Bangladesh Coast Guard

Bangladesh Coast Guard Force is actively combating human trafficking since the beginning of its journey. Bangladesh Coast Guard Force always remains vigilant against human trafficking in their areas of responsibility. Various effective measures have been taken to annihilate

human trafficking through sea, adjacent coastal areas and river estuaries. Some of the measures taken by Bangladesh Coast Guard Force are:

- Regular patrolling by ships, crafts and boats in the most probable human trafficking routes, especially, in the offshore areas of Chittagong, Khulna including the Sundarbans, Barisal, Bhola, Patuakhali, Cox's Bazar, St. Martins Island, Teknaf and Shahpuri.
- Conducting special operations in offshore areas of East and South coasts, St. Martins Island including bordering river Naaf and some char areas as and when required.
- Regular checking of all ships and crafts using river routes at various check points in the Sundarbans.
- Conducting joint operations with other law enforcing agencies on the basis of information from intelligence sources.
- Organizing awareness raising and motivational programmes regularly in coordination with other concern agencies and departments in remote coastal areas. Over 35,000 Bangladesh Coast Guard personnel were trained in 2016 on the causes and consequences of human trafficking.

Bangladesh Coast Guard Force has conducted a total number of 23,306 operations and has checked 1,11,209 crafts during January to December 2016.

Bangladesh Coast Guard Force is fully committed to combat human trafficking. Coast Guard's constant presence at sea and in the coastal areas along with relentless efforts by its members has enabled this force to reduce this problem substantially. Coast Guard's mere presence serves as deterrence to illegal human trafficking activities.

2.7 Ansar-VDP

Bangladesh Ansar- VDP is the largest organization of the country which consists of about 6.1 million members. About 50 per cent of them are women. The huge social force of this organization has a great privilege to reach the remotest corner of the country. Through different courses and rallies the members are motivated and aware of the consequences of human trafficking and therefore it is easier for them to differentiate between victims and perpetrators.

Training Directorate of Bangladesh Ansar-VDP plans and designs a good number of multi-dimensional training courses for Ansar-VDP members in every fiscal year. Ansar-VDP members, from grassroots level participate in these courses. In every course, the trainers follow specific lesson plans on different modules as per need and nature of training but the subject of Combating Human Trafficking is cross cutting. The lesson plan mostly covers general concept of human trafficking, target groups, causes and effects of trafficking in women and children, probable preventive measures against trafficking etc. Through these courses, the members of Ansar-VDP are highly motivated and become aware at grassroots level.

Activities to build awareness against human trafficking:

- Some special trainings, workshops and seminars are jointly organized by NGOs and Ansar-VDP on reproductive health and gender issues, human trafficking, violence against women, awareness against HIV/AIDS etc.

- Every year Ansar-VDP organizes rallies and meetings at union, upazila, district and range levels.
- Upazila Ansar-VDP Officer conducts regular meetings with Union Leaders and Ansar Commanders at their offices. They discuss the issue and get feedback regularly on combating human trafficking in those meetings.
- The most effective training programme of this organization is basic training of Ansar-VDP members at grassroots level. During 2016, a total number of 97,127 Ansar-VDP members attended the basic training out of which 50 percent were women. The training courses and rallies are playing an important impact in creating awareness against human trafficking at village level, where the potential victims live.
- Ansar-VDP has started imparting technical and skill development training for Income Generating Activities (IGA) or overseas employment to the vulnerable men and women at the grassroots level so that they are not allured with the employment offers by the traffickers and their agents.

2.8 Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment

Formulation of the Act/Rules-Regulations: Vigilance Task Force's Operations: Vigilance Task Force conducts operations in specified lawful routes of migration to prevent illegal migration of workers. The main goal of the operation is to protect workers from deception and not to go abroad illegally with high migration cost. In the process of VTF operation in view of ensuring lawful departure, workers waiting in immigration line at the airport are randomly selected for verifying their documents such as passport, employment visa of receiving country, employment and manpower clearance of BMET. If legal documents necessary for labour migrants are not found, they are off-loaded. Advice/guidance is given to worker to go abroad in legal way having registration and manpower clearance (smart card) from BMET. Officers of Probashi Kallyan Desk at international airport regularly check whether workers have manpower clearance (smart card) and registration of BMET or not.

Operation of the Vigilance Task Force

Year	Number of operation	Place of operation	Number of illegal migrants detained
2012	8	Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka	4
2013	1	Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka	-
2014	8	Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka	-
2015	9	Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka, Recruiting Agencies namely Labib International, Patriate International and Al-Habib Travels	35
2016	18	Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport, Dhaka	92

Observations of the Vigilance Task Force:

- Every day numerous young people with three types of visa (student/tourist/Employment Pass) depart for Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Maldives and Indonesia for overseas employment through Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport in different flights of Malaysian Airlines, Air Arabia Airways, Biman Bangladesh Airlines, Malinda Airlines, Singapore Airlines, Air Arabia Airways and other airlines. At the time of interviews the young people having student and visits visa expressed that they used these countries as transit countries to go for work especially in Malaysia. A syndicate is active to provide student visas for Malaysia without necessary academic qualifications.
- Currently there is no Embassy of Maldives in Bangladesh and Maldives issue tourist visa on arrival basis. Primarily, it seems that Maldives tourist visa were fake.
- It has been observed that a good number of workers only having “Employment Pass” without clearance and smart card of BMET are showing their tendency to migrate to Malaysia and various countries.
- Most of the persons going aboard with student visa are illiterate/less educated having no qualification for higher education or do not have any offer letter from foreign educational institutions or essential documents but they cross the immigration regularly.
- Appearance, clothing, behaviour, speech and amount of money of a large number of travellers holding tourist visas did not match with their status.
- Stamp found in their baggage provide evidence that workers having student/tourist visa are going abroad in a separate employment visa. Workers were usually using the route through Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Indonesia as transit to go to Malaysia.
- Lack of information about the enactment of “Overseas Employment and Migrants Act 2013” and the lack of coordination among concerned different authorities to prevent illegal migration.

Operation of mobile court:

A letter has been issued from The Ministry of Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment to the Home Ministry for inclusion of section 31, sections 33 and 35 of the same Act in the Mobile Court Act 2009’s schedule.

Legal action against the middlemen engaged in illegal migration:

Ministry has requested Home Ministry and BMET several times to investigate under the provision of section 38 of Migrant Act and file suit against middlemen/brokers in judicial magistrate court on the basis of information/complaints obtained from illegal migrants. Advertisement in several daily newspapers regarding confirmation of job opportunity/part-time work/work permit in Malaysia and several countries and tempted to collect money illegally are brought into attention to stop illegal advertising. In the meantime, in view of prevention of workers willing to go abroad through illegal advertising violating the Migrants Act, Ministry has issued several show-cause notices to the recruiting agency/visa consultancy and filed cases against them. Ministry has sent official letters to all the District Magistrate at different time for undertaking operations under the provision of Migrants Act and The Mobile Court Act 2009. Moreover, Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) of police department conducts their operation in coordination with the Ministry.

Suspension or cancellation of recruiting agency's license:

According to section 12 and 18 of Migrants Act, license of a number of recruiting agencies have been cancelled as penalty of facilitating illegal migration. Given below the number of recruiting agencies whose recruiting license were cancelled or suspended:

Year	Number of license cancelled or suspended
2007	12
2008	40
2009	7
2010	28
2011	22
2012	15
2013	19
2014	16
2015	11
2016	13
Total	183

Source: Employment Wing

Receiving complaints and settlements:

After the formation of Monitoring and Enforcement Wing, the Ministry received a number of complaints that have been settled. Given below number of complaints and settlements in Monitoring and Enforcement Wing:

Year	Number of complaints	Number of settlements
2012	3	3
2013	4	4
2014	6	6
2015	21	17
2016	30	5
Total	64	35

Reducing costs of migration:

Migration cost is very high in Bangladesh among South Asian countries because of excessive profits earned by middlemen and brokers. Workers often try to go abroad in illegal way due to the excessive cost and bound to stay in foreign country engaging in criminal activities.

Supervision of female workers migration:

Bangladeshi female are going to the United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar, Oman, Hong Kong and Singapore as domestic workers, garment workers, cleaners or workers in factories. Government has taken various initiatives to protect female workers from exploitation, harassment and labour trafficking in the name of employment.

Public awareness activities:

Ministry has taken various initiatives stated below regarding public awareness on legal migration and adverse consequences of illegal migration and human trafficking:

- Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET) has developed 2 CD/DVD of dramas/documentaries for raising awareness through media to prevent illegal migration. These dramas/documentaries are being broadcasted on various TV channels. CD/DVD of dramas/documentaries will also be sent to every digital union centers and municipalities for broadcasting and telecasting.
- Displaying billboards across the country, public notice in the newspapers and special interviews in print and electronic media have been organized to raise mass awareness on benefits of legal migration and negative impact of human trafficking.
- To activate the district, upazila and union level Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) for preventing human trafficking at the local levels, the Ministry has issued letters to the Deputy Commissioners to take preventive measures.
- Seminars, workshops and rallies are organized at local and national levels in observance of International Migrants Day. Process of safe migration; migration cost and benefit; living and working conditions at the destination countries are also discussed to raise mass awareness.
- Honourable Minister, Secretary and senior officials are attending motivational meetings in order to raise public awareness at the national and local level.
- Recently, the Joint Secretary (Monitoring and Enforcement) of Expatriates' Ministry has delivered lectures on illegal migration and human trafficking highlighting The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 during District Committee Meetings at the office of District Magistrate of Sylhet and Cox's Bazar.

2.9 Ministry of Women and Children Affairs

Ministry of Women and Children Affairs (MoWCA) is implementing several programmes and projects through Department of Women Affairs and *Jatiyo Mahila Sangstha* under revenue and development budget in line with the mandate of MoWCA. Department of Women Affairs (DWA) and *Jatiyo Mahila Sangstha (JMS)* plays an important role in empowering women at grassroots level, protecting their rights, preventing all forms of violence against women and providing social safety to the disadvantaged women.

Activities to combat trafficking in women and children

- 18,550 women voluntary organizations are registered under the Department of Women Affairs. At field level, District and Upazila Officers of DWA take initiatives in raising the level of awareness of the members of these registered organizations regarding trafficking in women and children through organizing training programmes, community and courtyard meetings.
- Field level officers of MoWCA motivate the members of different committees, beneficiaries of different safety net programmes, elected local government representative and local women on trafficking. Through 15,847 community and courtyard meetings, 803,516 people were oriented to combat trafficking in women and children from January - December 2016.

- Awareness and sensitization programmes on trafficking in women and children have been introduced for the trainees of women training center at 64 districts, 136 upazilas and 8 residential training centers of DWA.
- Department of Women Affairs is implementing *Empowering Adolescent girls and boys through formation of adolescent clubs* programme for bringing positive changes in the communities. This programme covers 7 districts namely Gopalganj, Sirajganj, Moulvibazar, Thakurgoan, Jhalokathi, Rangamati, Chuadanga of 7 divisions of the country. A total number of 379 adolescent clubs were formed in each union of all upazilas of those districts. The club members are made aware as well as community for combating trafficking in women and children including violence against women.
- Department of Women Affairs is implementing *Generation Breakthrough* project in Patuakhali and Bargunadistricts for empowerment of adolescents through 150 clubs.
- An *Alliance to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children (ACTWC)* has been formed under the leadership of Department of Women Affairs consisting of government, NGOs and INGOs in order to ensure safe migration and combat trafficking in Bangladesh. The Alliance will address and cover social aspects of trafficking such as information dissemination, awareness raising, training, and rehabilitation and provide referral services for victims of trafficking.
- Since 2009, *Cafe Joyeeta*, a private-public partnership programme is being implemented by IOM and DWA. *Cafe Joyeeta* is an approach in collaboration with IOM to set up a franchise of food outlets where beneficiaries will be able to have ownership of the business and generate economic support to rehabilitate the survivors of trafficking.

2.10 Ministry of Shipping

The Department of Shipping is a government regulatory agency under the Ministry of Shipping. This Department performs its functions according to the Bangladesh Merchant Shipping Ordinance (MSO) 1983, Inland Shipping Ordinance (ISO) 1976, Flag Vessels (Protection) Ordinance 1982 and international maritime conventions. The following offices under the administration control of Department of Shipping are:

- Mercantile Marine Office
- Government Shipping Officer
- Directorate of Seamen Immigration and Welfare
- Office of the Engineer and Ship Surveyor, Dhaka, Khulna, Barisal, Narayanganj.
- Inspectorate of Inland Ships, Dhaka Head Office, Sadarghat, Khulna, Barisal, Narayanganj, Chandpur, Patuakhali, Chittagong.

The registration activities of all sea-going Bangladesh ships are conducted by the Mercantile Marine Office, Chittagong and Khulna according to the Chapter 3 of Merchant Shipping Ordinance, 1983. In this reference the following activities and initiatives were taken by the Mercantile Marine Office (MMO) against human trafficking by the fishing vessels and boats during the January - December 2016:

- As a registrar of fishing vessels, 212 fishing boats were registered by Mercantile Marine Office during 2016. Out of which, 105 fishing boats were registered under joint campaign with Marine Fisheries Office, Chittagong. However, the total number of fishing boats registered with the MMO till 19 January 2017 was 9,835 and out of which certificate of inspection was issued to 2500 during the period mentioned above.

- Prior registration, the MMO conducted physical inspection of all fishing vessels and boats to ensure that the name and identification number are engraved on the conspicuous place of the hull of the boat so that the boat could be identified and owner could be traced. The survey activities are conducted by the Office to ensure that proper lights and shapes are available on the vessels. All these functions are contributing to stop illegal movement of vessels at sea and territorial waters of Bangladesh and subsequently preventing human trafficking by using fishing vessels and boats.
- The Mercantile Marine Office also issues Certificate of Inspection to all fishing vessels and boats. The required numbers of boatmen or fishermen to be employed are mentioned on the Certificate. As such carrying persons more than boatmen and fishermen as mentioned in the certificate is being restricted and deemed to be illegal.
- The Office maintains the record of boats and vessels including details of the owners. Moreover, necessary information is provided to the law enforcing authorities as and when requested.
- For bringing all the fishing boats under registration with MMO, joint campaign drive has been taken during favourable season of the year in different regions of the country by Mercantile Marine Office, Marine Fisheries Department and Bangladesh Coast Guard to identify all unregistered boats and bring them under registration law. This activity also generates revenue income of the government.
- Joint campaign drives are carried out on regular basis for inspection and licensing of unregistered boats in the remote coastal areas including Cox's Bazar, Patuakhali, Barisal and Borguna districts.
- The MMO also issued request letter No. 5100-5106 dated 6 October 2016 to the 14 Deputy Commissioners of coastal areas to conduct mobile court to stop unauthorized fishing by unregistered and unlicensed fishing boats. Copy of the same letter were sent to Bangladesh Navy and Coast Guard to help the local administration in this respect which will assist in combating the illegal fishing as well as human trafficking.

2.11 Ministry of Fisheries and Livestock

Trafficking can occur within a country or may involve movement across borders. As fishing boats and trawlers have access to the sea boundary of Bangladesh and Department of Fisheries (DoF) is the authority for those fishing vessels it is a concern for DoF to prevent human trafficking through fishing vessels. Accordingly DoF has taken some measures as follows:

- According to amendment of 'Marine Fisheries Ordinance 1983' in 1995, in rule 17, it is mentioned that "Every person engaged in any type of fishing activities in the Bangladesh fisheries waters shall obtain Identity Card (not transferrable) from the concerned Marine Fisheries Office." Rendering the rule, Marine Fisheries Office initiated to issue Identity (ID) card to the fishermen of industrial fishing vessels. Marine Fisheries Office issued a notice dated on 1 January 2006 to all concerned fishermen involved in marine fishing industries to apply for ID card to their office. Marine Fisheries Office took some vibrant awareness activities to motivate fishermen to take ID card that it is important to protect human trafficking and in many other aspects.

- Till December 2016, Marine Fisheries Office has issued about 3,553 ID cards to people involved in industrial fishing in the Bay of Bengal including 2,788 to the fishermen and 565 to the crew officials. Checking permanent address, photo ID and National ID Card are prerequisites for issuing ID card. Furthermore, crews are obliged to be identified by the skipper or authority of the fishing vessel to draw an ID card. This is more likely to be very effective measure to prevent human trafficking by industrial fishing vessel at sea.
- A government project run by DoF “Fisherman Registration and Distribution of ID Card” has taken a core responsibility of issuing ID card to fishermen in almost all around the country. The Project has identified coastal regions and registered 6,18,616 fishermen in that area. A number of 5,62,879 ID cards have been distributed among those registered fishermen. The process of providing ID card is still ongoing by this project. We hope it is helpful to prevent human trafficking by mechanized fishing boats at sea as well.
- An enormous number of mechanized fishing boats are still out of registration as two departments are involved in registration and licensing process. Artisanal fishermen are almost coastal dwellers. In most cases, they lose their patience to register and renew their mechanized boats due to money and distance involved.
- Moreover, according to the instruction of MOFL, Marine Fisheries Office has been organizing a coordination meeting in association with Bangladesh Navy, Bangladesh Coast Guard, Bangladesh Police, Border Guard of Bangladesh, RAB and Mercantile Marine Department in every four months interval aiming to prevent illegal invasions of foreign fishing vessels in Bangladesh maritime jurisdiction and human trafficking by using any fishing vessels and boats at sea.

2.12 Ministry of Education

To create awareness among students about human trafficking in general, and child and women trafficking in particular National Curricula and Text books Board has included chapters in the following books from class VI to class X:

Name of textbook	Class	Chapter	Page no.	Content
Bangladesh and Global Studies		11 th	89-90	Child trafficking: Causes and Prevention
Bangladesh and Global Studies	IX-X	15 th	212-214	Women and child trafficking, Laws related to women and child trafficking in Bangladesh
Home Economics	VI	7 th	53	Women and child trafficking
	VII	7 th	56	Child trafficking

2.13 Ministry of Primary and Mass Education

The proposed and implemented activities by the Directorate of Primary Education of Bangladesh against human trafficking are:

Proposed Plan & Activities	Status of implementation	Beneficiary/ Target Group
Raising awareness against Human Trafficking during monthly co-ordination meeting, Sub Cluster training and other formal and informal training and meetings.	Implemented	SMC, PTA, Head Teachers, UEO, AUEO, DPEO, PTI Superintendent
Providing cell phone contact numbers of respective DC, SP, UNO and OC to student and teachers in Government Primary Schools so that they can call them in case of emergency. It is mandatory for every school.	Under implementation	Teachers, students, general people
In order to grow consciousness through future generation, the issue of Human Trafficking is expected to be a significant and notable part of our national curriculum. However, students get little idea about it from their present Bangladesh and Global Studies book.	Partly implemented	Teachers, students and parents
Awareness building by different programmes held in primary schools such as Child day, Mina day, book distribution ceremony, mothers gathering day and parent's day.	Implemented and continuing	Students, parents and community people
Make acquaintance with the issue of Human Trafficking, and raising this issue while celebrating national days like 16 December, 21 February and 26 March.	Implemented	Students, teachers and public
Awareness building by young leaders like Student Council where students will discuss the issue in every council meeting.	Implemented and continuing	Students
Teachers will work with the local religious community so that they will discuss the issue of Human Trafficking especially about children and women abuse and exploitation.	Partly implemented	Local community
Growing awareness by home visit programme.	Implemented and continuing	Parents and students
Raising awareness by arranging rallies, human chain or street show by students and teachers.	Partly implemented	Students, teachers and public
Provide information of push and pull factors of Human Trafficking during school assembly.	Implemented and continuing	Students and Local community

2.14 Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology

Three Short Message Services (SMS) were sent to 6,61,48,373 mobile subscribers through three mobile phone operators from 6 - 9 December 2016 for awareness building. However, the awareness building activities will be conducted on a regular basis.

These messages are:

- Legal migration ensures safe future for the migrants and their families.
- Support to identify the human traffickers.
- Be aware of human traffickers who stay and move around us.

2.15 Ministry of Social Welfare and Department of Social Services

Programmes initiated and implemented by the MSW and DSS relating to motivation and awareness raising for prevention of trafficking of women and children during January - December 2016 are:

Programmes & working areas Description of working area	Target group	Target activities of January – December 2016		Implemented activities during 2016	
		No. of programmes	Population in working area	No. of programmes	No. of people being motivated & made aware
Group discussion and courtyard meeting					
Discussion with the people under poverty line who received micro-credit and also the members' centre at the district and upazila levels.	People under poverty line who received micro-credit and members of mother's centre.	6,001	43,126	4,636	39,453
Motivation and awareness raising					
Motivation and awareness raising among people under poverty line on prevention of trafficking in women and children at district and upazila levels. Implemented with the voluntary organizations and NGOs.	People under poverty line who received micro-credit, members of mother's centre and other community people.	8,545	39,707	6,459	35,553
Discussion sessions, lectures, conferences, rallies and postering					
Awareness raising through discussion sessions, lectures, conferences, rallies and postering. Implemented at district and upazila levels.	People under poverty line and other community people.	4,041	24,459	3,188	22,607

3. Activities of Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs)

3.1 Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) at district, upazila and union levels Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Barisal division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Barguna	CTC has been formed at district, upazila and unions levels and meetings are being held regularly.	Awareness raising through cable television network. Giving appropriate direction to law enforcement agencies to prevent human trafficking. Proper co-ordination among law enforcement agencies. Community mobilization programmes involving Imams against trafficking are regularly organized. CTC will also be working with the Union Digital Center in rural areas to create safe migration information hub, targeting the rural population. Poverty, social exclusion, gender-based discrimination, widespread illiteracy, lack of awareness are the key factors contributing to human trafficking in Bangladesh. Educational institutes are properly instructed to raise awareness among students about human trafficking prevention. Proper implementation of social safety net programmes of the government will help reducing poverty rates.
Barisal	District level CTC has been formed with 21 members and meetings are held regularly. However, upazila and union level committees are yet to be formed.	People are being inspired against human trafficking through different awareness building publicity and exhibitions by Divisional Information Office, Barisal by one of the CTC members. In addition, other members of CTC like District Office of Women Affairs and Department of Social Welfare includes relevant speech in their regular awareness building meetings to create awareness about human trafficking among the mass people. Different NGOs are also working in this regard. No budget has been allotted yet regarding this issue.
Bhola	District level CTC has been formed with 26 members. Upazila and union level committees are yet to be formed.	There was one case filed of human trafficking and 16 victims were rescued. Executions of decisions taken in the meetings are monitored. People are becoming more aware about human trafficking through different awareness building publicity and exhibition by concerned government offices who are the members of CTC. Different NGOs, literary and cultural organizations are also working in this regard.

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Jhalakathi	CTC has been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	School and college teachers are instructed to raise awareness among students about human trafficking prevention. Reducing poverty rate through proper implementation of social safety net programmes of the government. Taking necessary measures to create alternative employment opportunities for eligible persons.
Patuakhali	District CTC has been formed and meetings are held regularly but upazila and union level committee are yet to be formed.	District administration is inspiring the mass people against human trafficking through different awareness building publicity programmes with respective stakeholders. Some NGOs of Patuakhali are working to combat human trafficking by organizing courtyard meetings, processions and awareness campaigns and distributing posters among community people. No budget regarding this issue has been allotted yet.
Pirojpur	CTC has been formed at district, upazila and unions levels and meetings are being held regularly.	Awareness building through advertisement in cable television network. Reducing poverty rate though proper implementation of social safety net programmes of the government. Taking necessary measures to create alternative employment opportunities for the younger people. Teachers of schools and colleges were properly instructed to raise awareness among students about human trafficking prevention.

Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Chittagong division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Bandarban Hill District	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	Advertising against human trafficking on cable television network. Telecasting the short film “Bonpora Horini” on television and displaying by the multimedia projector in every unions and rural areas.
Brahmanbaria	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 9 human trafficking cases were filed of which 5 Final Reports and 3 Charge Sheets were submitted, one case was convicted and 3 victims were rescued. Several awareness building meetings have been organized in upazila and district levels. Upazila Women Development Forum has been allocated fund from Upazila Parishad and government. A separate budget can be allocated to District Magistrate for Strengthening activities of Counter Trafficking Committees.

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Chandpur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 12 human trafficking cases were filed of which 2 cases are in advancement of case disposal. Yearly budget has not been allocated yet in Chandpur and one motivational meeting is being held each month.
Chittagong	CTCs were formed in Chittagong district, 14 at upazila level and 198 at union level.	<p>About 17 human trafficking cases were filed and all cases are under trial.</p> <p>To increase the effectiveness of the CTCs, district and upazila administration arranged a number of orientation meetings for the committee members about their concerned duties and responsibilities. In this regard, NGOs like Young People in Social Action (YPSA), ILMA, LIRO, Ghashful, Prothashy, BITA and District Employment and Manpower Office (DEMO) jointly supported the programmes.</p> <p>District and upazila administration have undertaken a number of awareness building programmes for the people of rural areas of the district which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District administration organized monthly meetings to keep record of the progress of CTCs. • Telecasting the short film “Bonpora Horini” on television and displaying by the multimedia projector at rural areas • Advertising against human trafficking on cable television network • Distribution of leaflets, booklets, posters etc. • Organizing various events including human chain for awareness building on 18 December to celebrate the International Migrants Day. • Conducting motivational meetings and seminars at school and colleges to raise awareness among the students. • Displaying banners at every union Digital Centres. • Imams of all the mosques are requested to build awareness among the people against human trafficking Announcement in every mosque during Jumah prayer by the respective Imams. • Socialites are motivating the mass people about adverse effects of human trafficking.
Comilla	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	No case has been filed in 2016. A step has taken to create awareness to combat human trafficking among people at Dhaukandi upazila, Comilla.

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Cox's Bazar	<p>District level CTC was formed along with 8 CTCs at upazila level and 71 CTCs at union level.</p> <p>The meetings of CTCs are held regularly every month both in district and upazila levels, but irregularities are found at union level.</p>	<p>About 238 human trafficking cases were filed of which 229 cases are under trial and 9 cases are under investigation.</p> <p>To increase the effectiveness of the CTCs, district and upazila administration arranged a number of orientation meetings for the committee members about their concerned duties and responsibilities. NGOs named Young People In Social Action (YPSA) and District Employment and Manpower Office (DEMO) jointly helped in this regard.</p> <p>District and Upazila administration have undertaken a number awareness building programmes for the people of rural areas of the district which are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public announcements through by microphones • Advertising against human trafficking on cable television network • Telecasting the short film “Bonpora Horini” on television and displaying by the multimedia projector at rural areas • Arranging different events including human chain for awareness building on 18 December, the International Migrants Day • Distribution of leaflets, booklets, posters etc. • Displaying banners at every union Digital Centres • Conducting motivational meetings/ seminar at school and colleges to raise awareness among the students • Announcement in every mosque during Jumah prayer by the respective Imams.
Feni	<p>CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.</p>	<p>A case was filed in Chagalnya police station. However, upon investigation, and in the Final Report, the case was found to be false and thus dismissed.</p> <p>Mobile court is being conducted under the Overseas Employment Migrant Act 2013 to control human trafficking. A total of 2 mobile courts have been conducted in 2016. However, fund is necessary for regular meeting expenditures, arranging motivational meetings, and for quick recovery of victims. Without funding human trafficking activities through CTC will be greatly hampered.</p> <p>Human trafficking prevention response requires trained personnel with latest technology, equipments and trainings. Thus additional manpower equipped with technology and training should be provided.</p>

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Khagrachari Hill District	48 CTCs were formed which included one district level, 9 in upazila level and 38 in union level.	<p>Capacity building training and meetings: The district administration, Khagrachai has arranged a number of meetings on human trafficking where ways and means of combating trafficking have been widely discussed. Moreover, the participants are advised to take preventive measures by raising awareness and taking effective legal action against traffickers, touts and agents involved in human trafficking.</p> <p>Mobile court operation:In order to punish by taking cognizance of illegal migration related offences narrated in Sections 32 and 35 of the Overseas Employment and Migration Act 2013, these sections are included in the schedule of Mobile Court Act 2009. If anything occurs here, the culprits must be punished under this provision. The administration is vigilant enough against these culprits and BGB and other concerned organizations have been kept alert so that culprits cannot go beyond the law.</p> <p>Celebration of World Day against Trafficking in Persons: The World Day was observed on 30th July 2016 in order to raise awareness of the situation of victims of human trafficking and the promotion and protection of their rights.</p> <p>Joint Border Conference (DC-DM Meetings): The issue has been discussed in the last two DC-DM conferences held in Agartala in 2015 and Chittagong in 2016 respectively.</p> <p>Public awareness:Documentary film show, motivational song, press conference, dissemination by various electronic and print media, awareness through facebook page “District Administration Khagrachari.”</p>
Lakshmipur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	There are no cases of human trafficking However, all concerned agencies are requested to watch any attempt related to human trafficking.
Noakhali	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 6 human trafficking cases were filed of which 2 cases are set for framing of charges, 3 cases for examining the witnesses and one case for argument hearing. For the better activities of CTCs, sufficient fund is necessary for regular meeting expenditure and also for quick recovery of victims. Incidents of human trafficking are becoming very frequent and additional manpower with latest equipments and trainings is needed for proper and prompt response.
Rangamati	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	All concerned are advised to inform any incident or information to the district and upazila administration, police, BGB regarding human trafficking. Instructions are given to all UNO, police department, all zone commanders of BGB on prevention of human trafficking

Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Dhaka division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Dhaka	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 42 human trafficking cases were filed and 30 victims were rescued. Various public awareness activities related to human trafficking prevention are going on.
Faridpur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 5 human trafficking cases were filed and under trial. Monthly meeting and motivational meetings have been held.
Gazipur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 4 human trafficking cases were filed of which one case has been settled and other 3 cases are in progress. About 2 victims were rescued. Motivational meetings have been held.
Gopalganj	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	No cases being filed and there were no activities.
Kishorganj	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 2 human trafficking cases were filed of which one case have been disposed and another one is pending. About 156 motivational meetings were held.
Madaripur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 5 human trafficking cases were filed of which one case is under trial, 2 cases are in investigation stage and other 2 cases are in FRT. About 5 victims were rescued. Motivational meetings have been held regularly.
Manikganj	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	One human trafficking case was filed and in progress and a victim was rescued. Co-Ordination Meetings organized with the participation of all relevant officers, UP Chairman and NGO representatives at district and upazila levels. Village Police may be formed and documentary film shows on human trafficking may have been effective for remote areas.
Munshiganj	No CTCs have been formed.	About 5 human trafficking cases were filed and are in progress while 5 victims were rescued.
Narayanganj	Disrtict level CTCs has been formed, 2 upazila level CTCs were formed in Sonargaon and Rupganj upazilas. Meetings are held regularly.	About 7 human trafficking cases were filed of which one case is under investigation with CID, Dhaka, one CS and one FRI. About 6 victims were rescued. An NGO named OCUP works for raising mass consciousness for human trafficking prevention.

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Narsingdi	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 20 human trafficking cases were filed of which 14 cases are in progress and 20 victims were rescued.</p> <p>Launched fingerprint programme for overseas job seekers at District Employment and Manpower Office, Narsingdi on 6 December 2016 to prevent human trafficking.</p> <p>Organized programme on safe migration and human trafficking at district level in presence of Honourable Deputy Commissioner, Police Super, Mayor, Upazila Chairman, UP Chairman, media personnel on 8 October 2015.</p> <p>Observed International Migrants Day 2016 to create mass awareness.</p> <p>Organized programmes on safe migration and human trafficking at upazila level.</p> <p>Published posters, hand bills, leaflets, gum stickers and distributed these IEC materials among the overseas job seekers to aware them about safe migration and human trafficking.</p> <p>Attended various safe migration programmes of NGO'S in different places in Narsingdi.</p> <p>Orientation training for overseas job seekers regarding safe migration is going on at Narsingdi Technical Training Centre as well as District Employment and Manpower Office, Narsingdi.</p>
Rajbari	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 26 human trafficking cases were filed and are in progress and 22 victims were rescued.</p> <p>Motivational meetings have been held regularly.</p>
Shariatpur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	Motivational meetings have been held at village and union levels and in educational institutions.
Tangail	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 20 human trafficking cases were filed of which 12 cases have been disposed, and 4 cases were prosecuted, 2 Final Reports were submitted and 2 cases are pending with RAB. About 20 victims were rescued.</p> <p>Co-ordination meeting are arranged and held with the participation of UP Chairman and NGO representatives.</p>

Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Khulna division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Bagerhat	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 2 human trafficking cases were filed.</p> <p>Principals of various educational institutions, members of managing committees of those education institutions and preachers of mosques, temples, and churches have been requested to build awareness among the service seekers by adopting necessary steps. The district committee requested its members and NGOs to make people aware at grassroots level about the consequences of human trafficking by circulating leaflets, posters and announcing through mikes or other electronic devices.</p> <p>Committees under woman lawyers forum is being involved to stop woman and child trafficking and these committees will make their service recipients aware about the harmful effects of human trafficking.</p> <p>Different initiatives are being taken to build public awareness to stop human trafficking</p>
Chuadanga	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 21 human trafficking cases were filed which are in progress and 3 victims were rescued.</p> <p>Every member of CTCs was requested to make the Committee more effective and to conduct meetings regularly. However, there is no budget allocation in this regard but there should be a budget for the victims for rehabilitation and motivation.</p>
Jessore	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 173 human trafficking cases were filed of which 132 cases are in progress.</p> <p>To reinvigorate and make the CTCs more active, district administration and upazila administration are working along with all concerned government departments, public representatives and NGOs.</p> <p>Events like discussion meetings, seminars, workshops, rallies, home visits, counseling, roundtable meetings, street dramas, postering, distribution of leaflets, giving loans to poor people who are willing to go abroad, legal aid to victims especially women and children and many other activities are being conducted regularly by different government agencies and NGOs.</p> <p>District administration maintains co-ordination with BGB and is always concerned about border issues and trafficking in border areas are strictly observed.</p>

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Jhenaidah	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 69 victims were rescued and information of another 31 victims are in the pipeline to be identified. In 2016, about 28,724 people were made aware through 313 meetings. But no budget is allotted to run these awareness programmes. To inform the consequences of human trafficking, instructions have been given to the elected politicians, Imams, teachers through district CTC meetings. Close supervision are being conducted to prevent human trafficking in Jhenaidah.
Khulna	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 209 human trafficking cases were filed of which 37 cases are in progress. About 14 victims were rescued. To reinvigorate and make the CTCs more active, district administration and upazila administration are working along with all concerned government departments, public representatives and NGOs. Events like discussion meetings, seminars, workshops, rallies, home visits, counseling, roundtable meetings, street dramas, posterings, distribution of leaflets, distributing loans to the poor people willing to go abroad, legal aid to victims especially women and children and other awareness activities are being conducted regularly by different government departments and NGOs.
Kustia	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	To protect human trafficking, the concerned committee has identified the risk area and zone and accordingly appropriate measures are taken by 47 BGB and all concerned UNOs. In border area adjacent Daulatpur upazila and other upazilas under Kushtia district <i>Watch Dog Committees</i> have been formed for preventing child trafficking. In addition to prevent child trafficking, instructions have been given to all security concerned agencies. Informative and awareness building and messages regarding child trafficking is published at 'DC Office Kushtia' facebook from time to time.
Magura	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About one human trafficking case was filed and is in progress and one victim was rescued. To reinvigorate and make the CTCs more active, district administration and upazila administration are working along with all concerned government departments, public representatives and NGOs. Events like discussion meetings, seminars, workshops, rallies, counseling, roundtable meetings, street dramas, posterings, distribution of leaflets, giving loans to poor people willing to go abroad, legal aid to victims especially children and women and many other awareness activities are being conducted regularly by different government agencies and NGOs.

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Meherpur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 12 human trafficking cases were filed of which are in progress. About 5 victims were rescued. To reinvigorate and make the CTCs more active, district administration and upazila administration are working along with all concerned government departments, public representatives and NGOs.</p> <p>Event like discussion meetings, seminars, workshops, rallies, home visits, counseling, roundtable meetings, street dramas, posterings, distribution of leaflets, giving loans to poor people who are willing to go abroad, legal aid to victims especially children and women and many other awareness activities are being conducted regularly by different government agencies and NGOs.</p>
Narail	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 3 human trafficking cases were filed of which one case is in progress. About 11 victims were rescued.</p> <p>To protect women, children from traffic-prone areas, some traffickers have been identified with help of committee members. Although suspected persons are now in hiding, law enforcers are trying to bring them under the legal framework.</p> <p>Union CTC is comparatively less active. To make it effective, instructions have been given to Union Parishad Chairman and UP Secretary.</p> <p>In order to create awareness among people, short film have been displayed in crowded places and consequences of trafficking have been discussed. Leaflets and handbills have been distributed among of people of the vulnerable areas.</p>
Satkhira	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 18 human trafficking cases were filed of which 8 cases were settled and 14 victims were rescued.</p> <p>CTC is implementing the following awareness activities like campaigns, exhibitions, showing documentary films about the dangers of human trafficking.</p> <p>Advocacy team of 55 men and women attended 2 half-yearly progress review meetings. Another 11 men and women in community radio talk shows on prevention of human trafficking.</p> <p>For quick disposal of cases in order to ensure exemplary punishment to those involved in trafficking, Special PP, Satkhira have been given the necessary directions.</p>

Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Mymensingh division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Mymensingh	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>It is to be ensured that without registration of the District Employment and Human Resource Office of Mymensingh, no one can go abroad to work or for any other purposes. Organizing campaigns to build awareness among the community people regarding this issue is to be launched by the respective bordering areas.</p> <p>Upazila Nirbari Officers (UNOs) especially Haluaghat and Dhobaura upazilas are instructed to create awareness among the community people and to be vigilant as these are the transit areas of human trafficking. BGB and UNOs of respective areas were instructed to address the issue and take effective and immediate measures.</p> <p>Respective CTC members were requested to collect para, mahallah and ward wise information on human trafficking.</p> <p>Police Super of Mymensingh, District Woman Affairs Officer, Captain - 27 BGB, UNOs (Haluaghat & Dhobaura) and Deputy Director (Social Service Department) have been already instructed to support women and child victims of trafficking. Trafficking cases and litigation were undertaken at full fledged, simplified procedure and process regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disposal of such cases without any hassle • Proper rehabilitation of such victims under such cases. • Appropriate dealings with the cases where there are juvenile victims • Taking necessary steps to stop women and children trafficking using Haluaghat and Dhobaura borders.
Netrokona	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 5 human trafficking cases were filed of which 3 cases are in investigation. There are no budget allocations for initiatives to make CTC effective. Motivational meetings are arranged regularly.</p>

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Sherpur	CTCs were not formed.	As Sherpur is a bordering district where human trafficking may occur any time anywhere. So, it is not a matter of overlooking and putting less importance to the problem. From this realization some measures have already been taken to prevent human trafficking. At district and upazila levels to create awareness among the masses publicity and various programmes about human trafficking have already been initiated and continuing. All the concerned departments and agencies have been instructed to be vigilant in this regard and to take effective measures to prevent such type of incidents. Awareness raising programmes about trafficking, traffickers and their agents who are sending labourers abroad are being continued.

Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Rajshahi division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Bogra	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 3 human trafficking cases were filed of which 2 cases' charge sheet has been submitted and one case is in investigation. About 3 victims were rescued. Motivational and awareness building meetings were organized regularly.
Chapai Nawabganj	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	One human trafficking case was filed and the case is pending. About 2 victims were rescued. Public awareness programme is broadcasted on Radio Mahananda.
Joypurhat	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	Motivational and awareness building meetings were organized regularly. Public awareness programmes are shown in local channels. Posters and leaflets of anti human trafficking have been distributed widely.

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Naogaon	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 39 human trafficking cases were filed but all cases are still pending. Motivational and Awareness building meetings were organized regularly.
Natore	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 8 human trafficking cases were filed of which all cases are pending. About 14 victims were rescued. Motivational and awareness building meetings were organized regularly. Zero tolerance steps are taken against human trafficking. Risky and vulnerable places are being identified. By and large operation has been conducted here and there on the basis of relevant information to arrest the accused persons.
Pabna	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 7 human trafficking cases were filed of which all cases are pending and 6 victims were rescued. Motivational and awareness building meetings were organized regularly.
Rajshahi	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 10 human trafficking cases were filed of which all cases are pending and 2 victims were rescued. Motivational and awareness building meetings were organized regularly and intensive monitoring has been ensured.
Sirajganj	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 35 human trafficking cases were filed of which Charge Sheet of 30 cases Final Reports of 4 cases have been submitted and one case is in investigation stage. About 31 victims were rescued. Motivational and awareness building meetings were organized regularly. Public awareness meetings were arranged regarding human trafficking at district, upazila and union levels. But budgets are to be allocated for such public motivation and awareness programmes.

Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Rangpur division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Gaibandha	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>Various initiatives have been taken at the district and upazila levels in the light of the National Plan of Action (2015-2017) regarding human trafficking. Publicity in the local level has been ensured by concerned government agencies and NGO. Unemployed youths and women are provided vocational training to ensure proper education and employment. In addition, to get proper employment they are advised to contact with concerned organizations.</p> <p>Initiatives have been taken to solve the regional human trafficking by indentifying area specific root causes. Social Safety Net Programmes have been taken to rehabilitate the poor and the vulnerable so that no one can fall prey to human trafficking.</p> <p>The returned survivors of human trafficking are given economic assistance and rehabilitation initiatives are continuing by government and NGOs. Community police and village police are being deployed to curb human trafficking. If anyone is found absent without proper reason, they have to contact the proper authority and legal actions are being taken regarding the issue by the police.</p>
Panchagarh	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>About 3 human trafficking cases were filed and 2 victims were rescued.</p> <p>Regular meetings are being held for maintaining liaison with concern departments emphasizing awareness building.</p>
Rangpur	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	<p>To aware the people against human trafficking, booklets, leaflets and brochures are distributed among the mass people with the help of UNO, Upazila and Union Parishad Chairmen.</p> <p>Besides NGO who works on safe migration is also involved to aware the people through workshops, seminars and meetings in collaboration with government organizations.</p> <p>Moreover, an advertisement regarding for awareness of the people against human trafficking is broadcasted in electronic and print media. Some video clips, those related to human trafficking are shown at important places with the help of District Information Office.</p>
Thakurgaon	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	Regular meetings are being held for maintaining liaison with concern departments and emphasizing on aware building among the community people.

Status and activities of the Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) of the districts in Sylhet division

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
Habiganj	No CTCs were formed.	Awareness raising among mass people for combating human trafficking at grassroots levels like union and villages are ongoing as well as proper monitoring. Border areas are under close supervision and monitoring by the BGB 55 battalion, Sreemangal. Road side dramas and short films on human trafficking are shown to raise awareness against human trafficking. Leaflets and posters are distributed almost in every prime area of the city, growth centre and village provided by the Ministry of Information.
Moulvibazar	CTCs have been formed at all levels and meetings are held regularly.	About 7 human trafficking cases are under trial and one case in investigation stage. About 6 victims were rescued. For CTC meetings and awareness raising programmes, sufficient budget should be allocated to strengthen the capacity of CTCs.
Sunamganj	No CTCs were formed.	<p>Instructions from 28 BGB, Sunamganj:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Necessary instructions have already been passed to our bordering BoP to remain extra vigilant to monitor and curb human trafficking cases. • Constant endeavour is going on to find out the human traffickers, trespassers and those who are involved in trans-border crime. Zero tolerance is shown to involved persons and drastic action is taken as per the law of the land. • Routine patrolling is conducted to prevent human trafficking along the border. • Strict monitoring is being carried out and necessary intelligence is also gathered from different sources to identify the possible human trafficking routes. • Awareness programme comprising local people, school and college teachers, UP chairmen and member and civil administration are arranged regularly on human trafficking. <p>Activities undertaken by Office of the Police Super, Sunamganj:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various police actions are on going against the persons involved in human trafficking. • Special training on human trafficking are being provided to the police officials working at the district level.

Districts	Status of Counter Trafficking Committees	Number of cases & its status, victims being rescued and initiatives taken to make CTC effective like budget allocation, motivational meeting etc
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various activities are being taken i.e. Community policing meetings, Open House Day at police stations to create awareness on human trafficking. • Common people are being provided information on various prevention strategies against human trafficking through various NGOs working at the grassroots and village levels. • Human trafficking related publicity are being continued in the schools, colleges, mosques and madrasha, on a regular basis. • Legal actions are being taken against the persons involved in human trafficking. • Intelligence vigilance is being carried out on a regular basis to combat human trafficking.

4. Activities of INGOs

4.1 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

Established in 1951, International Organization of Migration (IOM) is the leading inter-governmental organization in the field of migration and works closely with governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental partners. Bangladesh became a member state of the International Organization of Migration (IOM) in 1990. Since then, IOM Bangladesh has continued to work in close collaboration with the lead ministries and government bodies of the country that are engaged in ensuring safe and orderly labour mobility, skills development, migration health services, providing humanitarian assistance to the migrants, countering human trafficking and strengthening border management.

In 2016, IOM has implemented 3 projects on anti-human trafficking namely Ashshash: for men and women who have escaped trafficking; Reducing Irregular Migration by Sea through Awareness Raising in four districts of Bangladesh; and Strengthening the integration of quality and comprehensive health services into government health care system for survivors of human trafficking and abuse in 6 upazilas of Jessore and Satkhira districts in Bangladesh.

Ashshash: for men and women who have escaped trafficking project:

The project Ashshash: for men and women who have escaped trafficking was implemented in Dhaka, Jessore, Chittagong and Cox's Bazar districts of Bangladesh. Objective of the project was to mainstream 60 men and women who have escaped trafficking back into society. The project worked with women and men who have escaped trafficking by providing them with psychosocial counseling, skills training and entrepreneurial engagement in small-scale service oriented businesses. Specifically, the project engaged men and women survivors of trafficking who live in urban and peri-urban slums, with limited earning capacity and low-skills levels. Through the programme the beneficiaries had the potential to improve their skills and become self-employed. While the focus is towards young women (aged 15-30 years), 30% of beneficiaries were young men from vulnerable families who have been rescued in the most recent Andaman sea crisis.

Achievements:

- Provided 360 hours institutional and 2 months on the job training to 57 beneficiaries prior to setting up the ventures.
- Once the capacity of the beneficiaries developed, they received in kind grant to start the ventures. At the end of the project period, 35 businesses were established with 18 men and 22 women. During the project period, 50% of the beneficiaries generated an income of approx. BDT. 4,500 per month.
- IOM provided business development support to the beneficiaries through partner NGOs and experts in the field.
- In order to ensure profitability sustainability and feasibility of the enterprises, IOM commission a Rapid Market Appraisal to identify potential trades in each of the four districts. The beneficiaries were encouraged to select the top rated trades.
- To ensure feasibility of the businesses, the project engaged university students to generate business plans. Two private universities, BRAC and ULAB participated in the competition. The interested students from these universities were also assigned for mentoring and providing technical management support to the project beneficiaries.
- Additionally, the beneficiaries received psychosocial counseling during the project period to build their confidence and help them reintegrate in their family and social lives. Apart from that, needs-based individualized counseling was also provided through in-house counseling services of the partners NGOs. Cases were referred to higher level facilities as necessary. The beneficiaries that were interested in pursuing legal actions against the perpetrators of human trafficking were provided with legal support.
- In order to ensure the participation of the local administration, the project engaged in sessions with the local authorities and beneficiaries. About 27 Local Support Groups were formed to provide support and guidance to the beneficiaries at their localities.
- The project also sought support from corporate offices for CSR through which in kind support were given to the beneficiaries for the sustainability of such initiatives during and beyond project life cycle.



Reducing Irregular Migration by Sea through Awareness Raising in four districts of Bangladesh project

The project was implemented in Cox's Bazar, Narsingdi, Sirajganj and Narayanganj districts of Bangladesh. Objective of the project was to contribute to the reduction of irregular migration by sea routes. The irregular migration of Bangladeshis by sea routes out of the South East of the country, supported by established human smuggling routes has led to horrific outcomes. Significant numbers of migrants are dead or missing while human smugglers continued to operate in Bangladeshi communities with relative impunity, often perceived as a useful service provider for those seeking to escape poverty and hopelessness.



Achievements in 2016:

- 31 union level meetings and one district level meeting were organized. A total of 1,023 (839 men & 174 women) community leaders and religious leaders attended these meetings.
- 102 school orientations have been arranged to inform the students about the dangers of irregular migration by sea. A total of 4,990 students (2,372 boys & 2,618 girls) attended these sessions.
- 140 street dramas were organized at union levels of 4 districts which covered approximately 60,000 people at the community level of which around 17,000 were women.
- A prototype of the game/apps is developed and is being finalized. It is hoped that vulnerable people would love the apps as they would get authentic information about regular migration.



Strengthening the integration of quality and comprehensive health services into government health care system for survivors of human trafficking and abuse in 6 upazilas of Jessore and Satkhira districts in Bangladesh project

The project is a 3 years from January 2015 - December 2017 aimed to contribute to the efforts of the Government of Bangladesh and development partners to enable survivors of human trafficking and abuse to exercise their rights to health in Jessore and Satkhira districts of Bangladesh. Specific objective of the project is to strengthen the integration of quality and comprehensive physical, mental and psychosocial health care services for survivors of human trafficking and abuse (right holders) into the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) (duty bearers) in 6 upazilas of Jessore and Satkhira districts, Bangladesh.

Achievements in 2016:

- Followed up with 69 Community Coordination Teams (CCT) formed with community leaders in local government system, religious leaders, school teachers and other social workers at 69 unions in 6 upazilas of Jessore and Satkhira districts through quarterly meetings. All the members were actively engaged in identifying the survivors of human trafficking and abuse in their community and for supporting them through primary advises and mental assurance and information on the available health services and other social services for proper referral system to service delivery points.
- Strengthened the previously formed referral mechanisms for the trafficking survivors for various referral services such as health services, legal services, social services by using referral cards and record register books supplied by the project.
- A total of 405 survivors were identified and physically reached by the Community Coordination Team (formed under this project) members and outreach workers. Among them, 313 (77%) were identified to have physical and psychosocial needs. About 265 (92%) out of the 288 survivors that had accepted the referral cards, finally received healthcare services from the 6 upazila health complexes.
- The supplies of medicines and necessary medical equipment continued throughout the year to all the 6 health complexes as required.
- Provided secondary and tertiary medical care support for 25 survivors of human trafficking through a referral mechanism and financial support to the survivors.
- Conducted two bi-annual coordination meetings (total 12 meetings - one in each upazila and twice in a year) with UH & FPOs, doctors, nurses, UP chairmen and members, NGO workers, religious leaders, upazila level government officials and leaders of local community at 6 different upazilas for enhanced access to various services required for survivors of trafficking.
- 83 CHCPs from 4 upazilas were provided with training by using the international guideline for health care providers on “Caring for trafficked persons” mainly focused on basic knowledge of human trafficking, health and psychosocial risks and consequences of human trafficking, trauma informed care approach, health rights of survivors and role of health care providers (among them 47 were males and 36 were females).
- 10 batches of refresher trainings were conducted and 100 health service providers namely doctors, nurses, FWVs and SACMOs from 2 upazilas participated in these trainings (among them 51 were females and 49 were males).
- A referral protocol for legal and protection services for the survivors of human trafficking was integrated in the government health care delivery system for piloting.
- 60 survivors from 6 upazilas were trained on different skill building training for their economic rehabilitation. Durations of these trainings were around 15 days . Trainings included poultry, livestock and tailoring.
- 50 selected survivors of human trafficking were provided in-kind grants of 6 upazilas. The most common grants were cows, goats, chicken, clothes, sewing machines and cosmetic items for starting small business.

- 160 women survivors of human trafficking were supported through formation of Social Action Learning Groups with their participation (10 members in each group) for enhancing their self-esteem and social empowerment.
- 23 community based outreach workers conducted about 3,556 awareness sessions on the issues of human trafficking, its social and health consequences, health rights of survivors of human trafficking and available service facilities to the vulnerable populations in the community at 69 unions in 6 upazilas of two districts. They reached a total of 62,817 (both male & female) people by these group awareness sessions.
- 75,000 IEC materials were printed and distributed among members of the community by the outreach workers, CCT members and SALG members.



Picture of Awareness Sessions at Tala Upazila, Satkhira.



Picture of Quarterly Follow-up Meeting with Community Coordination Team at Dhalbaria Up, Kalligonj, Satkhira.



Rupnagar Executive Director Swapan Kumar Guha Distribute In-kind grant Support for Survivor of human Trafficking and Abuse at Ghodikhali Union parishad, Jhargacha.



4.2 United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

UNODC in partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Bangladesh has implemented a Project “Technical Assistance to the Government of Bangladesh in Strengthening the Responses to Human Trafficking” with an aim to assist the Government of Bangladesh in preventing human trafficking through effective and strengthened law enforcement capacities; provide protection and assistance to trafficked victims through establishment of national referral mechanisms and increased cooperation between the criminal justice system and civil society. The project was a joint initiative of UNODC and the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Bangladesh and being implemented in collaboration with the Civil Society Organizations with funding from the US Department of State and executed with the support of Project Steering Committee and Project Implementation Committee (PIC) headed by Ministry of Home Affairs.

Major Activities of 2016

Indo-Bangladesh Border Strengthening workshop

In collaboration with the Border Security Force (BSF), Government of India, UNODC organized a two-day workshop on *“Indo-Bangladesh Border Strengthening Workshop on Countering Human Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants”* in Kolkata, West Bengal on 12-13 April 2016 with the support of the Australian Customs and Border Protection Services. The workshop aimed at bringing together border control officers from the Indo-Bangladesh border to jointly discuss the issues pertinent to address the cross border trafficking in person, necessary tools and skills required to enhance their ability to effectively intercept persons attempting to enter illegally and/or for the purpose of human trafficking and related crimes. The workshop was attended by 12 participants from Bangladesh which included representatives from the Ministry of Home Affairs, Border Guard Bangladesh, Bangladesh Police, Bangladesh Customs, and Department of Immigration and Passport. Participants from India included representatives from BSF, Customs, Immigration, Police and local NGOs. There was also participation from Australian High Commission, and some eminent resource persons.

Comments of participants of the workshop

- Participants expressed that they have attended such a workshop for the first time and acknowledged that there is a need for capacity building training and engagement of the customs and immigration department. Trans-border video conferencing was found very effective means of sharing information, tracing and verifying the victims and perpetrators
- Issue of smuggling of migrants need to be acknowledged, recognized, accepted and addressed by the governments
- Multi-stakeholders involvement is very effective, for rescue, repatriate, rehabilitate and provide other social and legal services for the victims. At the same time, perpetrators should be apprehended and prosecuted.

Recommendations:

- Awareness programmes and campaigns are very effective to aware people of both the countries. The awareness programme should be need based. Particularly, at national level, awareness and advocacy are needed to address the smuggling of migrants
- Capacity building is very important particularly to orient the law enforcing officials on the anti-human trafficking laws, SoPs, counseling, interviewing techniques and skills, handling children, investigation and prosecution, case filing, recording etc.
- Standard Operation Procedures are required specific to certain issues and should be agreed by the two countries
- Prompt and timely information sharing between various agencies and ministries of neighbouring countries are required on regular basis which could help accelerating the process of repatriation.
- It is important to identify the root causes, underlying factors, vulnerability of the people who are victims of human trafficking and smuggling and to know the trafficking prone areas of the country.

- It is also important to identify employing organizations such as beauty parlours, brick fields, and targeting them for prevention programme.
- Online tracking system for tracing missing children can be used for tracking trafficked children as well.
- There should be committees in both countries to collect relevant data from available sources, records, compile and share reports with other stakeholders.
- As there is lack of adequate toilet facilities at the border, separate women-friendly toilets are required for women victims.

Protection shelter home services for adult trafficking victims project

To support victims and avoid survivors from being re-trafficked, the project is supporting NGOs and made partnership for provision of rehabilitation services to adult male trafficking victims through existing shelter homes. The shelter homes of the partner NGOs are: Dhaka Ahsania Mission located at Jessore and TMSS located at Bogra.

The shelter home support services include offering food and safe shelter to victims after repatriation, legal aid support, counseling and medical services. After being recorded, the survivors' eligibility assessment and need assessment is done followed by an individual plan for future course of action. In the shelter home the survivors get counseling, referral medical services, legal aid education and skill training. In the shelter home, the survivors receive counseling by the trained counselors/peer counselors, and if required referred to the professional counselors in case of trauma management.

Legal aid, prosecution and follow up of cases is one of the important aspects of the project where survivors are provided legal aid services. Legal activities refer to the filling of case to Bureau of Manpower, Employment and Training (BMET) and to the Bangladesh Police.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission: The shelter home is located at Vekutia Bazar (Sub-urban of Jessore Town), which is bordering area with India. They provide shelter home services to the trafficked survivors in coordination with the local Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC), local law enforcing officials and local NGOs/CSOs for rescue and repatriation and also for referral of services such as providing legal aid supports. DAM provides life skill training and entrepreneurship training to the survivors for job placement.

TMSS: The shelter home is located at Thengamara, Bogra which provides shelter home services to the trafficked survivors in coordination with the local law enforcing officials, local NGOs. The survivors are contracted, registered, and assessed for appropriate services. TMSS also make contact with law enforcing agencies for lodging cases and provide legal aid supports. TMSS provides life skill training and entrepreneurship training to the survivors for job placement.

Celebration of the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, 30th July 2016

On 18th December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly accepted resolution A/RES/68/192, which recognizes 30th July of each year as World Day Against Trafficking in Persons. Recognizing the importance of the day, a joint programme was organized by Winrock International, UNODC, UNHCR, Plan International Bangladesh, Relief International, Terre Des Homes, Justice and Care, BNWLA, CWCS, Dhaka Ahsania Mission, Rights Jessore, SHISUK, ChangeMaker, BRAC, WARBE, BOMSA, ANIRBAN, OKKAP and other organizations involved in Bangladesh to stop human trafficking.

The day is also recognized as Blue Heart Campaign to demonstrate solidarity with the victims and survivors of trafficking in persons. A meeting was organized at the CIRDAP Conference room on 30th July from 10 am to 1 pm with participants from both government and non-government organizations. The survivors and civil society organizations shared their experiences and raised their demands to the government. There was an interactive dialogue among representatives from NGOs, civil society and media.

Project Implementation Committee Meeting

The Project Implementation Committee Meeting was held on 25 February 2016, with the chair of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Home Affairs. The Chair expressed his keen interest and satisfaction about successful implementation of the project, and adheres the lessons, acknowledges the recommendations of the project evaluation.

Participants of the meeting acknowledged that the training toolkit and the training of law enforcing officials were effective. The training should be integrated with the ongoing training of Bangladesh Police, CID, Police Staff College. It was also expressed that the project did not have enough prevention activities that should be a priority issue in designing such project in the future. Focus should also be provided on awareness raising of potential victims, community and local leaders on human trafficking. Emphasis was given to establish Anti-trafficking Units and strengthening activities of the District and Upazila Counter-Trafficking Committee (CTCs). Following documents were developed under the project:

- *Training manual on AHT (Investigation and Prosecution)*
- *Country assessment on the current status of victim support providers and criminal justice actors on human trafficking in Bangladesh*
- *Standardized Guideline for Shelter Home*
- *Anti-human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) Protocol*
- *Guidelines to set up a National Referral Mechanism.*

4.3 Winrock International

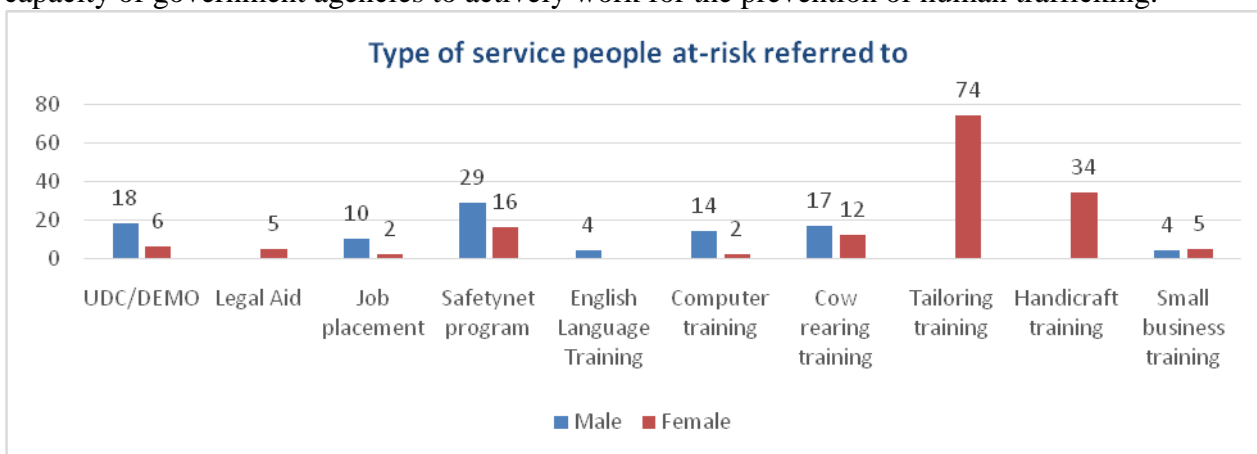
The five-year Bangladesh Counter Trafficking-in-Persons (BC/TIP) Programme, funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and implemented by Winrock International, works in 25 trafficking-prone districts to address the trafficking problem. BC/TIP provides robust interventions in all four of USAID's areas of emphasis: **Prevention, Protection, Prosecution and Partnership**. It connects local and national government representatives, non-governmental organizations, citizens and community leaders to prevent trafficking-in-persons, protect survivors and reverse damage done to them, prosecute the crimes of perpetrators, and engage at all levels of society as change agents in curbing the crime. The BC/TIP Programme works collaboratively to reduce the prevalence of human trafficking in Bangladesh by:

- Strengthening the capacity of communities to identify trafficking victims and take action;
- Improving trafficking victims' access to assistance;
- Increasing the responsiveness of criminal justice actors to victims of trafficking; and
- Facilitating effective and coordinated partnerships among stakeholders to combat trafficking.

Activities in accordance with the NPA Goals

Goal 1: To Prevent Human Trafficking

In 2016, BC/TIP Prevention activities focused on increasing the capacity of targeted communities to identify and prevent TIP and take relevant actions. BC/TIP equipped students, migrants, and local leaders with tools, support, and knowledge to inform and mobilize citizens to identify TIP incidents/ traffickers, promote safe migration, connect survivors to services, and address root causes of TIP. BC/TIP also trained migrants on safe/smart migration, activated counter-trafficking committees and supported their activities, and improved the capacity of government agencies to actively work for the prevention of human trafficking.



Activities implemented by BC/TIP partners, Peer Leaders and ANIRBAN during 2016

Sl.	Type of Activity	No. of Events	Total Participants	Male	Female
Activities by BC/TIP NGO partners					
1.	Community awareness meeting	152	6,455	1,459	4,996
2.	School awareness meeting	94	6,073	2,662	3,411
4.	Video show	10	802	410	392
5.	Puppet show	11	2,532	2,225	307
6.	Bus campaign	1	812	612	200
8.	Street drama/folk song	16	9,240	5,290	3,950
9.	Day of observance (rally, seminar, discussion etc.)	8	2,582	1,767	815
Sub-total		292	28,496	14,425	14,071
Activities by Peer Leaders					
10.	Community awareness meeting	439	9,840	2,846	6,994
11.	School awareness meeting	99	3,552	1,827	1,725
15.	Local traditional competition (duck catching, cricket)	2	1,500	1,150	350
18.	Day observance (rally, seminar, discussion etc.)	4	501	282	219
19.	Street drama/single act	2	205	133	72
Sub-total		546	15,598	6,238	9,360

Sl.	Type of Activity	No. of Events	Total Participants	Male	Female
Activities by ANIRBAN					
20.	Community awareness meeting	24	1,728	498	1,260
21.	School awareness meeting	5	357	124	233
22.	Day of observance (rally, seminar, discussion etc.)	11	2,820	1,945	875
23.	Village Drama	1	97	49	48
Sub-total		41	5,002	2,616	2,416
Total		879	49,096	23,279	25,847

Under this goal, BCTIP conducted the following major activities

Peer leaders programme:

Peer Leaders and ANIRBAN Survivors’ Voice Leaders, trained by Winrock, are the important drivers in the community based interventions.

In 2016, BC/TIP trained 179 Peer Leaders (100 males & 79 females) including 4 ANIRBAN leaders. During the training Peer Leaders participated in group work, practice sessions, and discussions on Prevention activities, with focus on the ones included in the NPA, safe migration process, participatory community awareness, PSHTA and OEMA law, victim identification and referral process. As an outcome of the training and follow up peer leaders identified and referred 1,571 people at-risk (1,004 males & 567 females) to livelihood, training and job support services of both Government and private service sector to reduce the risk of being trafficked or migrate through illegal channels. Through TIP public awareness activities, Peer Leaders reached about 16,000 individuals. Five (5) Peer Leaders received awards from Satkhira DC office for significant contribution in TIP prevention.

About 36 Peer Leaders and 12 ANIRBAN survivors from Khulna, Rajshahi and Rangpur divisions received 5 days’ youth entrepreneurship development training with the basic knowledge, skills, and tools to start and manage individual and group businesses. The training



also promoted entrepreneurial thinking when designing and conducting trafficking prevention activities for future sustainability.

BC/TIP also convened a national convention of 64 young peer leaders and members of the ANIRBAN trafficking survivors group (male -38, female -26) on July 31 to August 1 at BRAC CDM, in Gazipur.

The young leaders who joined the convention from

12 districts examined ways to strengthen their volunteer networks and encourage cooperation in preventing trafficking at the community level.

Issue-Based Public Mobilization Campaigns on Root Causes of TIP

In 2016, public awareness activities organized by BC/TIP partners, Peer Leaders and ANIRBAN, reached more than 49,000 individuals with targeted TIP and Safe Migration awareness messages. BC/TIP developed a set of communication materials, including fact sheet, flyer, booklet, newsletter, folder, notebook, pen, wrist band, T-shirt, caps numbering

30,927 were distributed in local and national campaign events, training, workshops, and among stakeholders. The major day observations conducted by BC/TIP include International Human Rights Day, International Migrants' Day, International Women's Day, National Legal Aid Day, and the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons.



Media campaign through community radio:

In 2016, four community radio stations that BC/TIP partnered with broadcasted radio PSAs and locally developed talk shows on TIP and Safe Migration awareness more than 3,183 times reaching about 2.3 million people. During an assessment, BC/TIP learned from the listeners of Radio Mahananda 99.2 in Chapai Nawabganj district that the BC/TIP supported radio talk show programme “Sopner Thikanay (Dream Destination)” has gain huge popularity in community.

Community radio outreach activities in 2016

Sl.	Name of community radio	Coverage	Type of radio programme	No. of times broadcast	Total listeners
1.	Radio Mahanada 99.2	312 villages, 42 Unions, 5 Upazilas of Chapainawabgonj District	Radio PSA airing	732	900000
			Talk Show	20	
2.	Radio Naf 99.2	40 villages, 5 unions, Teknaf upazila of Cox's Bazar district	Radio PSA airing	1550	130000
			Talk Show	2	
3.	Radio Nalta 99.2	74 unions, 7 upazila of Satkhira district	Radio PSA airing	866	600000
4.	Radio Sagargiri 99.2	64 villages, 13 unions, 3 upazila of Chittagong district	Radio PSA airing	13	600000
Total				3183	2230000

Orientation for Migrant Workers

In 2016, BC/TIP trained 2,271 (1,970 males & 301 females) potential and registered migrants on safe migration and TIP through DEMO, government and private TTCs, partners and Peer Leaders. Through the training participants learned about TIP awareness, safe migration processes, cost-benefit analysis for migration decision, migrant rights in PSHTA and OEMA laws, complaint mechanisms and support services.

Mobilizing Counter-Trafficking Committees (CTCs)

In 2016, BC/TIP and partners have trained 460 (358 males & 102 females) CTC members. During the trainings CTC members engaged in group work and discussions to better understand how TIP happens and how to promote safe migration. The roles and responsibilities of CTCs in accordance to the NPA and TIP law, as referred to victim identification and repatriation were also reviewed. After attending the training, CTC members have shown more awareness and commitment to their roles.

BC/TIP and MoHA co-hosted two divisional conferences in Khulna and Rajshahi on CTCs Roles and Responsibility to reinforce the significance of CTCs at the center of coordinated efforts to prevent human trafficking, support its survivors, and prosecute its perpetrators. About 203 CTC members (male –161, female –42) from Jessore, Shatkira, Norail, Jinaidha, Chuadanga, Rajshahi, Jaypurhat, Naogaon, Chapai Nawabganj and Sirajganj districts attended and identified the challenges they are facing and ways forward to address them.

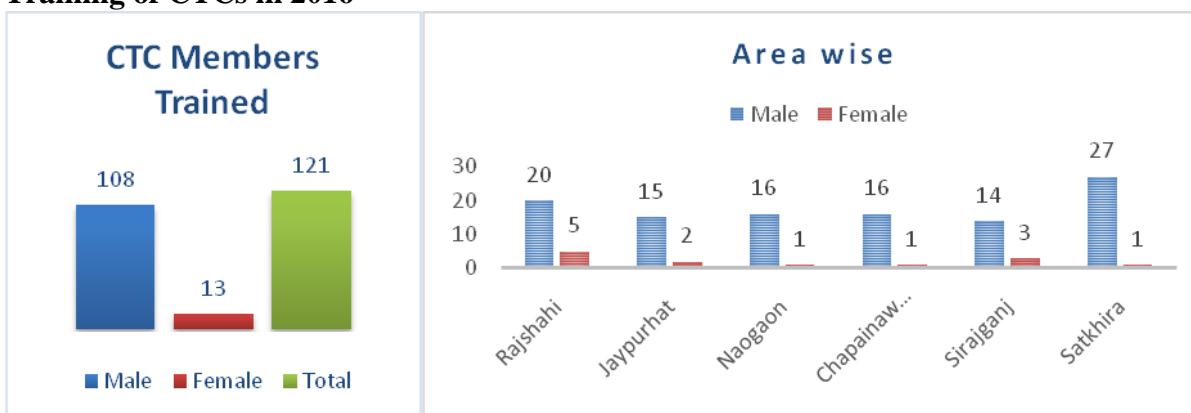
Recommendations of the participants:

- District CTCs need to closely supervise and monitor Upazilla and Union CTC to ensure transparency and accountability;
- CTC members need proper orientation and training on their roles and responsibilities;
- CTCs at all levels need to conduct separate meetings as directed in the NPA;
- Inactive designated members need to be replaced by committed officials;
- Effective reporting systems should be established to ensure key recommendations reach central coordination committee for implementation of NPA.
- Budget allocation for CTCs functioning should be considered by local government as urgent priority;
- Good initiatives of CTCs should be properly documented and reported to MOHA to ensure good practices are disseminated among other CTCs for encouragement;
- DEMO offices need to preserve a database of migrants and the recruiting agencies sending them abroad. This information needs to be properly analyzed and discussed in CTC meetings. DEMO needs more capacity to perform this kind of role;
- Technology is growing extremely fast and so the concerned ministries need to think about making visa verification available to people through mobile phones;
- Prosecution of TIP cases is extremely poor. PSHTA rules should publish immediately;
- CTCs need to conduct more awareness raising in local communities through scouts, LGED, religious leaders, Islamic Foundations, Union Parishads, school management, documentaries and popular sports.



As a outcome of the conference, BC/TIP and partners noticed improvements related to CTC members' commitment on conducting prevention activities, support to victims and coordination with GO and NGO organizations.

Training of CTCs in 2016

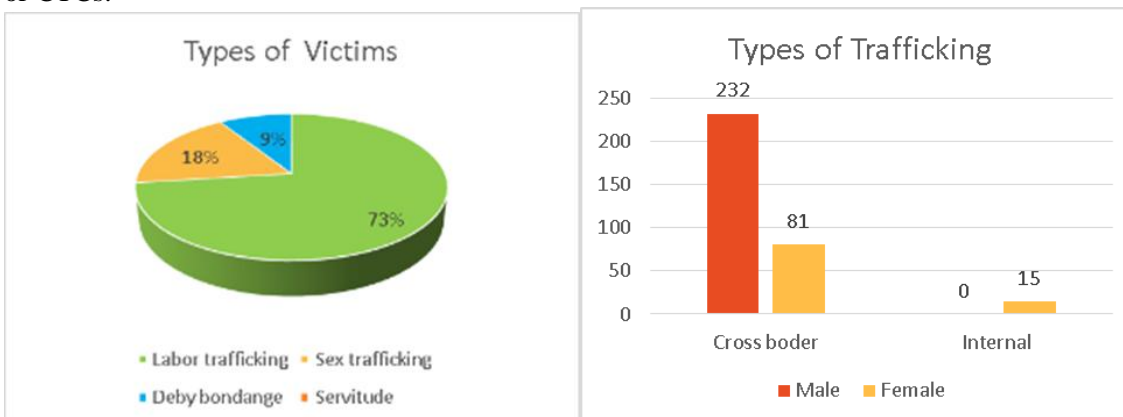


Goal 2: To Protect the victims/survivors of human trafficking

The BC/TIP Protection component works to provide holistic assistance for survivors including shelter home and reintegration support, building a comprehensive referral system, promoting survivor leadership and establishing community-based reintegration support.

Rescue, Repatriation and Identification support to TIP Victims

During 2016, BC/TIP Protection partners supported 328(232 males & 96 females) trafficking victims, most of whom were repatriated from, Malaysia, Iraq, India Thailand, Oman and Saudi Arabia. Around **313** were victims of cross-border trafficking while 15 were internal trafficking victims. Most of these victims were referred either by the community, BC/TIP partners, survivor leadership group ANIRBAN or CTCs.



Shelter home accommodation

A total of 104 victims accessed shelter accommodations from BC/TIP partners. The duration of their stay varied from 2 days to several months, with female and younger survivors staying longer.

Counseling and life skills training

After rescue and repatriation, survivors experienced severe psychological problems irrespective of gender, nature of trafficking, or how recently trafficking occurred. Through proper assessment of mental health, the BC/TIP programme applied Cognitive Behavioural Therapy techniques to counsel the survivors. This helps survivors to recover their self-confidence and mental well-being. During 2016, a total 172 (116 males & 56 females) survivors participated in life skills training.

Livelihood support to TIP Survivors

Survivors are offered livelihood support to provide sustainable incomes to address a key 'push' factor that led to risky choices and to prevent re-victimization. During 2016, BC/TIP provided livelihood support including vocational, job, business, and entrepreneurship training to 197 survivors (138 males & 59 females).

Legal support

During 2016, a total of 55 survivors (34 males & 21 females) have received legal support of 53 cases being filed under the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012. In addition, 53 survivors filed complaints with BMET. About 4 survivors (3 males & one female) received BDT 225,000 as compensation from recruiting agencies through the arbitration process.

Training on Winrock Survivor Standards and GOB Shelter Standards:

To develop common understanding among service providers and government institutions, BC/TIP organized 2 Comprehensive Survivor Service trainings for staff members of partner organizations as well as staff of other government service agencies under the Ministry of Social Welfare, Ministry of Women and Children Affairs, and other survivor service organizations. About 43 staff participated in these trainings.



District level Directory and Coordinated Approach to quality Survivor Services

To facilitate coordination among service providers, BC/TIP organized 7 workshops to map service providers in 7 districts. Service provider directories have been developed in Chittagong, Chapai Nawabgonj, Nawgaon, Meherpur, Joypurhat, Comilla and Satkhira. Using these directories BC/TIP partners are better equipped and able to coordinate with different service providers to develop effective and comprehensive protection assistance to meet the diverse needs of trafficking survivors. A total of 48 survivors received support from government departments and 47 survivors received support from various different service providers.



Strengthened Mental Health Trauma Services

BC/TIP organized 2 training on Trauma Counseling during 2016 aimed to develop a common understanding of supportive counseling and psychosocial interventions for victims. Among 39 people who participated in the training, 20 were from the Ministry of Social Welfare, and 19 from BC/TIP partners and other NGOs.

Survivors' Voice ANIRBAN Engages in Assistance and Reintegration

Survivors voice ANIRBAN also advocated for the creation of a separate budget allocation for Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC) functions and to resource rehabilitation of trafficked survivors. ANIRBAN participated in the National Convention on Peer Leaders and ANIRBAN from 31 July to 1st August, 2016 and provided multiple recommendations and planned their steps in the future, in order to build a sustainable organization.

During 2016, Jessore, Rajshahi and Cox's Bazar Survivor Voice ANIRBAN regularly communicated with the Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC) at the union level. Through their endeavours they were able to activate 22 CTCs at the union level.

Union CTCs being activated by ANIRBAN

District of ANIRBAN	Name of Union	Total 22 Union CTCs
ANIRBAN, Jessore	Noapara union, Jessore sadar Kuskhali, Satlhira sadar Sukhpukuria, Chowgacha, Jessore Sorupda, Chowgacha Bahadurpur, Sharsha upazila, Jessore Keragasi, Satkhira Jhaudanga, Kolaroa upazila, Satkhira Chandanpur, kolaroa,	8
ANIRBAN, Cox's Bazar	Chakmarkul, Rajarkul, Ramu Sabrang, Teknaf Jhilonga, Khuruskul, Cox's Bazar Khutakhali, Chokorioiar Ratnapalong, Ukhia	5
ANIRBAN, Rajshahi	Charghat, Sardha, Yousupur, Charghat, Rajshahi Gargori, Monigram, Bagha, Rajshahi Dawpara, Godagari, Rajshahi Kusumba, Moinom Manda, Nowgaon VhoparaAtra, Nowgan	9

Goal 3: Effective Prosecution of human trafficking cases

BC/TIP enhances the capacity of criminal justice actors to investigate TIP cases, prosecute traffickers, and assist victims of trafficking through technical assistance coupled with coordinated advocacy to expand government oversight, increase arrests and prosecution, monitor labour recruitment agencies. To improve prosecution practices, BC/TIP employs multi-disciplinary trainings and capacity-building that focuses on the rules and laws governing TIP, migration and witness protection.

In 2016, BC/TIP continued to build the capacity of criminal justice actors including police, prosecutors, legal aid panel lawyers and legal aid officers. Ten trainings have been conducted: one for district legal aid officers, in June 2016 at Dhaka, 4 for prosecutors in Cox's Bazar, Rajshahi, Rangpur and Sylhet in January, April, May and June 2016, 2 training courses for first responding police officers at Chittagong and Dinajpur in March and August 2016 and three (3) district legal aid panel lawyers' awareness raising sessions in Jessore, Chittagong and Rangpur in July, August and September, respectively.

To ensure a coordinated approach across the prosecution pillar and to avoid duplication of BC/TIP continuously focuses on the coordination and cooperation with other prosecution-related organizations, such as Justice and Care, NLASO, JATI and Solicitors Wing under Law and Justice Division of MoLJPA.

Key achievements:

- 86 public prosecutors trained on TIP and protection of victims' rights;
- 26 DLAO and NLASO officers oriented on protection of victims' rights in TIP cases;
- 51 police officers of Inspector and Sub-inspector level trained on human trafficking;
- 140 DLAPL oriented on TIP and protection of victims' rights in Bangladesh;
- Judicial Administration Training Centre informally agreed to conduct TIP training for judges
- MOU with National Legal Aid Services Organization;



BC/TIP conducted 2 Trafficking in Persons Training Courses for First Responding Police Officers. The trainings were held at the In-service Training Centre, CMP Chittagong, in March 2016, and at the In-service Training Centre, Dinajpur, in August 2016. The three-day course goal was to provide frontline law enforcement officials with the necessary knowledge, attitude and skills to provide an effective first response to human trafficking cases.

Goal 4: To develop Partnership, participation, networking and cross-country legal assistance to prevent and combat HT and protect its victims

Partnership activities build on established relationships to effectively combat human trafficking through collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), the Ministry of Woman and Child Affairs (MoWCA), the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment (MoEWOE), the private-sector and civil society, and coordination with other international organizations. BC/TIP fosters partnerships at the national, regional, district, and union levels to strengthen the policy environment, and connect local government and community efforts with national policies.

A significant key achievement is supporting the Ministry of Home Affairs in organizing a Divisional and National Conference on the National Plan of Action (NPA) 2015-17 for Combating Human Trafficking. In addition, BC/TIP held planning meetings with Access to Information (A2I) and MAYA in order to extend collaborative actions on TIP and safe migration issues.

Key achievements of 2016:

- Khulna Divisional Conference on the “National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking 2015-17” - Counter Trafficking Committee’s Roles and Responsibilities;
- Rajshahi Divisional Conference on the “National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking 2015-17” - Counter Trafficking Committee’s Roles and Responsibilities;
- National Conference on “*National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking 2015-17*”;
- National Conference on “*National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking 2015-17: From Adoption to Implementation*”;
- MoU on with NLASO.

Participation in GoB Committees to Strengthen Implementation and Enforcement of Anti-TIP and Safe Migration Laws

In 2016, BC/TIP participated in ministerial committees vital to the implementation and enforcement of anti-TIP and safe migration policies, including TIP Government/Nongovernment (GO-NGO) Committee, MOEWOE Vigilance Task Force and NPA Implementation Committee.

During 2016, to ensure the involvement and the commitment of all agencies responsible for the NPA implementation and to ensure the monitoring of the activities MoHA successfully organized, with support from BC/TIP and IOM, a National Conference on “*National Plan of Action on Combating Human Trafficking 2015-2017*”: *From Adoption to Implementation* was organized on 30-31 March at BICC, Dhaka. The aim of the conference was to:

- Assess the progress of the NPA implementation
- Enhance the coordinated approach taken by MoHA amongst the GO-NGO actors for implementation of NPA
- Identify the implementation gaps and ways to address them.

In general, the key recommendations for overcoming the gaps and challenges for effective implementation of the NPA were as follows:

Under Goal-1: Prevention

For institutional approach:

Ministry level Focal Points needs to be made effective through an 'office order'. The Focal Point mainly needs to be placed at the department or agency level by assigning the responsibility to an official of specific designation.

For effective preventive campaign:

- Formal education along with technical training curricula needs to include the issue of trafficking. For example, the Department of Youth and others who are involved in livelihood training programmes may include “trafficking” issues in their curricula.
- Visual materials and mass media needs to be effectively utilized.
- Awareness on legal and safe means of migration needs to be expanded.
- The safety-net programmes need to include the vulnerable and survivors of trafficking within their communities.

For community capacity strengthening:

- CTCs need to be made operational and functional. (A Co-Chair can be assigned to ensure meetings are held regularly).
- The local elected bodies and representatives need to be informed and engaged in CTCs.
- Allocation of budget at local level.
- Inter-ministerial coordination needs to be carried out based on a shared database generated from the grassroots (CTC level).

For legal proceedings:

- The rule of the Act 2012 needs to be finalized.
- The rate of conviction needs to be increased.
- RRRI activities need to be made effective.
- One stop service needs to be expanded up to upazila level.

Awareness on The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 Act 2012 and The Overseas Employment and Migrants Act 2013, Act 2013 need to be raised.

Under Goal-2: Protection

- Establish a network with the relevant actors to cover 64 districts.
- Victim-witness protection needs to be made operational
- A national level guideline for psycho-social counseling
- Inclusion of trafficking victims in safety-net programmes of the government.

Under Goal-3: Prosecution**For enforcement of law:**

- PSHTA Rule needs to be finalized as a priority
- MoHA needs to coordinate with MoLPAJ and MoFA for setting up of the Special Tribunal.
- Framework for victim-witness protection needed
- Linking legal aid support available at GOs and NGOs with the victims of trafficking
- Joint squad of different forces and agencies as a Human Trafficking Unit should be formed.

For strengthening legal capacity:

- The community police must come forward to deal with trafficking cases
- Human trafficking being transnational in nature, different law enforcing agencies need to build its capacity
- Capacity of Judges and Public Prosecutors need to be strengthened
- Coordination between law enforcing agency and prosecutors is a priority
- The recruiting agents need to be classified and trained so that legal means of migration is expanded.

Under Goal-4: Participation and Partnership

For multi-stakeholder coordination:

- Counter-Trafficking Committees (CTCs) needs to be activated and include relevant agencies
- The National Plan of Actions (NPA) Monitoring Committee needs to be activated for effective coordination of all stakeholders
- Lack of funds at the local level needs to be addressed
- MoU with relevant actors (GO-NGO-Private Sector)
- Awareness on NPA and roles of different actors need to be strengthened.

For effective networking:

- Not just being restricted within countries of SAARC but also explore possibilities in ASEAN/ BIMSTEC and other major destinations
- Exploring new bi-lateral arrangements or multi-lateral arrangements which is a priority.

Under Goal-5: Monitoring and Evaluation

- Development and operationalize monitoring, evaluation and reporting systems based on NPA via a central database at MoHA is a priority.
- Coordination with CTC for data flow. In this regard Union Information Centers (UIC) can also play an important role
- Provision of reporting of projects at CTC and at national level GO-NGO Coordination Committee in a systematic way.
- Flow of information at ministry level through Focal Points to be formed and activated
- Inter-ministerial MoU is needed as a priority.
- NPA indicators need to be reflected in BBS surveys
- The performance review indicator needs to include trafficking related activities
- National NPA Monitoring Committee needs to be activated.

Goal 5: To develop effective system for monitoring, evaluation and reporting

To maintain high quality and standards of programme and to best support the decision-making process through systematic Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E), BC/TIP continuously put an emphasis on both the programme implementation and a strong monitoring process. To ensure the quality of the results and the changes brought to the beneficiaries' lives, BC/TIP had implemented several short assessments, midterm review of all sub-recipients and routine monitoring visits. The results of those efforts have generated findings which are currently used in programme management and planning.

Following assessments have been conducted:

- Peer Leader (Community Volunteer) performance assessment
- Listener (mass people) assessment of Radio Mohanonda's monthly episode
- Listener assessment (mass people) of PSA of three community radio
- Training evaluation and impact assessment of Police and Prosecutor training
- Training follow-up with Comprehensive Survivors Services under the protection component.

4.4 World Vision Bangladesh

World Vision (WV) is an international non-profit, Christian humanitarian development and advocacy organization that seeks to create long lasting change in the lives of children, families and communities living in poverty and injustice through development relief and rehabilitation programmes around the world. World Vision serves all people regardless of race, religion, caste, creed, ethnicity or gender.

Child Safety Net Project (CSNP) is a special initiative of World Vision Bangladesh (WVB) to combat child trafficking, and prevention of child abuses and exploitation. Project goal is to reduce children's vulnerability to trafficking, abuse and exploitation and increase rates of identification, rescue, rehabilitation and reintegration. The project covers 25 sub-districts of 9 districts under Khulna, Barisal and Dhaka divisions. During 2016, the project provided prevention, protection and restoration services for 2,86,131 people including 29,013 males, 119,245 females, 55,226 boys and 82,647 girls through various interventions and brought impacts on the community level.

Prevention:

The programme prevention model has included awareness education, media and cultural campaign, distribution of IEC/BCC materials, establishing CFS, Life Skills Based Education (LSBE) training, training on parental skill and provided livelihood support to reduce the vulnerability of children potential to trafficking. Awareness was created on trafficking persons issues through with courtyard meetings, school special education, street drama etc. The project has empowered community adult, children, local government, law enforcing agencies and local elite.



Collaborative with Bangladesh Police, Khulna Range,
World Vision Bangladesh disseminating
Anti-Trafficking information

About 91 print and electronic media journalists including child journalists have been trained on Anti-Trafficking issues. To spread the AT message, leaflets on AT awareness and The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012 have been printed and distributed among the people. With support of high level of Bangladesh Police, Khulna Range, 29 billboards have been installed in Satkhira Sadar and Assasuni upazila, the area which is adjacent to the Indian border and is high-risk to human trafficking. The project has educated 11,124 community people including 11,816 males, 94,424 females, 799 boys and 4,085 girls through organizing group education sessions at the community level especially in the villages and slums. At different schools of the project's working areas, about 93,948 students were covered through special classroom lectures being attended by 38,439 boys and 55,509 girls. In addition, 67 cultural programmes have been organized to sensitize about trafficking issues.

The project has established 20 Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) in different working upazilas (sub-districts). The vulnerable children stay there with safe and protected environment for certain periods of a day. They learn non-formal and creative learning in CFS; especially provided pre-school education, catch-up education and co-curricular activities such as cultural events, creative learning and games to the children. Through CFS intervention, the project covered a total of 764 children including 367 boys and 397 girls.

About 100 adolescents were provided ToT on LSBE and developed life skill peer educators who later have trained 595 vulnerable adolescents aged between 12-18 years including 75 boys and 520 girls. Besides, 1,508 parents of vulnerable group have received parental skill training.

Protection:

Child Safety Net Project established a protection mechanism for vulnerable children by activating Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) at different levels, promoting cross-border collaboration, advocacy workshop/meeting, strengthening network, collaboration and coordination among stakeholders, training for the law enforcement agencies and GO, NGO key stakeholders and supporting NGOs specialized in rescue. The organization also comprehensively supports trafficking victims with shelter, food, alternative livelihoods, and psycho-social counseling. About 46 CTCs in its working area were activated by conducting 321 meetings with committees supported by union, upazila and district level government and local administration. The project has oriented 152 government and NGOs officials.

About 77 members of law enforcing agencies, lawyers and judiciary have participated in the orientation on trafficking related issues and their roles to implement the human trafficking law and National Plan of Action. Moreover, effective working relationship is maintained with Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) members on identification, rescue, repatriation and referral mechanism.

Restoration:

World Vision Bangladesh, under the project's restoration support scheme, has offered extensive services to rescued victims of trafficking since its inception. World Vision Bangladesh provided the victims with shelter, food and cloth, psycho-social, medical and legal aid (referral) through its partner NGO Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM). Victims were reintegrated with their families. World Vision Bangladesh also provided income generation support to trafficking victims for their sustainable rehabilitation.



A trafficking survivor receiving sewing training as a part of income generating activities.

About 13 survivors have been identified who needed various emergency supports like food, clothing, medical support, counseling and transportation cost etc. Long partnership with Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) shelter home has made it possible to support the worst type of victims from external and internal trafficking. The project has provided safe shelter support to 12 trafficked victims and provided legal, non-shelter-based rehabilitation and reintegration services to one survivor. Moreover, the project has provided IGA training to 5 survivors and distributed IGA input support to 22 survivors.

Advocacy

The CSN project has considered advocacy as one of the top priorities of its strategic planning. Joint Advocacy initiatives enhanced child protection of World Vision Bangladesh. Partnership with National Human Rights Commission makes it more effective to address the issues like trafficking, child marriage, violence against children etc. CSN has organized 48 advocacy meetings with relevant key stakeholders in order to introduce, change, improve and implement

policies and laws at all levels. About 1,689 participants have attended the meetings and the children have advocated for the justice of Rakib's murder, a child labour who was brutally tortured and killed in Khulna city. Divisional level Civil Society Pressure group has also continued their advocacy activities for the victims of trafficking, abuse and exploitation as well as sensitized to implement the new laws and procedures.

Stories of Trafficked Survivors

Chinu arises from dust with hopes

Nineteen-year-old Chinu lives in Moghia village in southern part of Bangladesh in a family of seven with her parents. Her father Azahar Ali Seikh (60) and her two brothers Akbor (28) and Iqbal (25) are day labourers. Azahar became physically disabled when he fell down from a plum tree in 2007 and could not work since then. Akbor and Iqbal work hard in neighbours' crop fields to earn daily wages taka 400 (\$5) together that is not enough for their family. "In our financial crunch, still my brother and

I continued our studies under the Open University Bangladesh, which was cheaper and affordable for my parents," says Chinu.

Chinu's parents intended to marry off Chinu at her age of 15. Chinu's brother-in-law Al Amin Fokir (30) proposed to arrange her marriage with a policeman who took her to Bagerhat a nearby town and trafficked her to New Delhi, India on 27 February 2015. Chinu's parents and relatives were unable to trace and finally they filed a missing complaint to the police. "My cousin Dulaly (28), wife of the trafficker Al Amin Fokir was arrested and taken to the jail. Dulaly helped police to locate Al Amin Fokir and later on police arrested him," narrates Chinu, "The legal trial is on board and I expect a capital punishment for the criminal Al Amin Fokir." In fifty-eight days after missing, Indian Police rescued Chinu from a hotel-based brothel and sent her to a home in New Delhi where she stayed 28 days. Bangladesh Police repatriated and reintegrated Chinu to her parents' family in the village.

With sheltering, counseling and medical treatment supports from Child Safety Net Project (CSNP), it took 7 months for Chinu to recover from trauma caused by sexual abuse, physical and emotional tortures in India. "On her arrival at home on May 2015, Chinu remained very passive and traumatized," says Shompa Bonik, a project facilitator. At the shelter home, Chinu received counseling on a daily basis and recovered from her trauma. Soon, Chinu started painting pictures, sewing dresses and playing with her peers who have similar unpleasant experiences. She received tailoring training and materials redundant and started her tailoring shop at home. Both her physical and emotional health improved day by day and she seemed very cheerful remaining busy with small household chores, taking care of her 11 month-old niece Zannatun. "I remain very busy in my tailoring trade of making children and women dresses that helps me to keep good relationship with our neighbours," says Chinu. She earns 200 taka (\$2.6) daily, saves a small portion of her income and affords her own education. "As a survivor, I am so honoured to receive services, skill training and treatment supports from World Vision and thanks for everything, they provided me for a fresh start," Chinu expresses with gratitude.

Sultana's blessing of reintegration into family

"I loved my husband, but he sold me and I had to experience hell in the Indian brothel for seven months," weeps Sultana 19, who was repatriated to Bangladesh. Sultana is reintegrated into her parent's family, provided skill training with material support, running her grocery and tailoring shop and is leading a peaceful life in her village in southern part of Bangladesh.



One of the Survivor is operating sewing business.

Sultana's father Abul Gazi (46) was a day labourer. Their family was isolated from the community due to poverty and lacked social respect. "While I was a student in grade seven, Gaffer (23), a neighbour who used to tease me regularly on my way to school, raped me. As rape is a punishable crime by law, my parents rectified my sexual abuse arranging my marriage with Gaffer, which I had to agree anyway," narrates Sultana. Law regularized their marriage and Sultana's mother-in-law gave some landed property as compensation. But their marriage took the wrong turn. Sultana was allured to live a luxurious life in India which ended up in a brothel.

Sultana was trafficked by Gaffer to India without any passport and visa. When they reached Mohammad Bazar under Siuri of Birbhum district, West Bengal, India, they stayed in a hotel. "Gaffer tortured me brutally, cut me by broken bottle glass, burnt me by cigarettes, forced and engaged me in hotel based sex work," narrates Sultana. Gaffer sometimes brutally sat on her breasts, poured wine into her mouth, and forced sex. To earn more money, Gaffer took Sultana to Sonagachi brothel and sold her. In the brothel, they changed her name as Priya Chowdhury like other girls who come in red light area. "Gaffer was guarding me sitting on a chair in front of our doorstep round the clock and finding at least thirty men for me every day to serve," narrates Sultana. Shortly, she was infected with sexually transmitted disease and became sick and she used to cry in most of the interval time between satisfying clients.

One of the members of Durbar Mohila Somity identified Sultana crying in front of her room, and reported to the police who raided and rescued her for being under-aged for the trade and as an illegal migrant. When the judicial trials ended, she was sent to a temporary shelter home to be sent back at home in Bangladesh. World Vision with technical support from BNWLA repatriated her to Bangladesh.

On her arrival, she was in a shelter home of DAM for two days and her parents were informed and finally she returned home. WV's frontline staff visited her home and provided with material required for her reintegration. The project also provided her medical check-up and paid for medications. Journalists and local social leaders helped Sultana's parents to file police case against Gaffer. "Indian police arrested Gaffer, sent him to jail, and his trial is going on as per Indian laws," says Saikat Mozumder, the project's technical specialist. WV provided her materials to run a grocery store at home. "I also received tailoring training with a sewing machine from WV and earning by making dresses," says Sultana. She spends her time doing small chores with her mother in cooking, cleaning house, washing dishes and tutoring her younger brother in the evening. Sultana dreams to continue her study and become a micro entrepreneur in the community.

5. Activities of NGOs

5.1 Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association (BNWLA)

Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association, (BNWLA) is a leading human rights organization which was established in 1979 and has been working for establishing justice for women and children. Since its inception, BNWLA took various steps to uphold the rights of disadvantaged victimized women and children through legal and comprehensive psychosocial supports. The organization gives special attention to prevent various forms of violence against women and children and to ensure protection according to laws and policies of the country.

Since 1991, the organization is working for improving the status of women and children who have already been victimized in forced prostitution, sexual abuse, trafficking and other forms of violence. It has been working to fight against human trafficking and providing legal assistance to ensure rights of trafficked victims, migrant workers and their family by giving legal aid, psychosocial counseling, shelter support, rescue/release, repatriation as well as conducting research on safe migration and trafficking.

The organization is playing a vital role in the Go-NGO National Coordination Committee to Combat Human Trafficking under the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA). Moreover, it is providing technical support to the committee for the formulation of different policies and strategies to combat human trafficking in Bangladesh and worked closely with MoHA to revise the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) between India and Bangladesh to strengthen the process of rescue, repatriation, rehabilitation and integration of trafficked women and children. It also provides technical support to the alliance that has been initiated by the Director General of the Department of Women Affairs for combating trafficking in women and children.

At present, it is operating 4 shelter homes in the country where women and children are getting comprehensive psycho-social supports as per minimum standard of care. Survivors have been able to regain their normal life and cope in the mainstream society. The services provided by the organization has been treated as a model which can be replicated by other organizations for the well being of women and children.

The Prevention of Child Trafficking through Strengthening Community and Networking (PCTSCN) project

The Launching Ceremony of the project was held on 13th March 2016 at the CIRDAP auditorium which was organized by Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA) on behalf of the consortium of ATSEC members namely BNWLA, Community Participation and Development (CPD), Nari Maitree, Rights Jessore and Social and Economic Enhancement Programme (SEEP) and INCIDIN Bangladesh as the lead with the support of Terre des hommes Netherlands (TDH Netherlands). The Honourable State Minister for the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs Ms. Meher Afroze Chumki, MP was present as the Chief Guest.



Project Launching Ceremony on Prevention of Child Trafficking through Strengthening Community and Networking on 13 March 2016.



Regional workshop on Networking to Combat Child Trafficking at BRAC INN Center, Dhaka on 20 November 2016.

A Regional Conference on Networking to Combat Child Trafficking was held on 20 November 2016 at BRAC Inn Center. It was organized by BNWLA for the “Prevention of Child Trafficking through Strengthening Community and Networking” (PCTSCN), a project implemented by a consortium of ATSEC members with the support of Terre des hommes Netherlands (TDH Netherlands). The Honorable Minister, Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of The People’s Republic of Bangladesh, Mr. Asaduzzaman Khan, MP was the Chief Guest in the closing ceremony. Dr. Aminul Islam, Joint Secretary and National Coordinator SAIEVAC Bangladesh, MoWCA, Mr. Mahmudul Kabir, Country Director, TDH Netherlands, Bangladesh, also attended as Special Guests in the closing session.

Prevention, Training, Awareness Raising and Sensitization

Awareness raising and campaign sessions at school were organized on Prevention of Child Trafficking and Consequences of Trafficking, Child Marriage and Child Abuse in Satkhira and Faridpur districts where 700 school children and teachers has been sensitized. The school management committee and teachers are playing positive role to campaign in the assembly and classroom to aware students on prevention of child trafficking.



Awareness raising and campaign sessions at school

Two district level consultations were organized for strengthening Go-NGO network and initiatives to prevent child trafficking with the participation of 60 representatives from government, NGOs, media, civil society as well as Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC) members. Assistance and technical support are provided for functioning of Counter Trafficking Committees (CTCs) and Community Based Child Protection Committees (CBCPC) at local level for ensuring the involvement of government officials. Presently, upazila administration is playing a positive role in protecting children from unsafe migration and trafficking.



Training for lawyers, Public Prosecutors and law enforcing agencies with Patuakhali Bar Association



Press Conference with media

Two Press Conferences were organized at Khulna and Jessore on Implantation of Human Trafficking Law and for establishing separate Tribunal for Trafficking Cases. Moreover, capacity of about 60 journalists and media personnel were built on the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012.

Ten trainings for lawyers, Public Prosecutors and law enforcement agency on Prevention of Child Trafficking under The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 were conducted in Bhola, Borguna, Gaibandha, Hobigonj, Kurigram, Nilphamari, Patuakhali, Rangpur, Satkhira and Sirajgonj districts. About 300 lawyers, Public Prosecutor (PP), Assistant Public Prosecutor (APP) and representatives of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) participated in these trainings.

Three workshops were organized to develop child policy for trafficked children especially the child friendly prosecution system with the participation of judges, lawyers, Public Prosecutors and members of civil society at Dhaka, Rajshahi and Khulna. In the concluding session, the District Judge of Khulna has given commitment to allocate a separate room with sitting arrangement for women and children in the court premises.

Two District level Consultations were organized to strengthen Go-NGO network, coordination and initiatives for prevent child trafficking being attended by 60 representatives from government, NGOs, CTC members, media and civil society. The Consultations were inaugurated by the District Commissioners who committed to provide all kinds of support to combat trafficking.



District level Consultation at Deputy Commissioner' Office. Bagerhat.

Protection and Prosecution

BNWLA is closely working with police station in the land port, BGB, Immigration Department of both Bangladesh and India. Laws and polices relating to child protection, filing cases and GD entry etc. are exercised in the working areas. To ensure protection, rescue and shelter support to 165 victims and legal support to 71 survivors in different districts were provided. About 14 new cases were filed under the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012. About 157 girls, boys and women were repatriated from India to Bangladesh. Sensitization, orientation and training were organized on the issue for enhancing knowledge and skills of community people, law enforcing agency, local elected bodies on the relevant laws and policies. Another 400 trafficked survivors received permission of repatriation from India to Bangladesh and 105 cases are under process. About 165 children received various support like shelter, counseling, legal, skill training, job placement and integration through referral mechanism.

Rehabilitation and Integration

A comprehensive shelter package service delivery and community based sustainable psychosocial reintegration are provided to the survivors through its 4 shelter homes. Moreover, survivors are assisted to go back to their normal life by learning to cope with the mainstream society. Large number of victims of trafficking were released from various confinements such as police stations, brothels, cage brothels, safe custody etc. within the country. In addition, trafficked victims were repatriated from India and rehabilitated with access to standard care and services namely counseling, medical support, life skill and vocational training, formal and non-formal education and reintegration into the society. Legal assistance to the victims of trafficking were also provided to ensure access to justice and strengthen the prosecution system.

About 135 children were integrated in the family who were repatriated from India and they were accepted by the society, 100 survivors were provided internal vocational training according to their skills and choices, 10 survivors were provided external vocational trainings, 10 survivors got job placement according to their skills, 6 survivors were enrolled in mainstream education system and 159 survivors were enrolled in non-formal education system. The trafficked survivors are protected and secured from harmful situation which help them to regain their normal life and readjusted in the mainstream society.

Activities and achievements of 2016

Activity	Achievement
Rescue/release	165
Repatriation	157
Reintegration	135
Life skills training	165
Livelihood support/job placement	12
Shelter support	200
Counseling support	165
vocational training	100
Number of trafficking cases lodged	71
New trafficking case filed	14
Number of case under Trail	40
Under Investigation	24
FRT/Disposal	7

Advocacy at national and local levels

Advocacy at national and local levels with relevant ministries, judiciary, local administration and law enforcing agencies to combat trafficking are ongoing activities of BNWLA. Continuously advocacy programmes are organized with related ministry, law commission, court administration and media to establish separate tribunal for human trafficking cases. Due to regular interventions, sharing and rapport building, the local government has become more responsive to children. Local administration (under the leadership of UNO) took initiatives to activate Counter-Trafficking Committees (CTCs) for protecting children from unsafe migration and trafficking. UNO also provided official order to the concerned Chairman to take joint actions to stop trafficking, unsafe migration, take appropriate actions against traffickers and perpetrators. Moreover, BNWLA is playing positive role to strengthen national and regional network to combat human trafficking.

5.2 Centre for Women and Children Studies

Centre for Women and Children Studies (CWCS) was established in 1994 to uphold the rights of women and children in Bangladesh aimed at developing pro-women and child-friendly policies and strategies in Bangladesh. It acts as an advocacy group to lobby with the policy planners and decision-makers for policy implementation in a meaningful way. The Centre is

one of the pioneering research organizations that is working especially on women and children issues. Since its inception, the organization is engaged in conducting research, policy advocacy, training and community development to enhance the rights of women and children including human trafficking.

The Centre runs Niramoy Information Health Booth with Transit Shelter home in Satkhira which is one of the most traffic-prone districts of Bangladesh bordering West Bengal of India. It provides healthcare services, free medical treatment, medicines, psychosocial counseling through multi-referral system in collaboration with hospitals under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare. The Transit Shelter home provides victims/survivors of trafficking and sexual exploitation with food, accommodation, healthcare, medical treatment, recreation etc.

In addition, CWCS initiated in forming 20 Counter Trafficking Committees (CWC) at 20 bordering unions of 4 upazilas of Satkhira under the leadership of the Chairmen of Union Parishads in 2010-2012. Each Committee was formed of 30 members consisting of members of Union Parishad, political and local leaders, religious leaders, teachers, lawyers, village police, journalists, village doctors and Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) in the bordering unions.

CWCS provides skill development training to survivors and potential victims of trafficking, involving them in Income Generating Activities (IGA) as well as placing them in secured jobs in a garment factory at Ashulia, Dhaka.

The Centre imparted training courses on human trafficking for police officials, immigration officials, Border Guard Bangladesh, Bangladesh Coast Guard and Public Prosecutors. CWCS conducted research on various women and children issues, with special focus on human trafficking and international migration to bring about positive changes in the existing laws, policies, government measures and interventions.

CWCS has been active member of the various committees and working closely with the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Centre is an active member of Go-NGO National Coordination Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, Convenor of Sub-Committee in preparing the Bangladesh Country Reports to Combat Human Trafficking and Draft Sub-Committee in formulating the three years National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking 2012-2014 and subsequently 2015-2017 and member of the Implementation Committee of National Plan of Action.

CWCS is also a member of the Alliance to Combat Trafficking in Women and Children (ACTWC) formed by the Director General of Department of Women Affairs in 2009. The Centre is working with the Ministry of Expatriates' Welfare and Overseas Employment to promote safe migration and reduce human trafficking. At the local and grassroots level, CWCS is the member of the Satkhira district level Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC) since June 2011 and member of Kaliganj CTC since September 2011 as well as Debhata, Kalaroa and Satkhira Sadar upazilas CTC in Satkhira district since July 2012. CWCS also become member of union level CTCs under 4 upazilas in Satkhira district namely Kulia, Debhata and Nowapara unions under Debhata upazila; Ghona, Boikari and Kushkhali unions under Satkhira Sadar upazila; Chandanpur, Sonabaria and Lalgojhara unions under Kalaroa upazila; and Bishnupur, South Sreepur and Bharashimla unions under Kaliganj upazila in Satkhira district.

Multi-sectoral referral system for victims of trafficking, sexual exploitation and those in vulnerable situation in Sathkira district project

The multi-sectoral referral system for victims project was initiated in January 2014 with CWCS’s own contribution with the aim to address the issue of trafficking in a holistic way by providing healthcare, counseling, shelter, food, access to justice, integration with family members, identifying victims/survivors for life skill training in Satkhira district.


Gateway to Employment and Economic Empowerment for the Survivors/Potential Victims of Trafficking, Sexual Exploitation and those in vulnerable situation project

The economic empowerment for the survivors/potential victims project was initiated on March 2011 and is on-going with the financial assistance of Foundation Phi, Spain. To undertake the project activities, Traffic Survivors Foundation was launched on the occasion of 100 years of International Women’s Day 2011 at CWCS premises on 10 March 2011. The main goal was to empower the survivors by providing in-service training through job placement in garment factory to reduce their socio-economic vulnerability, provide healthcare services and to train them as peer motivators to aware young women and adolescent girls about the underlying dynamics of trafficking episodes and grave consequences in the lives of victims. The project covered all upazilas of Satkhira district.



Activities and strategies during 2016

Prevention initiatives:

Nature of interventions	Strategy and achievement
<p>Distribution of IEC materials on recognizing trafficking in women and adolescent girls as a health issue.</p> 	<p>500 vulnerable families of worst traffic-prone villages in Satkhira were approached as well as 1,500 families in the neighbourhood to sensitize, distribute posters highlighting <i>Let's recognize trafficking in women and adolescent girls as a health issue!</i> and identified physical, mental, sexual and reproductive health risks and hotline cards with 4 hotline numbers for providing various support services.</p> <p>14 billboards with same health consequences were hosted at crossroads, landport, bus terminals, market places and hospitals viewed by about 50,000 community people.</p>
<p>Specialized hotline services</p>	<p>1,770 mobile calls were received and attended from victims, victims’ family members, former victims, school students, police and BGB officials, Community Watch Committee (CWC) members, health service providers, Vulnerable Group Development (VGD) card holders, community people, NGOs and District Women Affairs Officer, Satkhira.</p>

Protection initiatives:

Nature of interventions	Strategy and achievement
Multi-sectoral referral system for victims of trafficking, sexual exploitation and those in vulnerable situation	<p>181 victims referred for healthcare and counseling services at the Niramoy Information Booth by various stakeholders:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 100 victims by police officials • 28 by Community Watch Committee members • 17 by NGOs • 13 by former victims who received services • 5 by survivors being informed through billboards and hotline cards • 8 by health service providers including Community Clinics • 3 by Social Service Office • 2 by Department of Women Affairs • 2 by vulnerable women of courtyard meetings • 3 by community members. • 59 survivors referred to transit shelter home by various stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38 survivors by police officials • 5 by health service providers • 5 by Social Service Office • 5 by Community Watch Committee (CWC) members • 4 by former victims • 2 by NGOs.
Healthcare services for victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation	181 victims (106 victims of trafficking, 72 of sexual exploitation and 3 of domestic violence) received free healthcare, medicines and referred for treatment at Satkhira Sadar hospital and other health service centres. services
Psychosocial counseling services	240 victims of trafficking, sexual exploitation and domestic violence received psychosocial counseling services at the Niramoy Information Health Booth (IHB) and CWCS Counseling Room at Satkhira Sadar hospital. The victims recovered from their trauma situation and regained self confidence.

Nature of interventions	Strategy and achievement
<p>Temporary shelter facilities for victims/survivors</p>	<p>59 victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation stayed on an average two-four days in the transit shelter home. Among them, 42 were victims of trafficking, 16 of sexual exploitation and one of domestic violence.</p> <p>Victims were provided with accommodation, nutritious food, healthcare and psychosocial counseling services, recreation facilities, health education, awareness about mode of procurement and prevention strategies. After health and psychosocial recovery of survivors, Shelter-in-Charge and Booth Manager accompany them for safe return to their homes and integration with the families.</p>
<p>Livestock training and Income Generating Activities</p> 	<p>20 survivors and victims of trafficking were provided 3 days livestock training on duck rearing at the Training Centre of CWCS. Out of these 20 survivors, 8 were trafficked victims and 12 were victims of sexual exploitation and rape. At the concluding day, each trainee received 15 ducks with the required duck feed, vitamins and medicines. On an average, each trainee earned about taka 800-1,000 per month by selling the duck eggs among their neighbours and villagers.</p>
<p>Job placement of survivors</p> 	<p>30 survivors (20 victims of trafficking & 10 of sexual exploitation and rape) willing to migrate to Dhaka city for employments were placed in a garment industry at Ashulia, Dhaka. They were provided one-day preparatory orientation, health check-up and brought to Dhaka to be placed in jobs at the garment industry. They are being provided bed, bedding, dress, household items for cooking etc and a safe and secured place to stay.</p> <p>They mostly join as helpers in various sections of the industry such as sewing, embroidery and finishing and receive basic salary of taka 5,300 and extra overtime payment of taka 1,500-2,500 depending on the hours of work per month. However, within six months, they are being promoted to the rank of sewing operators, quality inspectors, supervisors depending on their education level and competence with an increase in salaries.</p>

Case studies of Victims of Trafficking

Sabina's dreams of living with dignity

Sabina Khatoon (23 years) is one of the four daughters of Insan Ali of Kulkhali union of Sadar upazila, Satkhira district. It was hard for the farm labourer father to bear the family expenditures with only a monthly income of about taka 3,000. However, Sabina continued her education up to Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSC) with her personal income of taka 2,500 by part-time tutoring in the neighbourhood. After her final HSC examination, Sabina's family arranged her marriage with Sajib of Khulna district.

Sabina travelled along with her newly married husband from Satkhira to Khulna to live with her husband's family. But just after a few days, her mother-in-law and husband told her that they will go to visit some of their relatives. They took her at a house in an unknown place. Reaching there, Sabina realized that her mother-in-law and husband are engaged in prostitution business. Both of them left Sabina behind with some unknown persons. They tortured and forced her into prostitution. After couple of months, Sabina's father came to Khulna to see his daughter. However, he did not find her there. Sabina's mother-in-law could not give any satisfactory answer to her father about Sabina's whereabouts. He suspected and informed the incident to the local Chairman and other community members. They created social pressure on the mother-in-law to bring Sabina back. Members of the community also threatened the mother-in-law to hand her over to the police if Sabina was not produced soon. Finally, she brought back Sabina but she was sick and traumatized after 2 months confinement to work as a prostitute. Sabina came back home with her father.

Sabina's father came to know from his neighbours about the Niramoy Information Health Booth for victims of trafficking and sexual exploitation run by CWCS at Satkhira. He brought Sabina at the Booth where Sabina received healthcare and psychosocial counseling for about a month. After the medical treatment and counseling, Sabina wanted to start a new life. She wanted to avail employment services provided by CWCS at the garment factory in Dhaka. She was employed in the factory as a helper with a salary of taka 5,300 taka. However, after 4 months she was promoted to the position of an Operator and now she is a Line Supervisor. Presently, Sabina earns about taka 12,000 per month including overtime. Every month, she sends about taka 5,000 to her family. Now Sabina dreams about buying a piece of land in her village in the near future and live with dignity.

Arifa overcame the nightmare after being economically empowered

Arifa Khatoon (21) is the youngest one of 7 children of Golam Gazi and Saleha Khatoon, residents of Kulia union, Debhata upazila of Satkhira district. Arifa had to stop going to school when she was in class 8. Her parents could not afford expenses of her education due to poverty. Since she left school, Arifa was living with her family and helping her mother with the household chores. However, as she was growing up, her parents felt the responsibility of arranging her marriage. A stranger named Raju sent a proposal to marry Arifa by a women living in the neighbourhood. Arifa was married off with Raju. They lived together about a month in a rented thatched house in Meser village of Satkhira. Within the first month of their marriage, Arifa noticed that Raju was addicted to drugs. Arifa tried to refrain him from drugs but failed. She was bitten seriously by Raju when she asked him to quit drugs. Still, Arifa kept on trying to adjust and live with Raju.

In the meantime, Raju wanted Arifa to go to India as there is lot of work available there. Moreover, both of them can work together and jointly make a fortune if they go to India. Having no choice, Arifa agreed to go to India with Raju. One morning, Raju took her near the Vomra land port of Satkhira to cross the border. He asked Arifa to wait in a small room there and went out to buy lunch. Arifa waited the whole day for her husband Raju who did not return. A stranger called Rahim entered the room in the evening. Rahim wanted her to follow him. He forced her as Arifa denied to go with Rahim without her husband Raju. At some point, Rahim told Arifa that he bought her from Raju with taka 50,000. Rahim tied her with rope and dragged her towards the border. Arifa started to cry and scream. Local people living in that bordering area came forward and rescued her from Rahim. They apprehended and handed over Rahim to police. They also helped her to return to her parent's home. She was physically and mentally traumatized due to her bitter experiences. It was like a nightmare to Arifa.

After a few days, one of Arifa's neighbors informed Arifa about the Niramoy Information Health Booth run by CWCS. She came and received primary healthcare and counseling services for about 4 weeks. Arifa recovered a lot from physical damages and the trauma she had suffered. Arifa with support of CWCS, joined the garment industry in Dhaka. She is earning about taka 10,000 per month that included her salary and payments for overtime work. In the meantime, Arifa has opened a bank account and has saved about taka 20,000 for future.

5.3 Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM)

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) as an active partner of the civil society in Bangladesh and have been undertaking various measures to combat trafficking in women and children for almost two decades working in the field of trafficking prevention programmes. DAM raised mass public awareness through organizing various events like public rallies, discussion meetings and seminars. DAM provided trainings to the master trainers, community volunteers' trainings, training to the LEA, LGI representatives, forming peer groups who played a significant role against trafficking in their localities and to act as change agents. DAM developed and distributed education and communication materials on trafficking such as posters, stickers, leaflets, bulletins etc.

While working in the field of prevention, DAM felt the necessity of supporting the survivors of trafficking through empowering and mainstreaming them in the society. Realizing the need, DAM established a Shelter Home in Jessore in 1998 with capacity to accommodate more than 60 survivors and provides a wide range of services to the survivors of trafficking and other victims of violence. Shelter Home is definitely a temporary service delivery center for the trafficked and other survivors where they receive comprehensive services that ensure their rights and help them to integrate in the mainstream of society.

DAM has liaison with national, regional and international organizations, established linkage with different NGOs and human rights organizations in India, Pakistan, and Nepal. DAM organized inter-country workshops and also collaborative programmes with India, Nepal, Pakistan and other countries for repatriation. At the national level, 4 MoUs were signed with various organizations in Jessore namely Muslim Aid Institute of Technology (MAIT), Family Planning Association of Bangladesh (FPAB), Dola Women and Children Development Organisation and Janata Diagnostic Limited for referral to health support, driving training, vocational skills trainings and job opportunity for the eligible survivors.

Shelter Home Support for Protection, Rehabilitation, and Development of the Victims/Survivors of Human Trafficking and Labour Migration project supported by UNODC & UNVTF started from July 2015 and will continue till June 2018. Goal of the project is to provide direct package supports and services for rescued victims of trafficking through shelter homes for protection, rehabilitation, reintegration and development of the rescued and enrolled survivors at the shelter home who are subjected to victims of human trafficking referred at DAM Shelter Home in Jessore. Activities undertaken are as follows:

- 50 survivors (48 females and 2 males) were rescued, referred and received shelter home support including food, shelter, counseling, health and legal support. They all received non-formal education support
- 30 females received life skills training
- 15 received entrepreneurship training
- 5 attended awareness session on early marriage, dowry, turning point of the adolescent period, social safety net, polygamy
- 39 survivors reintegrated in the family.

Rescue/Release, Repatriation, Rehabilitation and Integration (RRRI) of Trafficked Survivors through Shelter Home are as follows:

Rescue: 159 trafficked survivors (137 females and 22 males) were rescued and enrolled in shelter home for further services. DAM received lots of survivors through its existing local partner organizations like Rights Jessore, Justice and Care, Light Bangladesh, Banche Shekha, World Vision and others. Besides DAM received some survivors through Court and police stations.

Repatriation: DAM regularly communicated with the NGOs, shelter homes of different states of India for repatriation of trafficked victim. DAM applied for repatriation of 6 trafficked victims through the RRRI Task Force of Bangladesh and India. Among them, 3 children have been repatriated with support and cooperation of RRRI Task force and NGO-NGOs both in Bangladesh and India. As a member of RRRI Task force, DAM regularly attended the meetings of the Task force and GO-NGO Coordination Committee under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Bangladesh.

Rehabilitation and Integration:

The survivors received a comprehensive service packages in DAM ‘Thikana’ shelter home at Jessore considering their needs and choices as follows:

- 178 survivors (155 female and 23male) who enrolled in shelter home received basic services of safe accommodation, food and clothing
- 113 survivors received primary health care and those who needed improved health support were referred to hospital and private clinic
- 146 survivors received non-formal education, peer educator conducted non-formal education classes and survivors who are illiterate and less literate received non-formal education at shelter home, moreover, assessments were done in every 4 months for determining the progress of the survivors by the peer educator and home mothers
- 117 survivors (94 females and 24 males) were provided mandatory life skills training that helped them to take right decisions and choices for their future and the training was facilitated by peer survivors along with shelter staff

- 175 survivors were provided with individual and group counseling based on their needs and mental status assessed by the counselor.
- 80 survivor's family members received counseling and 40 survivors received special counseling.
- 50 legal sessions were conducted for the survivors
- 29 cases were filed.
- 10 survivors received vocational training on different trades based on needs assessment namely tailoring, beautician, small entrepreneurship and garments machine operation etc.
- 45 (7 males and 38 females) survivors received small entrepreneurship training. The training sessions were facilitated by the trainers of Department of Youth Development, Jessore and DAM 'Thikana' Counselor.
- 6 survivors were placed in various jobs: 2 survivors were placed job at Coffee house, 3 in garments factory and 1 survivor placed as a home mother in a NGO named 'Shacheton' in Rajshahi district.
- 10 survivors received small business support or non-cash seed money after receiving training on entrepreneurship and small business.
- 125 survivors (173 females and 23 males) were integrated in the family as per the integration and exit strategy plan of each survivor. Survivors went through a preparation phase before integration and received basic supports along with other necessary life skills education and training. They had participated in peer group works and as a result fellow feeling was created and they were able to work as a team. Before the integration of the survivors, especially in the families, both their families were counseled and the survivors were given an orientation of the community situation and how to stay in the larger community.

Bangladesh Counter Trafficking in Action Programme (BCTIP) supported by USAID and Winrock International. BCTIP commenced in June 2015 and will end in May 2017. Goal of the project is to improve livelihoods and empowerment of survivors with ensuring minimum standard care and support services through referral, coordination, participation and partnership which are as follows:

- 98 survivors (34 males and 64 females) received the minimum standard care and support services for survivors at the shelter home including food, shelter, counseling, health, life skills training etc.
- 27 survivors received entrepreneurship training facilitated by trainers of Department of Youth Development
- 68 received life skills training facilitated by Counselor of 'Thikana' DAM shelter home, 31 received health support through referral services from FPAB, Janata Hospital & Diagnostic Limited in Jessore
- 10 survivors received vocational training, 8 survivors in tailoring and 2 in beautician and became self dependent. Instead of being outcaste, the survivors, particularly the female ones are now treated as important family members as they are contributing in the family income
- 2 survivors placed in job through referral and partnership with other NGOs and development agencies which ensured sustainable livelihood of the survivors with the family and community to bring them in to normal family and social life.
- 4 survivors filed cases as survivors were encouraged to file cases during the project period.

Activation of CTCs: DAM BC-TIP project team together with ANIRBAN members sit several times with UP chairman, secretary and influential members separately to make them understand about the roles and responsibilities of UP CTC and the need for activation of CTC for implementation of the activities according to the TOR of UP CTC. It was again discussed over and over again in the UP meeting and proposed by ‘ANIRBAN’ survivors to keep separate budget allocation for CTC activation and rehabilitation of the trafficked survivors. The members of UP CTC of the 5 unions (Noapara UP, Jessore sadar Upazila, Shukhpukuria UP, Chowgasa Upazila, Bahadurpur UP, Sharsha Upazila, Kushkhali UP, Satkhira Sadar Upazila and Jhaudanga UP, Satkhira Sadar.) kept separate budget allocation in 2016-2017 UP budget for activation of CTCs, rehabilitation and reintegration of the survivors.



UP Budget discussion session in Noapara union Jessore sadar held on 25th May, 2016. ANIRBAN member Reshma proposed to keep separate budget for CTC activation & trafficked survivors rehabilitation

Activities of ANIRBAN at local level: DAM facilitated ANIRBAN Voice Group in Jessore. Members of ANIRBAN in Jessore facilitated 29 awareness sessions for supporting sustainable integration, promoting safe migration and protection of survivors. Out of 29 awareness sessions, 24 were courtyard sessions, 3 sessions were held in schools and 2 sessions held in Department of Youth Development at Jessore. About 2,239 community people (325 males and 1,914 females) participated in the awareness sessions. The ANIRBAN survivors have been communicated with district administration for their sustainable reintegration and livelihoods. They are doing advocacy with local government for addressing their issues of protection, rehabilitation and sustainable integration and also keeping allocation in the UP budget for reducing poverty and sustainable livelihoods. ANIRBAN members started clothes selling group business in Jessore.

International Day Observance

World Day Against Trafficking in Persons was observed. Additional District Magistrate, Mr. Pervez Hasan launched the rally of the day observance in front of DC office on 30 July 2016. After the rally, a discussion meeting was held in the DC's office. Members of Survivors Voice Group ‘ANIRBAN,’ Government, NGOs and media personnel participated on the day's observance programme. About 380 participants (215 females and 165 males) observed the day.



‘ANIRBAN’ survivor delivered speech on World Migrants Day observed in Jessore on 18th December, 2016

International Migrant's Day: The day was observed on 18 December 2016. Dr. Humayun Kabir, DC, Jessore launched the rally of International Migrant's Day in front of DC's office, Jessore. After the rally, a discussion meeting was held at Christ Church Trade School (CCTS), Jessore auditorium. Government agencies namely Department of Employment and Manpower, Department of Social Services, Department of Women Affairs, Technical Training Centre (TTC) and NGOs like Rights Jessore, World Vision Bangladesh, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers



Launching rally in World Day Against Trafficking In Persons observed in Jessore on 30th July, 2016

Association, 'Thikana' shelter home, DAM, 'ANIRBAN Survivors Voice Group and Bangladesh Counter Trafficking in Action Programme, DAM participated in this day observance programme. With this day observance programmes, improved awareness of government, NGOs and civil society to work together to combat human trafficking, information and messages for promotion of safe migration and prevention of human trafficking widely disseminated through government and NGO representatives.

Case Studies of Survivors

Ashuraand Shathi: Fight for a dignified life

Ashura, aged 30, was the mother of three children and married to a labourer in Nurpur village of Jessore district, Bangladesh. A local broker named Toufikul reached out to Ashura and her neighbour Shathi who offered them better jobs abroad. He confirmed their air tickets to Oman after receiving taka 80,000 from each of them. But upon arrival, Shathi and Ashura were forced to take separate routes and they lost all contact with each other. They were both taken to two separate hostels for labourers. While they were working there as cooks, they were raped. However, they managed to contact their husbands with the help of a Bangladeshi living in Oman. Their husbands approached Rights Jessore and local media about the incident. The broker then decided to help them in exchange of an additional sum of taka 40,000. Ashura and Shathi returned to Bangladesh on 9 and 11 April 2015 respectively. They filed a case against Toufikul and subsequently he was arrested.

With the help of Rights Jessore, they enrolled into the Dhaka Ahsania shelter home for counseling, primary health support and life skills training. They were given taka 10,000 from NGO 'Asha' to start a fabric business. Sathi bought clothes, towels and sheets from Poradoho in Kushtia and they both traveled from door to door to sell these items. They also received a 2-day entrepreneurship training from BCTIP project and sold taka 30,000 worth of fabrics with their support. Ashura received a 3-month long training on tailoring and dress making from DAM Vocational Training Institute in Vekutia, Jessore. She also received a sewing machine, over-lock machine, raw materials, accessories and other equipments from *Ashshash project* of Dhaka Ahsania Mission and started her business as a tailor.

Shila and Shahanara: Nightmare turned into a dream come true

Shila and Shahanara are sisters who lived in Jirongasa village of Sharsha upazila in Jessore district, Bangladesh. Poverty forced them to dropout from schools. In the meantime, their brother-in-law proposed to give them jobs in Mumbai where he lived. In spite of initial

reservations, their father agreed to let them go. But once they arrived in Mumbai, they were kept in separate homes and weren't allowed to communicate with each other. He took Shila to a man's home and only said, "You will work here now" and left her there. The unknown man raped her for 17 days. However, she managed to escape somehow and was brought back to Bangladesh with the help of another man. Shahanara had gone through the same harrowing experience and was left unconscious near the Benapole border after she had fallen ill.

Upon returning, fear of the bitter humiliation from their neighbours had left them no choice but to stay within the confines of their home. *Nishana*, an NGO working in the Sarsha village came to know about the incident and informed the BCTIP project staff. One of the Outreach and Livelihood Officers from BCTIP visited their home and after persistently insisting, finally convinced the parents to take them to Dhaka Ahsania Mission shelter home *Thikana* in Jessore. There they received counseling, medical treatment, as well as training in life skills, entrepreneurship and leadership. As they had expressed interest in tailoring, they were provided with a 15-days tailoring workshop that was set up in collaboration with Rupanton, another NGO. Shila was also given a sewing machine from the upazila administration. Afterwards, both of their training in tailoring and dress-making continued for three months. They received raw materials, machineries and an advance for starting their business under the *Ashshash* project implemented by DAM. They have setup shop at the local bazaar and earning taka 500-600 daily from selling fabric and sewing dresses. Both of them are filled with immense hope for the future when they say, "We want to become even bigger entrepreneurs."

Alim's long journey to survive

Abdul Alim is a 25-year old labourer from Jhikorgasa upazila of Jessore district. His neighbour Sagor offered to take him to Malaysia in exchange of 2 lac taka for passport processing and medical expenses. Alim had to sell his land to pay the amount. A week before his flight, Sagor took Alim to Cox's Bazar where he was introduced to another man. This man suggested a "cheaper and easier" route to Malaysia through the sea. He got aboard a ship and after 11 days at sea, they were arrested by the police near the Thai border. He was freed from prison after he paid a large sum of money to a Thai broker through Sagor. The Thai broker handed him over to his counterpart in Malaysia. But he was arrested yet again by the police and imprisoned for four months.

After his repatriation to Bangladesh, Alim was in debt and quickly losing his will to survive. He was first brought to attention during the local BCTIP community meeting for referral of trafficked survivors. He was enrolled under BCTIP and received life skills training from DAM. He was interested to learn driving. BCTIP Project Coordinator from DAM signed an MoU with the Muslim Aid Institute of Technology (MAIT) in Jessore to provide driving training at a subsidized rate for trafficking survivors. Alim obtained the three-month training free of cost and later received a learners' permit from Bangladesh Road and Transport Authority (BRTA). BRTA Assistant Director and Additional District Magistrate had extended their support for obtaining a driving license for Alim. Now Alim is a truck driver at Benapole and earns taka 500-700 every day. He is a member of 'ANIRBAN' and has agreed to give support to other survivors.



Survivors received training & business support for tailoring & cloth selling from DAM and became successful entrepreneurs

Survivor received training & business support for beautification and became successful entrepreneur

5.4 Khan Foundation

Khan Foundation (KF) is working to ensure human rights by protecting them from trafficking and violence under the programme entitled: **Combating Trafficking and Violence against Women Using Mobile Hotlink** by implementing 24 hours mobile hotlink services through awareness building activities like human chain, rallies, cultural functions, citizen watch groups and parents meeting, courtyard meetings, distributed behavioral change communication materials like posters, leaflets, stickers. Since 2009, Khan Foundation worked effortlessly for protecting the basic human rights, especially of women and children at the grassroots level by creating a strong linkage, network and coordination along with different stakeholders in order to eradicate the concern issues.

Protection and Prevention Activities of 2016

Activities	Number	Participants
Citizen Watch Group	17 districts	187
Citizen Watch Group Meeting	102	1122
Awareness Raising programmes (Rallies, Human Chain & cultural function, courtyard meeting, parents meeting)	1263	21680
Human trafficking cases	1 district	13
Poster distribution	2 types (12,000)	
Leaflet distribution	1 type (10,000)	-
Sticker distribution	1 type (17,000)	-
Brochure distribution	1 type (5000)	

The Citizen Watch Group members are playing the pivotal role for protecting victims of human trafficking at grassroots level. Moreover, the hotlink service provides instant support to the victims with the assistance of local NGOs and citizen watch group members. The hotlink center is effectively collecting and gathering information about trafficking and violence through telephone, SMS and email from all over the country using 24 hours mobile hotlink system. The organization had provided posters, leaflets, stickers with cell phone numbers through "Motivation and Awareness Creation Activities for Combating Trafficking in Women and Children." About 1,263 awareness raising programmes were organized in different districts and upazilas to bring together men, women and youths, local administrations, local government representatives, journalists, law enforcement agencies, lawyers, teachers, citizen watch groups, cultural activists. Moreover media highlighted the issues of combating trafficking and violence against women and children. About 21,680 people have participated and shown their solidarity to reduce trafficking and violence from society.

Cases handling for survivors are an integral part of the project. Women lawyers and public prosecutors are closely associated with this system. Local focal persons along with citizen watch group members took part and played a vital role to abate trafficking and violence against women and children by using 24 hours mobile hotlink at grassroots level. The women lawyers provide district legal aid support, training on inheritance law, provide legal counseling, and create awareness on family laws. During 2016, about 13 women were rescued.

5.5 Right Jessore

Rights Jessore is a leading human rights based organization in Bangladesh working to uphold human rights and dedicated to promotion and protection of human rights. As a significant stakeholder of National Plan of Action (NPA) 2015-17, the organization has taken a variety of initiatives to substantiate the implementation of the NPA. Rights Jessore has continued its efforts in prevention, protection, prosecution and partnership of combat human trafficking under the framework of NPA. During 2016, Rights Jessore was much focused on effective implementation of the Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012 and invested its efforts to improve the prosecutorial process of human trafficking cases.

Rights Jessore conducted 578 number of prevention related activities to create awareness against human trafficking and promotion of safe migration. About 108,471 people participated in these activities than included 42,293 males, 61,614 females, 1,911 boys and 2,653 girls.


Activities and number of participants in 2016

Activities	No. of activities	Participants				Total
		Male	Female	Boys	Girls	
Prevention related activities	578	42293	61614	1911	2653	108471
Protection related activities	514	147	484	27	46	704
Prosecution related activities	23	06	17	0	0	23
Total	1115	42446	62115	1938	2699	109198


Prevention related activities

Activity	Strategy and achievement
<p>Development and distribution of IEC materials on human trafficking and safe migration</p> 	<p>10,000 leaflets, 2,500 posters, 4,000 stickers and 10 billboards containing messages on anti-trafficking, safe migration issues and hotline services were widely distributed. About 200 stickers were displayed in the buses where 90,000 passengers viewed the messages.</p>
<p>Community meetings</p> 	<p>202 community meetings were organized and outreached 12,152 community people with human trafficking and safe migration related information so that the community can take informed decision with regard to migration and can identify the incidences of human trafficking within their community.</p>
<p>School Orientation Sessions on safe migration and human trafficking</p>	<p>84 School Orientation Sessions on safe migration and human trafficking were organized. About 7,023 students have participated which were conducted jointly with union level Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC) members and Community Vigilance Group (CVG) members. Students were made aware regarding prevention of human trafficking and promotion of safe migration.</p>
<p>Capacity Building Training for Counter Trafficking Committee (CTC) members</p> 	<p>25 Capacity Building Training were conducted being attended by 563 CTC members (428 males and 135 females). Of these trainings, 23 were organized for union level CTC members and 2 were for upazila level CTC members for building their capacity on preventing human trafficking and promotion of safe migration.</p>

Activity	Strategy and achievement
Half Yearly Planning and Review Meetings with Union Level CTC members	12 half-yearly planning and review meetings were organized with the union level CTC members at Jessore, Satkhira and Narail districts being attended by all the CTC members. The main objectives of the meeting were to review the progress of the CTC and develop the Plan of Actions for the next six months.
Life skill training for girl students	11 life skill training were conducted being participated by 330 girl students from different areas of Satkhira, Jessore, Jhenidah and Narail districts. Girl students were oriented about the mode of procurment and allurement of traffickers, recruting agents and perpitrators.
Stage drama	7 stage drama shows were organized and attended by 3,922 audience. The stage drama was written on the issue of preventing human trafficking and promoting safe migration entitled “ Abong Kalo Manus. ”
Individual session	To reach out the community in Peer Approach, about 120 sessions with 2,041 males and 268 females were conducted to aware them about human trafficking hotline and safe migration related information.
Formation and training of volunteers/peer leaders groups at union level	20 volunteers/Peer Leaders Group (255 Peer Leaders) on Trafficking in Persons and Safe Migration were formed and trained. PeerLeaders are mainly the front line workers to prevent human trafficking and they have worked as watchdog group in their local community. These Peer Leaders are unsuccessfulreturnee migrants, human trafficking including labor trafficking survivors, members oflocally elected bodies, local NGOs/CBOs, teachers, college students, leaders of youth clubs etc.
Half Yearly Planning and Review Meetings with Volunteer/ Peer Leaders	12 half-yearly planning and review meetings were organized with the Peer Leaders at Jessore, Satkhira and Narail districts. The main objectives of the meeting were to review the progress of activities of Peer Leaders and develop the Plan of Actions for the next six months in their local community.

Activity	Strategy and achievement
<p>Training/Workshop for Union Digital Center (UDC) Officials</p>	<p>2 training workshops at Jessore and Satkhira districts were organized with the Entrepreneurs of Union Digital Centre (UDC) to provide key information on human trafficking and safe migration in light with TIP/HTDS Law 2012 and to conduct information session with potential migrants. About 70 male and female UDC officials attended the workshops. A strong collaborative relationship was established between UDC officials and DEMO, TTC, upazila administration and Rights Jessore.</p>
<p>Training for Potential and Outgoing Migrants</p>	<p>6 batches of trainings was organized for 90 potential and outgoing migrants on safe migration, trafficking in persons; migrant's rights and redress mechanisms selected from the local community as well as from the lists of DEMO and TTC.</p>
<p>Register book maintained by Member Secretary of CTC and Peer Leaders</p> 	<p>Register books were provided to Member Secretary of CTC and Peer Leaders to keep the records of missing, trafficking, unsafe migration etc. cases. In addition, they kept record of anti-trafficking initiatives in the register book. However, Member Secretaries and Peer Leaders were trained before distribution of the books. Rights Jessore advocated for launching and regular maintenance of similar register books at Union Parishad incorporating feedback and suggestions from CTCs.</p>
<p>Referral mechanism and partnership developed</p>	<p>297 people at risk were referred to partner organizations namely Dhaka Ahsania Mission and Shishuk for various supports. Referral mechanisms was developed for the CTC and Peer Leaders for rescue, medical, legal assistance, shelter, rehabilitation, integration, repatriation etc.</p>

Protection related activities

Activity	Strategy and achievement
Fact Findings initiatives	142 Fact Findings of potential and incidents of human trafficking were conducted based on the information through hotline and other sources.
Hotline mobile service:	437 cases were identified as human trafficking, early marriage and other forms of human rights violations through hotline services being operated from 3 dedicated mobile numbers.
Psychosocial counseling for victims	298 repatriated victims of trafficking were provided psychosocial counseling to overcome their traumatized and hazardous conditions.
Resilience training for trafficked survivors	6 batches of two-day Resilience Training for 120 repatriated human trafficking survivors were conducted. The main objective of the training was to make survivors gain confidence after being rescued from traffic situation as well as acquiring knowledge for social integration.
Repatriation of human trafficking survivors 	142 survivors of human trafficking (35 males, 75 females, 19 boys and 13 girls) were repatriated from India and other destination countries. 2 boys were repatriated from Bangladesh to India.
Rescue of trafficking victims:	32 (10 females, 8 boys and 14 girls) victims of human trafficking were rescued with the help of police, CTC members and volunteers. Most of them were rescued on their way to be trafficked. After being rescued, they were successfully handed over to their family members.
Integration of trafficked survivors	142 trafficked survivors were integrated back to their families and 31 survivors were supported with alternative livelihood options.

Repatriation of human trafficking survivors from different countries

Country from where repatriated	Male	Female	Boys	Girls	Total
India	19	71	19	13	122
Iran	7	-	-	-	7
Thailand	6	-	-	-	6
Lebanon	-	1	-	-	1
Saudi Arabia	-	3	-	-	3
Maldives	1	-	-	-	1
Malaysia	2	-	-	-	2
Total	35	75	19	13	142

Prosecution related initiatives

Activity	Strategy and achievement
Advocacy Meeting with Legal Entities for Effective Implementation of The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012	3 Advocacy Meetings with police investigation officers were organized in Jessore, Satkhira and Narail districts with the objective to establish victim friendly investigation process. About 75 government officials including Public Prosecutor and Superintendent of Police attended the meetings.
Meeting with the Lawyers to find a Way Forward in Improving Prosecutorial Process to ensure Justice of Human Trafficking Cases	2 meetings were organized in 2 districts with 32 renowned lawyers and Public Prosecutors to sensitize them on The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 and issues related to human trafficking. Participants tried to find ways forward to improve the prosecutorial process of human trafficking cases.
Advocacy Meeting with Media Personnel: Steps towards Assisting Prosecution through Investigative Journalism	3 Advocacy Meetings with the Journalists were organized in Narail, Jessore and Satkhira districts. About 45 journalists participated in the meetings. Discussions focused on how investigative reporting can contribute to improving prosecutorial process of TIP cases and maintaining confidentiality of victims during reporting.



Activity	Strategy and achievement
Dialogue Session with the Judiciary: Steps towards Improvement of Prosecutorial Process of Human Trafficking	2 Dialogue Sessions with the Judiciary in Jessore and Narail were organized. About 32 learned Judiciary personnel attended the Dialogue Sessions. The objective was to inform the Judiciary about appropriate interpretation of The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012 and how to solve outer court settlements of TIP cases.
Advocacy and Lobby with Local and National Level LEA's High Authority to Facilitate Investigation Procedure	6 Lobby Sessions with the High Police Officials in southern part of the country were organized for advocacy to improve prosecutorial process of trafficking cases of all forms and influence the legal reformation through evidence based advocacy; to increase and speed up prosecution of TIP cases according to the stipulated time in the TIP law; and to strengthen the bilateral RRRI Task Force operation mechanisms that result in speeding up repatriation process of trafficked survivors.
Coordination Meetings with Judges and relevant Court Inspectors, Public Prosecutors, Bench Assistants and other Stakeholders	3 Coordination Meetings with Judges, relevant Court Inspectors, Public Prosecutors, Bench Assistants and other stakeholders were organized at Jessore, Narail and Satkhira districts. Objectives of these meetings were to advocate on the issue of improving the prosecutorial process of trafficking. About 75 Judges, Court Inspectors, Public Prosecutors, Bench Assistants and other stakeholders attended meetings.
Legal support for trafficking victims	33 victims of human trafficking were provided legal support. However, most of the cases are under trail.

5.6 UDDIPAN

UDDIPAN is a national NGO working since 1983 in 43 districts of Bangladesh including the land and sea boundary districts where human trafficking is most visible. UDDIPAN has been implementing human rights programmes including counter trafficking, child rights, child education, child poverty, child marriage and exploitation, disaster and climate vulnerabilities. UDDIPAN is engaged with advocacy, networking and lobbying activities and an active members of national, regional and international forums such as CRGA, TWC, BSAF, Girl Child Advocacy Forum and ASTEC to combat trafficking and ensure safe migration.

Activities in 2016

Community Mobilization Programme involving Imams in Anti-Trafficking (COMPIAT):

UDDIPAN facilitated ToT course on Anti-Trafficking for the imams. Later, the imams facilitated a developed “Khudba” on Anti-Trafficking in weekly “Juma Prayer” which is ongoing. The intervention had an impact in raising awareness of general people, mobilizing people against human trafficking, building capacity to combat trafficking for community leaders to play their role as watch dog groups, working for rehabilitation of survivors in community and advocacy for policy changes. The project trained 2,500 imams in the traffic prone 20 districts of Bangladesh and over the project period a total of 445,600 community people received anti trafficking messages.



TOT Course for Imam on Anti-Trafficking

Community Watch Dog Committee Meeting:

UDDIPAN formed Watch Dog Committees popularly known as ShaPak i.e. Shatarka Parjabekhan Committee each consisting of 15 members. The committee members are community leaders, teachers, local representatives, women activists, religious leaders, journalists etc. Community people are involved to watch the situation of child and women trafficking in the community aiming to reduce illegal and inhuman trafficking. During 2016, about 500 community meetings were organized to reduce inhuman practice of traffickers by its 65 committee in 9 different locations of Lohagora, Dohazari and Bashkhali of Chittagong district, Kachua of Chandpur, Daudkandi of Comilla, Veramara and Allardorga of Kushtia and Pirojpur district.

In addition, under Rural-Urban Child Migration Project (RUCMP), 250 Community Watch Dog Committees have been formed at 4 different locations namely Dhaka City Corporation, Daudkandhi, Kachua and Comilla. About 7,465 meetings consisting of 112,000 community people has been conducted under this project. This committee has been protecting children through awareness building meetings and campaigns.

Capacity Building Training:

During 2016, ten batches of training have been organized on human trafficking law and policies participated by 2,255 children, local government representatives and Community Watch Dog Committee members.



Capacity Building endeavor

Awareness building meeting with children youth club:

Community based child forum popularly known as Children Youth Club aimed to empower themselves through active participation. The club has their own plan of action followed by sharing updated information. Nearly 70% of each club members have participated in the meetings to identify their problems and raised their voices on child rights violation, anti-trafficking and shared their opinions in various forums. In two project areas, almost 112 child and youth clubs are functioning having 3,234 children and youth including child labourers. They have developed themselves as Child Rights educators and advocates in the area. They are regularly monitoring community level trafficking situation and child rights violations to find out the probable solutions to protect children and youths. In 2016, the advocacy group of youth club has taken a number of initiatives with relevant government officials including Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) to reduce unsafe migration and trafficking. The children of the club committee have organized 310 awareness sessions on trafficking with 4,656 participants and 30 club management committee meetings with 423 participants.



Awareness rising meeting with Youth Club

Formal and informal education programme:

Under Education to Protect Child and Youth Laborers in Agriculture (EPCYLA) project, 543 meetings on human trafficking were been conducted at 55 formal schools with the participation of teachers, students and relevant people in the areas in addition to 16,234 guardians and parents. Moreover, 365 awareness raising meeting were conducted under the non-formal education programme where impact of trafficking and its remedial process were discussed. The school management committees of 15 non-formal schools had regularly organized awareness raising meetings on human trafficking being attended by 4,634 parents and guardians.



Meeting with the students

Cultural and mass campaign programme:

UDDIPAN has 15 Theatre for Development (TfD) groups in different working areas which have been regularly performing theater in the street for awareness raising of the audience on human trafficking. During 2016, about 88 TfD shows were organized with 13,135 community people.



Cultural Program of Child Club

Legal and referral system:

During 2016, ten trafficked victims were rescued and referred to the nearest police stations.

Courtyard Meeting:

Courtyard meetings are being organized once a week for awareness raising of micro-credit group members on social issues like human trafficking, exploitation, corruption, oppression, early marriage, dowry, divorce, eve teasing, acid violence, drug addiction, smuggling, bribery, health, nutrition etc. In 2016 about 462,460 Village Organization members were aware on human trafficking through the courtyard meetings.



Courtyard Meeting in UDDIPAN at Uakhia, Cox's Bazar



Legal and referral meeting with victim

6. Conclusion

Trafficking, smuggling and migration are separate, but inter-linked phenomena. The difference underlies in the involvement of purposes and differing movements of people in each scenario. Every year, around 300,000 - 500, 000 Bangladeshis leave the country to work abroad as migrant labourers. Majority of them migrate voluntarily as part of their livelihood strategy to work mostly in the Middle Eastern countries such as Lebanon, Qatar, Saudi Arab, Jordan, Kuwait, and UAE. Some also migrate in the east Asian and countries of Europe. Migration plays a significant role in the countries of destinations and origin. The total value of remittances account for substantial amounts of national income and therefore, have an important impact on national economies of Bangladesh. Many of the labour migrants also fall victims of human trafficking.

On the other hand, trafficking is different as it involves the movement of people for the purpose of exploiting their labour or services. Human trafficking is a movement either internally or internationally due to deceit, force, threat, debt bondage or other form of coercion involving exploitation and violation of human rights. Women and girls often become victims of sexual exploitation while men and boys from Bangladesh ends up into forced labour situations.

Therefore, managing nexus between trafficking and migration is an important challenge for the government of Bangladesh. Challenges are two-folded - facilitating safe migration and to combat human trafficking.

The Constitution of Bangladesh mandates the establishment of a society based on the rule of law, justice, and the respect for human dignity and the worth of all persons. The Constitution bans forced and bonded labour, imposes a duty on the state to prevent and suppress the prostitution of human beings and provides every citizen the right to freedom of movements and guarantees a number of fundamental human rights (Articles 27-44)

To combat human trafficking the government of Bangladesh has emphasizes on three main areas of interventions such as prevention, protection and prosecution. The government has formed a number of committees at the national level such as GO-NGO National Coordination Committee to Combat Human Trafficking, Committee to Monitor the National Plan of Action for Combating Human Trafficking and RRRI Task Force. These committees include inter-ministerial representatives, UN agencies, NGOs and INGOs who are working to combat human trafficking in a concerted way. At the grassroots level, Counter Trafficking Committees have been also formed at district, upazila and union levels to coordinate activities.

As human trafficking is a transnational organized crime, the government has signed and ratified a number of international and regional instruments namely, Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the UN Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime; The UN Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families, 1990; and SAARC Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution.

New challenges are emerging in course of time. The government hopes that with the cooperation of people of Bangladesh and the concerted efforts from all the corners in home and abroad , this deeply violating crime can be addressed successfully.