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# Using Education to Combat Human Trafficking



Swati A. Chauhan



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# FOREWORD

Human trafficking is the second largest illegal trade in the world. In all the forms of trafficking, children are most susceptible to different types of exploitation, resulting into gross violation of their rights. Building awareness on the issue of child trafficking amongst children is one of the most effective solutions. It is pertinent that the education institutions create enabling space for children to understand the perils of human trafficking and also how to combat it.

Educating children on the subject of trafficking through a child appropriate curriculum is one way to build awareness among children. In an age-appropriate way this booklet has narrated the perils of human trafficking and has explained how it can be prevented. The three chapters serve information that any child can use for self-rescue and help others as well to come out of exploitative situation. The booklet has information guiding children to exercise vigilance from traffickers both offline and online. The booklet is a sincere attempt to create awareness through such characters identifiable by children. The chapters are designed to keep the children alert in recognizing signs of trafficking and keeping themselves safe.

I express my best wishes to Mrs. Swati Chauhan, Principal Judge, Family court Mumbai for her sincere endeavor that promotes prevention of child trafficking through education.

**Mangalprabhat Lodha**  
**Minister, Women and Child**  
**Development, Mumbai,**  
**Maharashtra**

# PREFACE

First and foremost, I express my gratitude to National Endowment for Democracy for awarding me the Regan-Fascell fellowship believing in my commitment to prepare a project creating awareness in children through education as a measure to prevent Human Trafficking (HT).

The hazard of HT is such that we often avoid discussing it with children. I believe one must use all the means at disposal to raise awareness about this crime, its nature, and the damage it causes to children. I strongly believe that the first step to prevent HT is understanding what it means. Knowing this information can help protect children from exploitation. Children that are well informed are empowered to keep themselves safe.

In 2010, when I was traveling in Mumbai's suburban local railway train, something odd caught my eye. I noticed a woman with a little girl who seemed to be around 12-13 years old. The dynamics between the woman and the little girl appeared strange. The woman did not seem to be related to the girl and yet was exercising her authority and control over her. I kept surveillance on them till the train reached the major hub. The woman waited till the most passengers had disembarked from the train. She then escorted the little girl out of the train and attempted to vanish in the crowd. At this point, I intercepted and began to interrogate the woman and the little girl. They both stated different facts. In no time, the story of the woman fell apart. I notified the railway police who then took over the interrogation. During the police interrogation, it was revealed that the little girl had run away from her home unable to bear the cruelty of her step mother. The trafficker woman had offered her help. The girl trusted the woman who then trafficked her from Lucknow's railway station (District in Uttar Pradesh, state in India). The trafficker woman then brought the little girl to Mumbai with the intention of selling her at a brothel.

Because of my timely interception, the little girl who was being trafficked was saved before she could become a victim of commercial sexual exploitation. Later, the custody of the little girl was given to an NGO by the Child Welfare Committee.

The aforesaid incident made me think in depth about the situations where vulnerable children fall prey to HT. Continuous efforts are being made by the governing bodies to have more stringent legislations to prosecute and penalize traffickers. Training of judges, Police Personnel and prosecutors are being held periodically for sensitizing them and increasing rate of conviction. But, my experience as a special judge of anti human trafficking court, has made me realize that all these interventions become active only after someone is trafficked and exploited. In other words, the damage is already done by the time the prosecution and justice agencies take over.

My assignment as the special judge of anti human trafficking court in Mumbai, India, during 2008 to 2011, exposed me to various reasons for which the young girls and boys were trapped and trafficked. I heard stories of thousands of sex trafficking victims. A common factor that emerged in their stories was that the trafficker was not a stranger or unknown to them. Most of the times, these traffickers were victims family members, neighbors, fellow villagers, friends, distant relatives or someone from their close circle who the victim or victims family trusted. The trafficker had created a false Utopian dream of better future for the victim. It is an innocent belief of the victims that people known to them will not exploit or cheat them. The primary reason of such blind trust is the unawareness of such victims about HT. Cases of child trafficking are found in every area of the country- in rural, suburban and urban settings alike. Most of the victims were adolescent when trafficked. No community, school, socioeconomic group or student demographic is immune to the threat of HT.

The rehabilitation services available for victims of HT are not enough, since they do not address the root causes like poverty, illiteracy, unemployment, under payment of wages to adults and lack of decent working opportunities. The rehabilitation services at disposal are not promptly executed and the victims are at a risk of again falling prey to traffickers.

Child trafficking impedes dignity, health, economic growth and development, generates inequality in rights and opportunities and damages a lifetime's worth of prospects for the youth of a country. Prevention spares the children at risk from experiencing exploitation. Looking at the fact of consequences of the HT, it would be better to focus on how to prevent trafficking of children.

The ideal way would be to create awareness at the most fundamental level: minds of children. Educating school going children will create awareness about HT at an early age which can help prevent it thereby saving children from damage. Adolescents must learn to recognize the signs of HT to keep themselves as well as those around them safe. An aware child is a safe child.

Of all the social institutions, a school is perhaps the best positioned to identify and report children that are suspected of trafficking to critical services. Educating school going children may create awareness about HT at an appropriate age which can help prevent and avoid the exploitation. Intervention through academic pursuits can be the most effective strategies to create awareness regarding offense of HT amongst children. A child friendly curriculum will give an opportunity to schools in India to create awareness amongst students about HT and its preventive measures.

In this booklet, three chapters are woven in such a way that the three school going children, who are initially unaware of HT, get their education in school, understand the rescue methods, know the stakeholders involved in the process and learn the basic prevention skills. The aim of this booklet, is to spread awareness, tools and strategies amongst the children (irrespective of them attending school) to recognize and prevent the scourge of modern day slavery.

My deep gratitude to Early Childhood Association for their co-operation not only in preparing the clip-art for this booklet but also agreeing to deliver the booklets to its beneficiaries.

**Swati A. Chauhan**  
**Principal Judge,**  
**Family Court, Mumbai**

# INTRODUCTION

Human trafficking is a real danger that most schools and parents are unaware of and hence do not discuss with children.

Every day hundreds of children are lost and most of them fall prey to human trafficking. Children run away from home at an age when they are unaware of the dangers in the world outside their home. That is why teaching children about 'stranger danger' and helping them understand what is 'kidnapping', prepares them for self-safety.

I am honoured to write the introduction of this comprehensive booklet on Human Trafficking written by esteemed Judge Smt. Swati Chauhan. I congratulate her on this initiative that will help millions of children and parents.

This booklet is in simple language for children and uses a comic strip format to ensure that the young reader stays connected to the stories and the facts being presented.

This booklet is rich with projects and activities and empowers children to not only understand self-safety but also prepares them to help others. The format and flow of the booklet is truly engaging, experiential and gives solutions so that the young reader not only feels empathy towards the victims in the stories but feels armed with solutions for real life.

I urge all schools to have copies of this booklet in their library and in fact each child should be gifted one as safety according to Maslow's hierarchy of Needs, is one of the most important needs.

Parents should sit together with their children and go through the booklet or discuss the booklet and help them understand the reality of human trafficking. It is important for parents to have a connect with their children that is so strong that children would not seek solutions to their problems from unknown people or from the web.

This booklet is an important tool for self-safety and will inspire adults and children to work towards making the world a safer place for all children.

**Swati Popat Vats**

**President**

**Early Childhood Association and**

**Association for Primary Education & Research**

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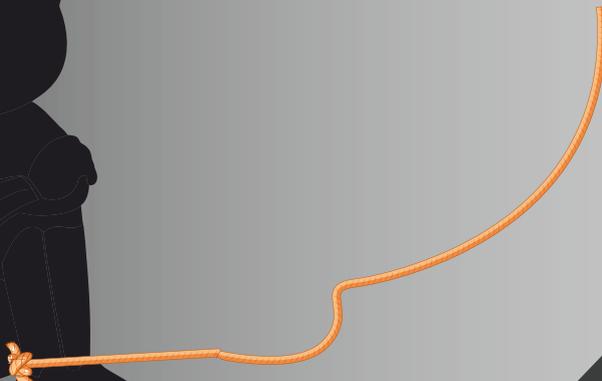
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CHAPTER 1



**HUMAN**  
**TRAFFICKING**



# What is Human Trafficking

India is a democratic country. All its citizens are guaranteed fundamental rights by its constitution. One such right is a right against any kind of exploitation under article 23 of the constitution. But there are many people who are unable to enjoy their freedom guaranteed by the constitution. The reason is that they are trapped in the perils of human trafficking. In this chapter, you will learn what human trafficking is.

## Article 39

**The state shall, in particular, direct its policy towards securing;**  
**(e) that the health and strength of workers, men and women, and the tender age of children are not abused and that citizens are not forced by economic necessity to enter avocations unsuited to their age or strength;**  
**(f) that children are given opportunities and facilities to develop in a healthy manner and in conditions of freedom and dignity and that childhood and youth are protected against exploitation and against moral and material abandonment.**

India ratified Child Rights Convention on 11th December 1992.

Two core principles of child rights

- Devotion to the best interest of the children.
- The right to life, survival and development.

Children are the assets of a nation. State should protect them under Directive Principles of State Policy.

Let's begin by looking at the query of Munnira, Sanjay, and Ranika who are popularly known as the 'three musketeers of school...Munni, Sanju and Rani'

In the school, near the library, Rani, who is a 7th class student, is reading a newspaper. Her classmate Munni runs toward her. Rani is engrossed in reading a newspaper.

Hi Rani, what are you reading so seriously?

Hey Munni, do you know what is human trafficking? Look at this news in the paper....

Munni takes the newspaper in her hand and reads the news article aloud, other children in corridor look at Munni in amazement since she is reading in her loud and firm voice

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

“Mumbai: A total of 2,447 people who fell victim to human trafficking were rescued in the state of

Maharashtra. The victims were alleged to be made beggars or bonded laborers. Across the country,

678 rescued victims were minors and 4562 were adults....”



Sanju jumps into Rani and Munni's conversation.

School Library

I believe it is related to cars, buses, and how there are traffic jams everywhere in the city.

Naah, I think we should go to our teacher and ask her, remember she is the one who taught us about child marriage...

Let's go.



Munni, Rani, and Sanju enter the teacher's cabin.



## Teacher reads the news; she becomes serious...



# What is Human Trafficking?

A simple way of explaining human trafficking is: when a person is moved away from his/her place by force, by deceitful means or by fraud for the purpose of exploitation, for personal gain or profit of some other. In short, human trafficking is the selling and buying of humans, which is illegal. In our everyday lives, we purchase and sell so many things. We go to the market to buy food items such as vegetables, fruits, clothes, books, electronic gadgets, vehicles etc. by paying its price. Now imagine instead of non-living things there are people being sold and bought in the market. Shocking, isn't it?

Human trafficking is modern day slavery.

Human trafficking was defined for the first time in the year 2013 under The Indian Penal Code 1860/ Section 370 of IPC defines human trafficking as;

'Whoever, for the purpose of exploitation, (a) recruits, (b) transports, (c) harbors, (d) transfers, or (e) receives, a person or persons,

Firstly. - by using threats, or

Secondly. – by using force, or any other form of coercion, or

Thirdly. - by abduction, or

Fourthly. - by practicing fraud, or deception, or

Fifthly. - by abuse of power, or by inducement, including the giving or receiving of payments or benefits, in order to achieve the consent of any person having control over the person recruited, transported, harbored, transferred or received.

Sixthly. - Selling and buying of human beings is illegal under IPC. All the Citizens of India are guaranteed fundamental rights. No one can violate these rights. But human trafficking is violation of the fundamental right guaranteed under Article 23 of the constitution.

Article 23: “The right against exploitation prohibits all types of forced labor, begging, child labor and trafficking of people.

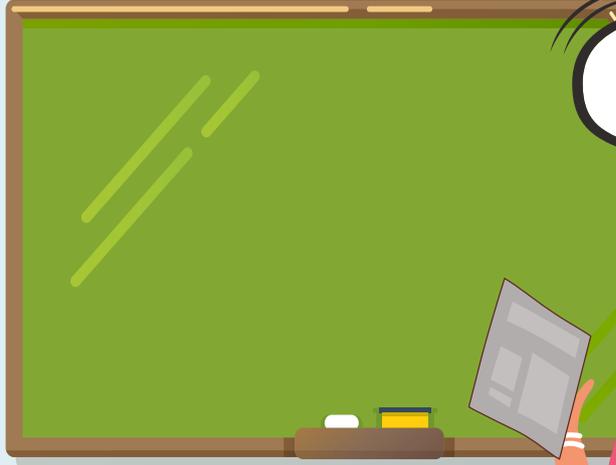
Human trafficking is a crime and many individuals become victim of this crime and children are not an exception to this.

**Trafficking which involves buying, selling and any type of exploitation of children below the age of 18 years is known as child trafficking.**

Find out what is Article 21 and Article 24 of Indian constitution. How is it related to the children?

We have read in the newspapers about children missing from railway stations, fairs, schools, exhibitions, temples etc. They get trafficked, kidnapped, abducted, and wrongfully confined. The traffickers do this for their personal gain, profit, and free labor..





Children do you understand now what is human trafficking?



Yes teacher, but we did not understand why the children are trafficked? What is the purpose behind child trafficking?



There are different purposes, such as child labor, domestic work, begging, and many other forms of exploitations.



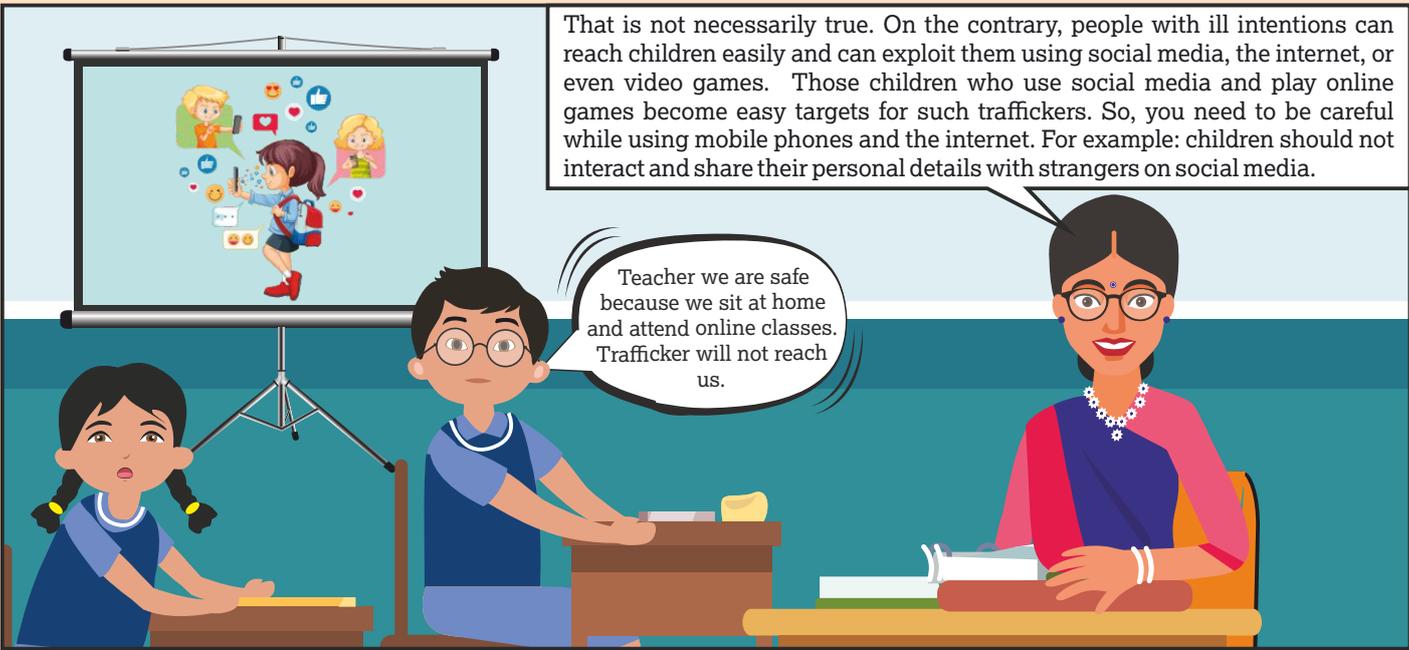
Often children are trafficked and forced to work as laborers in factories manufacturing firecrackers, bangles, brick kiln etc. Girls are forced to do household chores in metropolitan cities. Children are also forced to beg in public places. For their personal gain, the trafficker engages the trafficked children into hazardous work. On top of that, children are not paid for the work that they do.

Find out how child labor can be related to human trafficking. Make a report and present it in the classroom.

There is one more purpose for child trafficking: Organ Trafficking. The practice of stealing human body organs by fraud or coercion and selling it for huge profits is known as Organ Trafficking. Some unethical medical professionals, fake doctors or quacks steal organs from healthy people and sell it illegally. In this form of human trafficking, a person is trafficked only for the purpose of removal of his/her organ(s).

During the period of COVID-19 pandemic, the world was fighting corona virus and the ill effects of lockdown. Many children in rural areas, especially girls dropped out of school due to lack of accessibility to resources, and some never returned to school.

What do you think, what could have happened to these children? Majority of those children are at the risk of getting trafficked for different purposes.



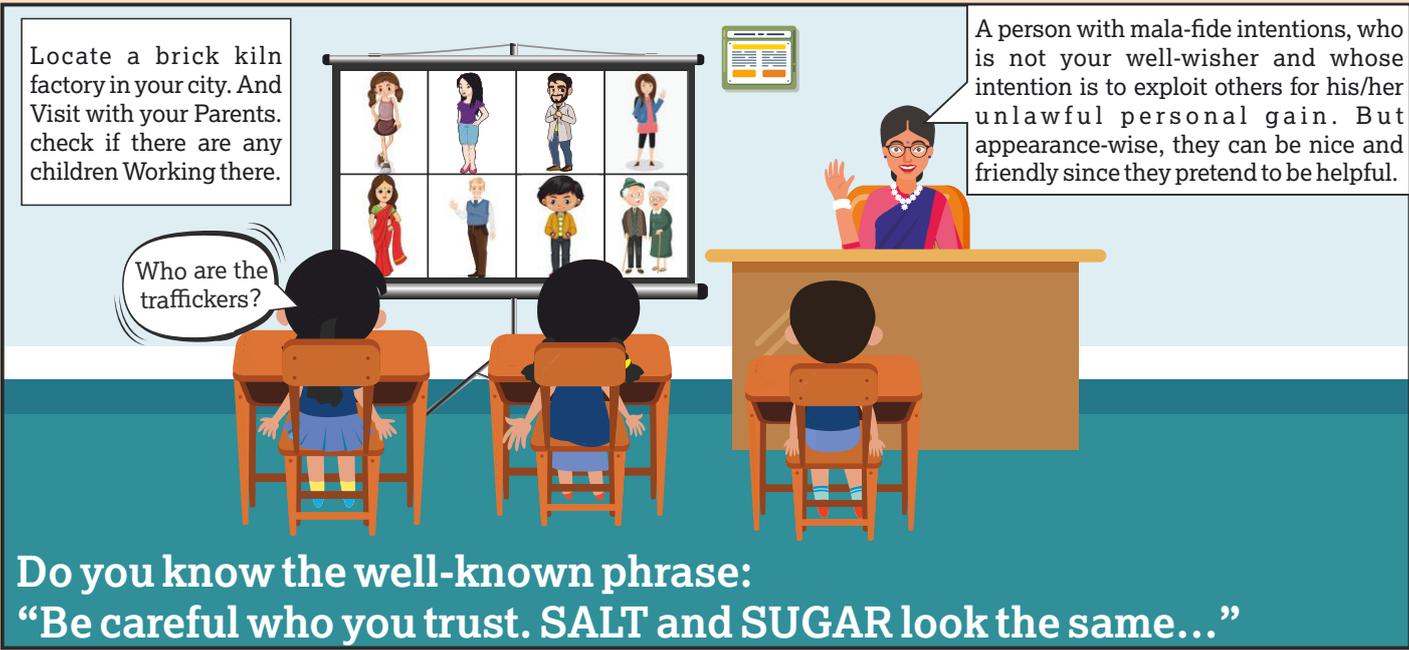
That is not necessarily true. On the contrary, people with ill intentions can reach children easily and can exploit them using social media, the internet, or even video games. Those children who use social media and play online games become easy targets for such traffickers. So, you need to be careful while using mobile phones and the internet. For example: children should not interact and share their personal details with strangers on social media.

Teacher we are safe because we sit at home and attend online classes. Trafficker will not reach us.



Teacher, do only poor and rural children get trafficked?

No, Sanju, all children, boys or girls, irrespective of where they belong, rich or poor, they are all vulnerable to human trafficking.

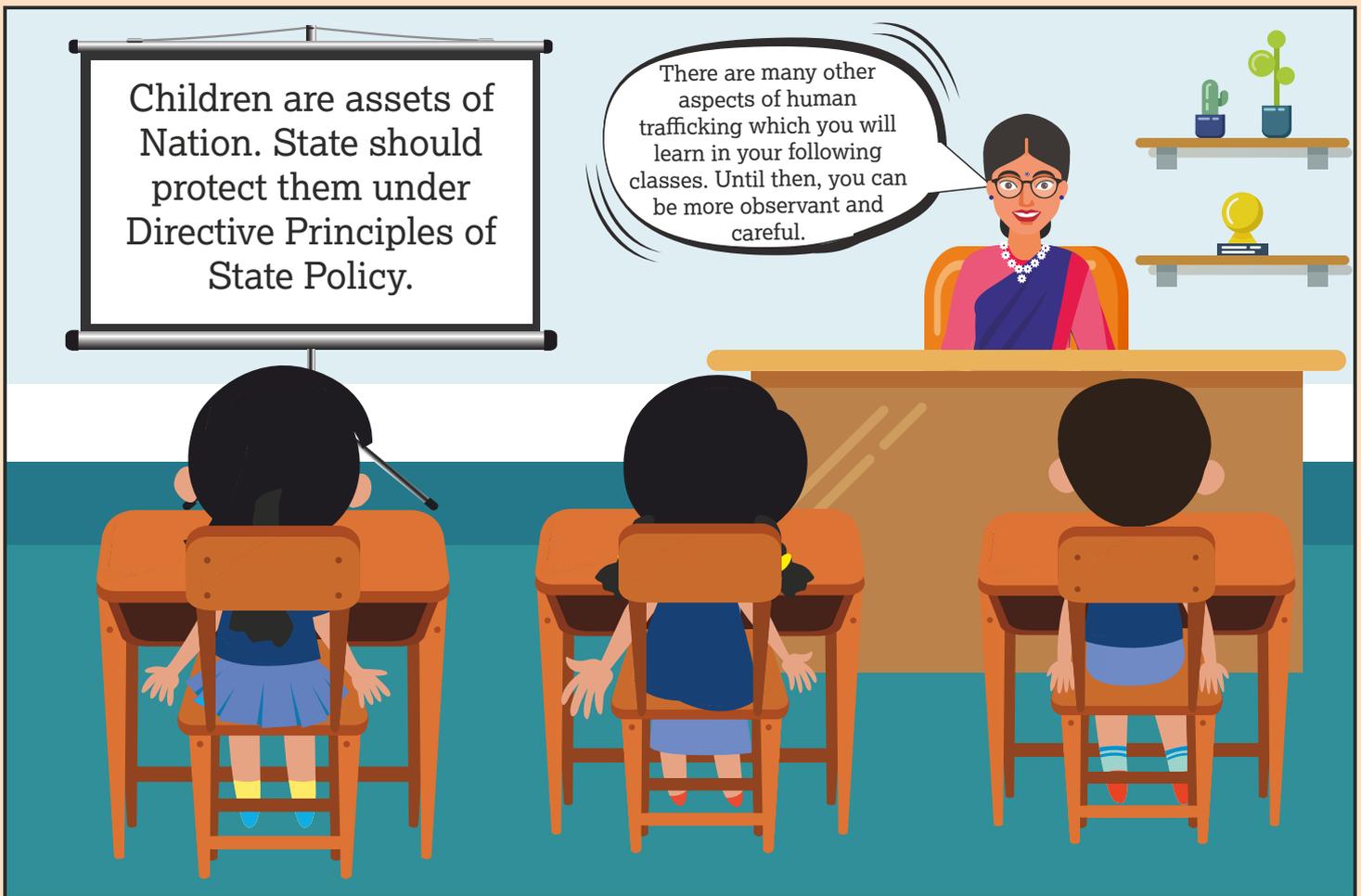


Locate a brick kiln factory in your city. And Visit with your Parents. check if there are any children Working there.

A person with mala-fide intentions, who is not your well-wisher and whose intention is to exploit others for his/her unlawful personal gain. But appearance-wise, they can be nice and friendly since they pretend to be helpful.

Who are the traffickers?

Do you know the well-known phrase: "Be careful who you trust. SALT and SUGAR look the same..."



# EXERCISES:

Complete the sentence using correct option.

- I will be \_\_\_\_\_ (careful/ ignorant) while travelling.
- I will say \_\_\_\_\_ (yes/no) if some stranger offers me something to eat.
- I will \_\_\_\_\_ (never/always) keep in mind the instructions of well-wishers.
- I will \_\_\_\_\_ (always/never) keep my parents informed about my whereabouts.
- I will be \_\_\_\_\_ (observant/ignorant) about the intentions of any person offering me help especially when I am alone.
- I will \_\_\_\_\_ (share / not share) my personal details on social media.

Match the Following

Group A	Group B
1) Human Trafficking	A) Prohibits all types of exploitation.
2) Victim	B) Selling and buying humans.
3) Article 23	C) Age below 18 years.
4) Minor	D) Person who is exploited.

Fill in the blanks

- Human Trafficking is \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of humans including all men, women, boys and girls.
- Right against exploitation is our \_\_\_\_\_ right guaranteed under Article \_\_\_\_\_ of Indian constitution.
- Trafficking which involves buying, selling and any type of exploitation of children below the age of 18 years is known as \_\_\_\_\_
- Stealing organs without permission is known as \_\_\_\_\_ trafficking.
- India ratified Child Rights Convention on \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark the statement as True or False and give reason.**

- Only poor children get trafficked.
- A girl child is purchased by a wealthy family in Mumbai where she works as domestic worker is not trafficking.
- Human trafficking is illegal.
- Only strangers can traffic and exploit children.



- 1) Have you ever seen a missing child poster on the wall? What do you think happens to the children who are missing? List down possibilities.

**Use the following words and make sentences.**

slavery, labor, trafficking, rescue, fundamental rights, democracy, victim, survivor, child trafficking, exploitation, child.

## Read the news:

[Over 2,000 victims of human trafficking rescued in Maharashtra within 2 years | Mumbai News Updates \(timesnownews.com\)](#)

### Glossary: Chapter- 1

**Musketeers:** Foot soldiers armed with muskets.

**Freedom:** A state of being free from somebody else's control.

**Fundamental right:** Basic human right enshrined in constitution.

**Exploitation:** It implies the misuse of others' services by force and/or labour without payment.

**Bonded labour:** This is when a person is forced to offer services out of a loan/debt that cannot be repaid.

**Kidnapping:** Unlawful confinement of a person at secluded place.

**Victim:** A person who is hurt or injured or harmed or simply who was in danger.

**Vulnerable:** A person who is weak or who is more likely to become a victim.

**Constitution:** The basic principles and Laws of a nation, state or social group that determine the powers and duties of the government and guarantee certain rights to the people in it.

**Indian Penal Code:** It is a code for criminal laws. It defines crime and prescribe punishment for committing such crime.

**Social media:** forms of electronic communication (such as websites for social networking and microblogging) through which users create online communities to share information, ideas, personal messages, and other content (such as videos)

CHAPTER 2

# CHILD TRAFFICKING



## CHAPTER 2

Child trafficking is a social evil which needs to be eradicated to safeguard the life of young population. UNICEF reported that nearly 1 in 10 children are exposed to child labor and hazardous work through trafficking.

The increasing number of trafficked children is a serious threat to the welfare of children. Unawareness about this subject is one of the major causes. It thus becomes necessary to make children aware about this threat and to prepare them to combat child trafficking. In this chapter we will learn how traffickers use vulnerability of children to traffic them from their source and exploit them at destination.

It is estimated that 1.2 million children are affected by trafficking at any given time worldwide. Children account for 27% of all the human trafficking victims worldwide, and two out of every three child victims are girls. (Ref [Child Trafficking Statistics - World's Children \(worldschildren.org\)](https://www.worldschildren.org/child-trafficking-statistics))

### **Why do traffickers need children?**

Children are used for various purposes by traffickers such as free child labor, domestic servitude, begging, forced labor in factories, criminal activities such as drug pedaling, organ trade, physical exploitation etc. Traffickers exploit children for their personal gain and profit.

### **What is a 'SOURCE' and 'DESTINATION' in a child trafficking context?**

Source and Destination are important concepts to understand child trafficking. The Source is the place from where the child is trafficked whereas the Destination is the place where child is exploited.

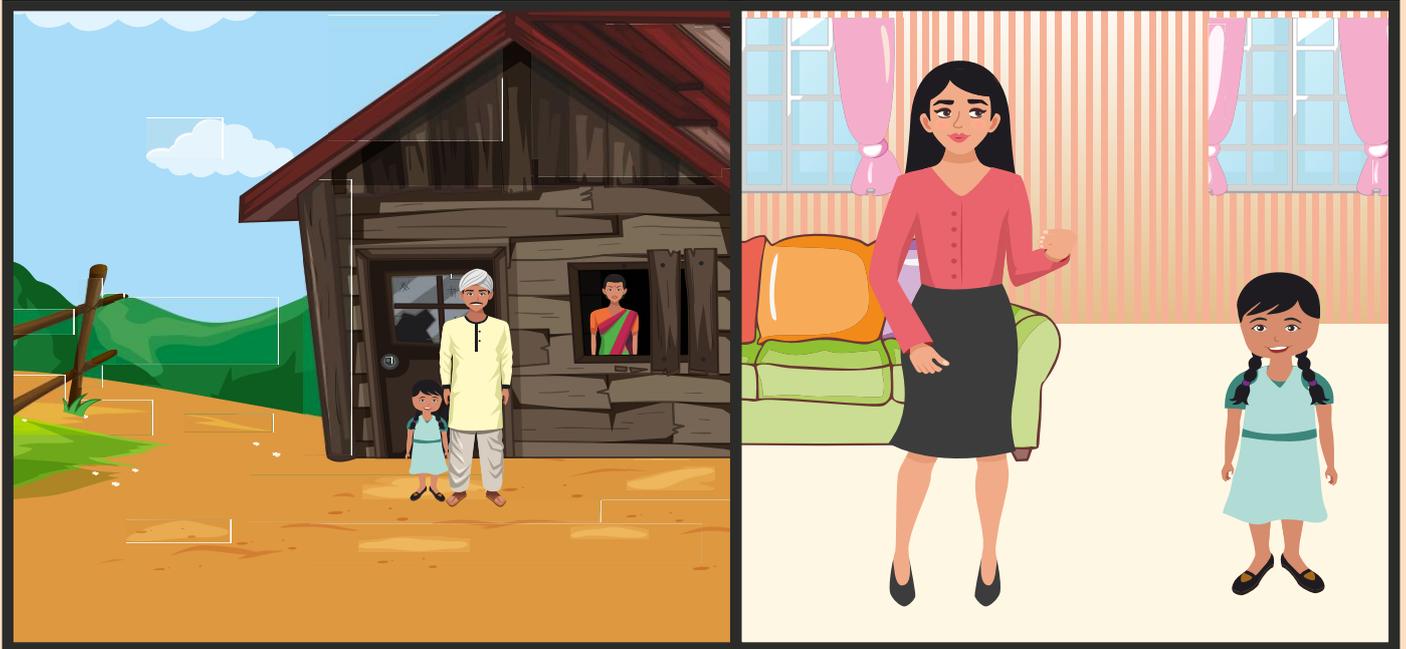
Child grooming can be defined as building a friendly relationship with a child to later manipulate him/her with an intention of exploitation. Children and young people who are groomed can be more easily trafficked. Anybody can be a child groomer, no matter their age or gender. For example: giving gifts or giving special attention to a child with ill intention, making close and intimate contact or conversation with a child either physically or virtually



Teacher enters the classroom and asks Munni to read aloud chapter “child trafficking” from the textbook. With much enthusiasm, Munni takes out her book and starts reading loudly to the class..



Ramesh Jadhav was a daily wage labourer from village Kandhar District of Nanded. He had four children: Sarita, Manju, Anju, and Anil. His wife Pushpa was suffering from asthma. Sarita, a fifteen-year-old girl, was a school dropout but very good at doing household chores. Sushila, a distant relative, started frequently visiting Ramesh's house with gifts and clothes for Sarita and her siblings. Sushila, with her sweet talk, groomed Sarita by showing her dreams of leading a comfortable life in a metro city called Mumbai. Sushila assured Sarita that she will put her in a school if she comes to Mumbai with her. Ramesh and Pushpa sent their daughter Sarita to Mumbai with Sushila thinking that Sarita would have a secured future and a good quality of life, and world receive education. Ramesh and Pushpa were glad as Sushila had promised that she will bear the education expenses of Sarita



Two months ago, Sarita came to Mumbai with aunt Sushila looking forward to a good life and education. Instead, once in Mumbai, Sarita was made to work as a domestic maid in Sushila's house which was situated in an affluent locality called Lokhandwala. Apart from doing all the household chores such as cleaning, cooking, washing etc., Sarita was also required to babysit her aunt Sushila's 2-year-old baby. Sarita was not paid for all the work that she did. Neither was she sent to school. Moreover, she was made to work till late night when there was a party in Sushila's house. She was not allowed to leave the house. She was not allowed to contact her parents.



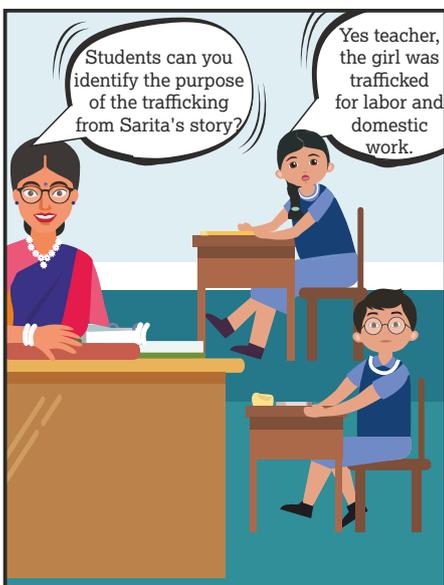
Once, Sarita was badly beaten by Sushila with a rolling pin for not cooking food in time. Sarita sustained injury on her forehead. Before leaving house for work, Sushila threatened Sarita not to disclose this incident to anyone. A neighbor lady noticed Sarita's injury and after learning what had happened, the neighbor rescued her and took her to hospital. At the hospital, Sarita narrated her story to the doctor. The doctor informed the police and a local anti-human trafficking NGO. A woman social worker interacted with Sarita and got contact details of her parents and informed them



After receiving a call from Mumbai Police and NGO, Ramesh and Pushpa immediately reached Mumbai. They were devastated on seeing Sarita's condition. Sarita returned home with them. Sushila gave a statement to the police that Sarita had come to her house with her free consent. The defense of Sarita's consent taken by Sushila was not accepted. She was prosecuted by police and convicted by court



Under section 370 Explanation 2 of Indian Penal Code, the consent of a victim is immaterial in determination of the offence of trafficking..





Traffickers are people who have malafide intentions. Traffickers take advantage of the vulnerability of children as well as their family members. They locate the most vulnerable children - without support system, without resources, belonging to a broken family, uneducated, belonging to low-income group - and use various methods to traffic them. Traffickers use emotional and physical abuse to control children at various stages of trafficking.



Usually, the trafficked children look mal-nourished, depressed, there may be marks of injury on their body, lack of identification documents, are involved in hazardous work and rarely play, are submissive and fearful or sometimes extremely violent..



In Sarita's case, she was transported to Mumbai, a metropolitan city, from a small village Kandhar. In Mumbai, she was not enrolled in school as promised but was instead detained and exploited by having her work as maid without any wages. She was not allowed to contact her parents. Her fundamental rights were violated. Furthermore, did you notice how Sushila deceived Sarita's father?

Sushila initially groomed Sarita by creating a beautiful picture of Sarita going to a school and having a secured future. She took advantage of the poor economic condition of Ramesh and Pushpa for her personal gain. Traffickers use deception, cheating, lying, or luring etc. as means to trap innocent children and also adults. Traffickers can also use force, violence, or threat as means for getting the access to victims.

Teacher: Let us summarize some concepts associated with child trafficking; trafficker frequently trap the children because they can be easily targeted. Children facing lack of education and health, are homeless, refugee or migrant children, and victims of any past abuse are easily targeted.

Trafficker takes great interest in the lives of such children and builds a friendly relationship with them. Trafficker gains children's trust, establishes emotional connection with them, and makes them believe that he/she is there to help them. Over a period of time, children look at the trafficker as a person who can understand them. However, children fail to understand the real intentions of traffickers and end up becoming victims.



**1098**

This is the helpline number for children in need of aid and assistance.

Teacher, we are taught about human trafficking at school. But what about the street children who do not go to school? Or school dropouts like Sarita? How can they get aware about this?

There are many agencies such as Women and Child Development Department of Government of India, Police, Child Welfare Committee and NGOs who are the stakeholders. They all work collectively to safeguard the rights of street children and create awareness about it.

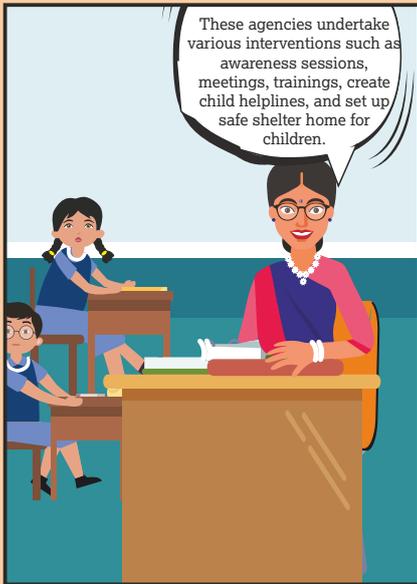
**Women and Child Development Ministry:** It safeguards the best interest of a child through implementing various government schemes and policies.

**Police:** They have separate units such as Social Service Branch, Special Juvenile Police Unit and Anti-Human Trafficking Unit to prevent, investigate, and prosecute any crime against children.

**Child Welfare Committee:** It ensures rehabilitative measures for children who are in need of care and protection.

**NGO:** They provide services like counselling, education, shelter, health care, and various other services to children in need.

**Aware Child is Safe Child**



### 17-YR-OLD TRAFFICKED GIRL FORCED TO WORK AS DOMESTIC HELP, RESCUED GURUGRAM NEWS



Activists of Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA), an NGO, in Panchkula and Delhi had informed the police that the girl had been trafficked from Ranchi and was being forced to work against her will at a residence in the city. A 17-year-old girl, allegedly trafficked from Ranchi in Jharkhand last June, was rescued by the city police from a residence in Sushant Lok-1, where she was

working as a domestic help. She was allegedly sold to the employer for ₹60,000, said police. The girl's statement was recorded by the Child Welfare Committee (CWC) and she was sent to a childcare institution, where she is under isolation, before undergoing a medical examination, including a Covid-19 test.

Activists of Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA), an NGO, in Panchkula and Delhi had informed the police that the girl had been trafficked from Ranchi and was being forced to work against her will at a residence in the city.

According to an FIR lodged at the Sector 29 police station, after police verification and counselling of the girl, a case under sections 363 (punishment for kidnapping) and 368 (wrongfully concealing or keeping in confinement) of the Indian Penal Code and sections 75 and 79 of the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, were lodged against three persons — two traffickers and employer in New Delhi. The girl's employers at the Sushant Lok residence are also liable to be booked under the law.

According to the police, the girl said that the trafficker had taken her to Delhi in 2019, where a relative of his arranged for her to work as a domestic help at a residence in C-Block in Greater Kailash. Her employer then sent her to work at his daughter's residence in Sushant Lok-1 of Gurugram.

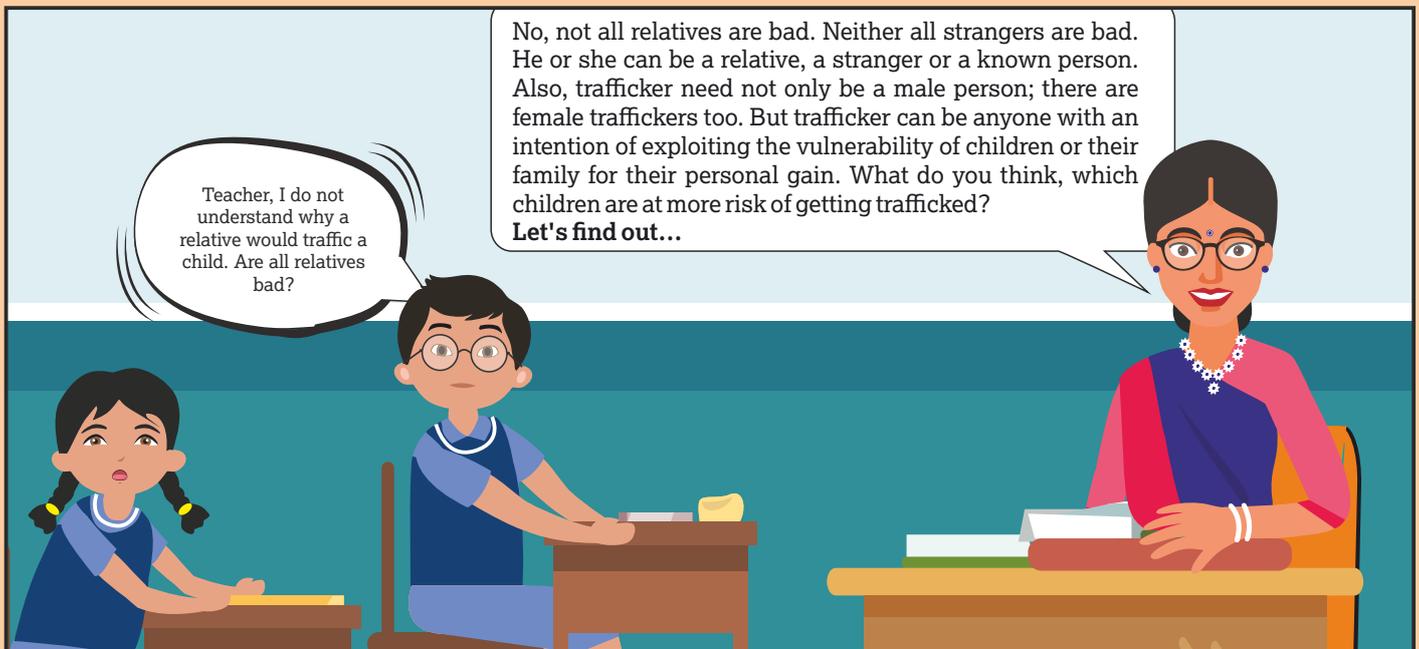
Alleging that her employers at the Gurugram residence would not serve her food and made her work late hours, the girl told the police that she was not allowed to step out of the house and was not paid for her work. "I would be beaten up often. I would cry and often told them that I wanted to return to my village," the girl said.

According to the police, the girl managed to talk to her mother in Ranchi, by dialling her uncle's phone, who advised her to contact her aunt in Delhi once the lockdown is lifted.

Meanwhile, the girl's mother contacted a Ranchi-based NGO, Pratigya, which informed the Delhi-based BBA. Members of the BBA in Panchkula, subsequently, took up the matter with the Gurugram police.

Manish Sharma, BBA spokesperson said, "The police must probe in-depth the role of the two traffickers and arrest them at the earliest. Although the police acted swiftly in this case, there were some lacunae in the case so far as their training is concerned. It appears that they were not aware of child-related laws. The girl must have been treated with sympathy. The next important step should be to ensure that the girl is properly rehabilitated and her wages recovered from her employer," he said. Karan Goel, the assistant commissioner of police, DLF, said that they took prompt action on the complaint and rescued the girl within a few hours. "Her statement was recorded and we had informed the child welfare committee members who have shifted her to one of the CCI's in the city. We have informed her mother and relatives who would reach the city and take a decision on her rehabilitation," he said.





## Who are vulnerable children?

In our daily lives, we come across so many children in our school, our building, in the parks, at tuitions, on the street, playing in the ground or at other places. These children belong to different socio-economic backgrounds. Their parents' household income, educational qualification, employment, number of members in a family, facilities and support may not be the same. Not all children have equal access to resources such as schools, books, various toys etc. Also, not all of them have a healthy and happy family. However, all the children who come from different socio-economic background have one thing in common: their vulnerability

**While going to school, observe various children in your surroundings. List their vulnerability, if any. Discuss it with teacher.**

For example: a child of rich parents and a child of a daily wage laborer will be different as they both will not have access to same resources. However, both can be vulnerable.

Vulnerability is not defined based on socio-economic background, age, gender, education, or whether a child is from rural or urban area. Vulnerability can be explained as a condition which can put a person at risk of exploitation. Children who are at risk of exploitation can be called as vulnerable children. For example: a child travelling alone is more vulnerable compared to a child travelling with parents.

Vulnerability can be different for different age groups of children. It also differs for different genders. For example: boys are more vulnerable for child labor and girls are more vulnerable for domestic work. Vulnerable children are easy target for traffickers. Traffickers trap the children and traffic them at various places away from their home and family. They can exploit such children effortlessly using their weaknesses.

Let's take a look at some examples and discuss...

Situation	Vulnerable/Safe	Reasons
Raju, a class 7 student, whose father is alcoholic and mother works at the factory. He is unattended at home throughout the day.		
16-year-old Simran's family is very poor. They do not have money to buy grains. Simran dropped out of school. She has 4 younger sisters. Her family is trying to get her married off.		
Aman, 14 year old plays various online games. His parents work at a multinational company. So, whenever he is online there is no one to supervise him. He chats with strangers and shares his personal details. One day a man asked Aman to share his pictures while bathing.		
Rekha studies at a reputed school in Pune. Her parents divorced when she was very young. Rekha does not have affection and good bond with her cousins. She is very gullible. She often befriends strangers and trusts them very easily.		
Rahul, 8-year-old boy, was waiting for his mother outside his school. His mother was stuck in traffic. One man noticed Rahul standing alone on the roadside. He went to Rahul and asked about his mother. He stood there with Rahul until his mother came.		
Kiran was a farmer. Due to failure of crops his family was going through a financial crisis. He was desperately in need of a job for himself. One day a man approaches him with an opportunity of job in a metropolitan city, not for him but for his 14-year-old daughter;		

Parag is a 13-year-old boy. His family decided to keep him at his uncle's home in Kolhapur for better education. Parag was not at all happy to leave his family. After coming to Kolhapur, his uncle put him in a good school. Uncle and his family look after Parag very well.

### Exercise:

Recently in March 2022, one NGO rescued 29 children in New Delhi trafficked from Bihar. Give answer- which place is the Source and Destination in this case?

### Question – One-line Answers.

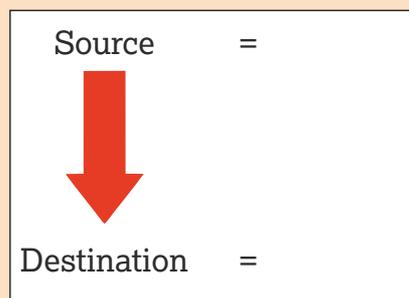
In Sarita's Case-

- Who is the trafficker?
- Who is the victim?
- What are the purpose of traffickers?
- Who were the service providers in Sarita's case?

### True or False-

- All strangers are traffickers-
- Traffickers can be known people/ acquaintance-
- Children and young people who are groomed can be easily trafficked-
- Millions of children are affected by trafficking worldwide-
- Consent of victim is immaterial in an offence of human trafficking-

Answer below, in Sarita's case, which place is source and which place is the destination.



### Project

Make the profile of children who are more vulnerable to trafficking. List down the factors attributing to their vulnerability such as social background, economic status, education level etc.

## **Glossary: -Chapter 2**

**Stakeholder:** Organizations, companies having similar goal or working towards similar aim.

**Intimate:** Having private and personal relationship.

**Grooming:** To prepare or train someone to do certain task or behave in certain way.

**NGO:** Non -Governmental Organization, are independent from Government, and generally defined as non profit entities.

**Young Population:** People who are less than 15 years of age are considered as young population.

**Personal Gain:** Benefit or advantage enjoyed by individual.

**Consent:** To give permission or allow someone to do action.

**UNICEF:** United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund

CHAPTER 3

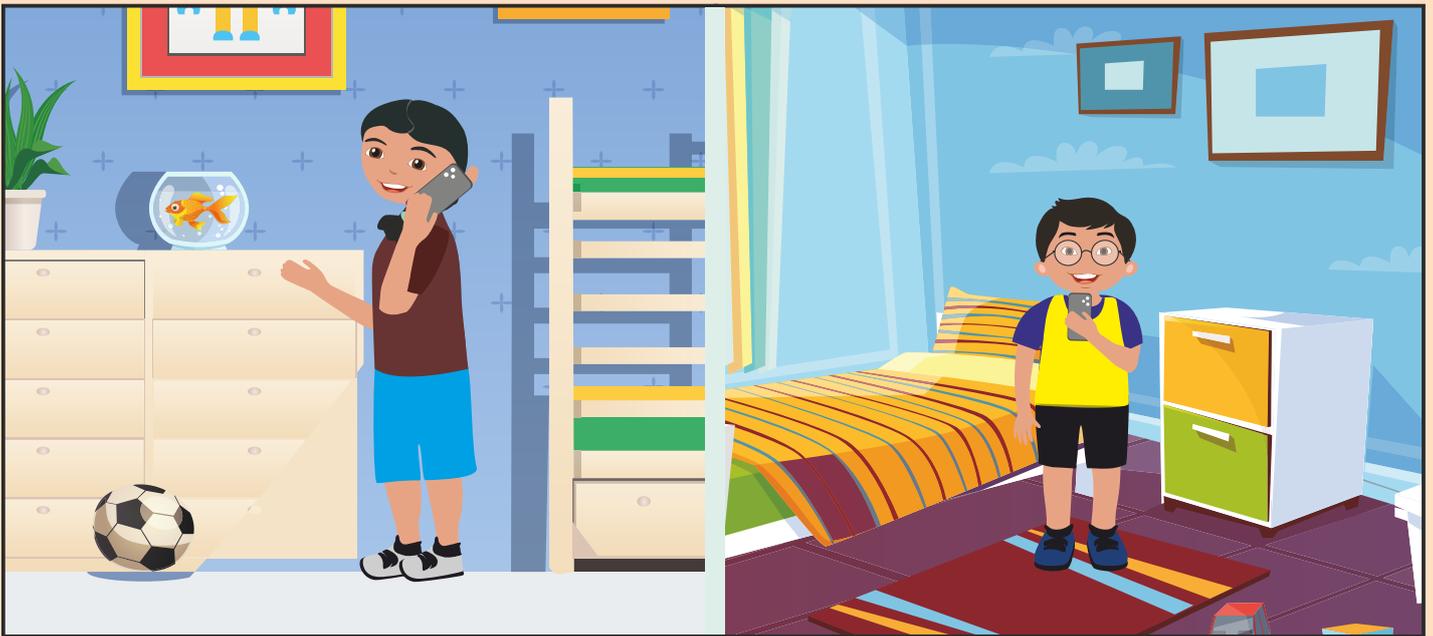
# PREVENTING HUMAN TRAFFICKING



## Part A– Self-prevention

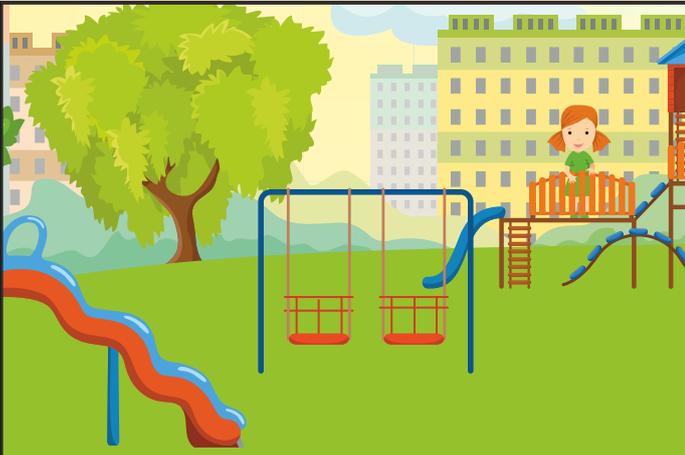
Annual examination of class 8 was over for Rani, Munni, and Sanju. Just like the previous summer vacations, Munni, Rani, and Sanju decided to spend their evenings playing in the park...

After few days, Sanju showed no interest in playing with Rani and Munni. He stopped coming to the park. This was unlike Sanju as he used to enjoy playing in the park with Munni and Rani. Looking at this change in him, Munni and Rani got worried and decided to speak with him.





While playing an online game, one adult player befriends Sanju by being extra helpful. Soon, this online player becomes gaming companion to Sanju. They not only play games together but also share details of their personal lives with each other. Sanju grows closer to this online player and he shares his frustration about parents complaining about his studies and other issues.



In the park, Munni narrates the conversation with Sanju to Rani.



How can Sanju trust this person. He has never met him before? What if he is an evil person?

(Worried) Let's go to Sanju's place and talk to him.

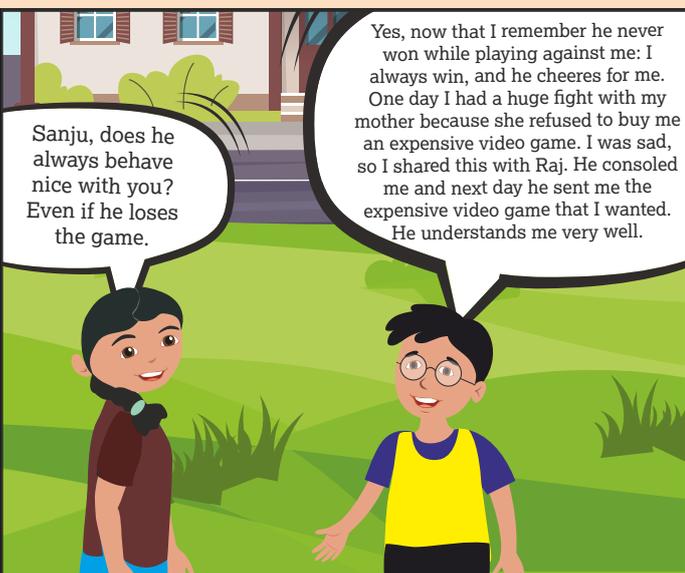


They both hand in hand walk to Sanju's house which is near to the park.



Hi Sanju, tell me about your new friend you made online.

His name is Raj, He helps me a lot while playing online games.



Sanju, does he always behave nice with you? Even if he loses the game.

Yes, now that I remember he never won while playing against me: I always win, and he cheers for me. One day I had a huge fight with my mother because she refused to buy me an expensive video game. I was sad, so I shared this with Raj. He consoled me and next day he sent me the expensive video game that I wanted. He understands me very well.



You, me and Munni are friends, but we quarrel, fight, and get upset with each other when we lose a game. So, I think that it is not a normal gesture to always cheer for other when you yourself lose.

I find it weird. Guys, do you think this is child grooming, which we learned in our class? Traffickers can be of any age. They can pretend to be of any age to befriend children online...



Munni, Rani and Sanju start playing in the park happily.



## Explanation:

It is rightly said that 'Prevention is better than cure'. Therefore, being precautionous can be the first step to combat trafficking. Children need to develop skills to protect themselves from harmful situations and keep themselves safe especially from the traffickers. Since traffickers work in an organized manner, it is difficult to protect a victim once s/he is trafficked. Therefore, it is better to keep yourself safe from getting trafficked rather than getting rescued.

Sanju got saved from any potential harm because of his friends' intervention.

Munni, Rani, and Sanju were aware about the issue of child trafficking. They were aware about the methods used by traffickers to trap children. Sanju could avoid any harm from his pretentious online friend because he became alert and cautious within time.

Hence, spreading awareness about online child trafficking among children of all age group is necessary to combat the evil issue.

**Write 10 lines on the following topics.**

- Advantages of social media
- Disadvantages of social media
- Results of online gaming addiction

**Use the phrase in a sentence in reference to human trafficking**

- Prevention is better than cure.
- Where there is precaution, there is safety.
- Better safe than sorry.
- Be on the safer side.

Along with spreading awareness, there are other measures which children can follow to save themselves from online trafficking. Discuss in class about other preventive measures and list down 5 measures for children to be safe from online traffickers.

Example: Never accept friend request from unknown person on social networking sites.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_

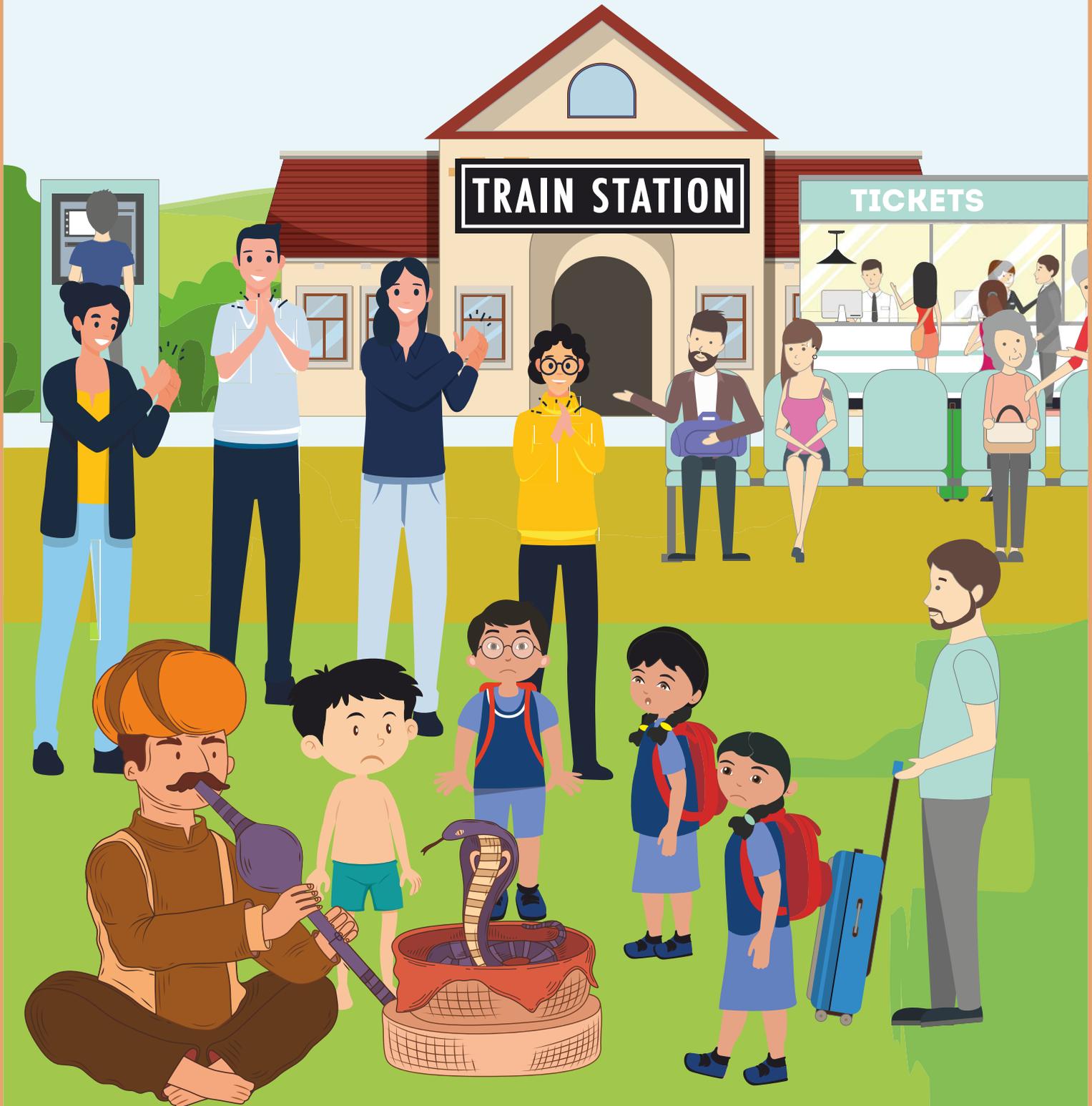
## Part B - Protecting others

One day near Pune railway station, a large crowd was enjoying a performance being given by a snake charmer. Among the viewers were Munni, Rani, and Sanju who were excited to see the adventurous act.

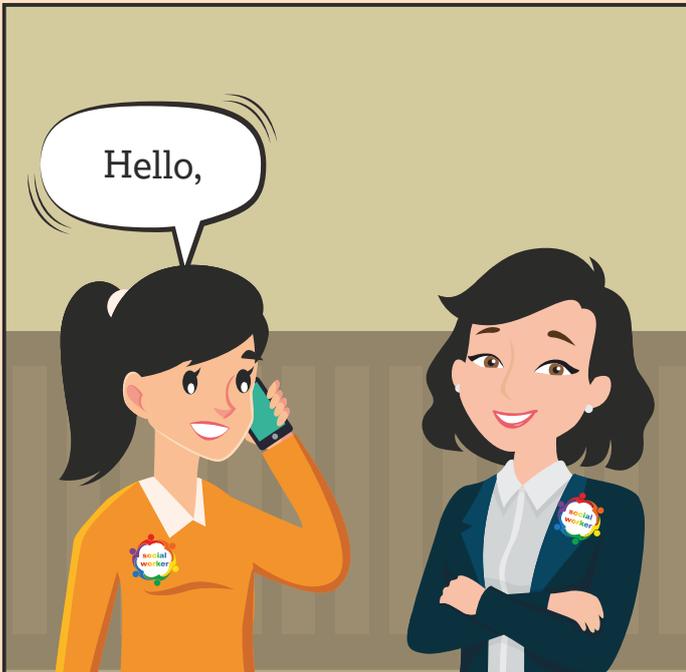


The snake charmer was being assisted by a 10-year-old boy. As the act progressed, the snake charmer took hold of a long reptile and kept it in a big box. He then instructed the little boy to sit in the box with the reptile. The snake charmer was intending to close the box with the lid.

Munni could not help but notice that the little boy was petrified to enter the box with the long reptile. The little boy succumbed to the coerced look of the snake charmer and reluctantly sat in the box.



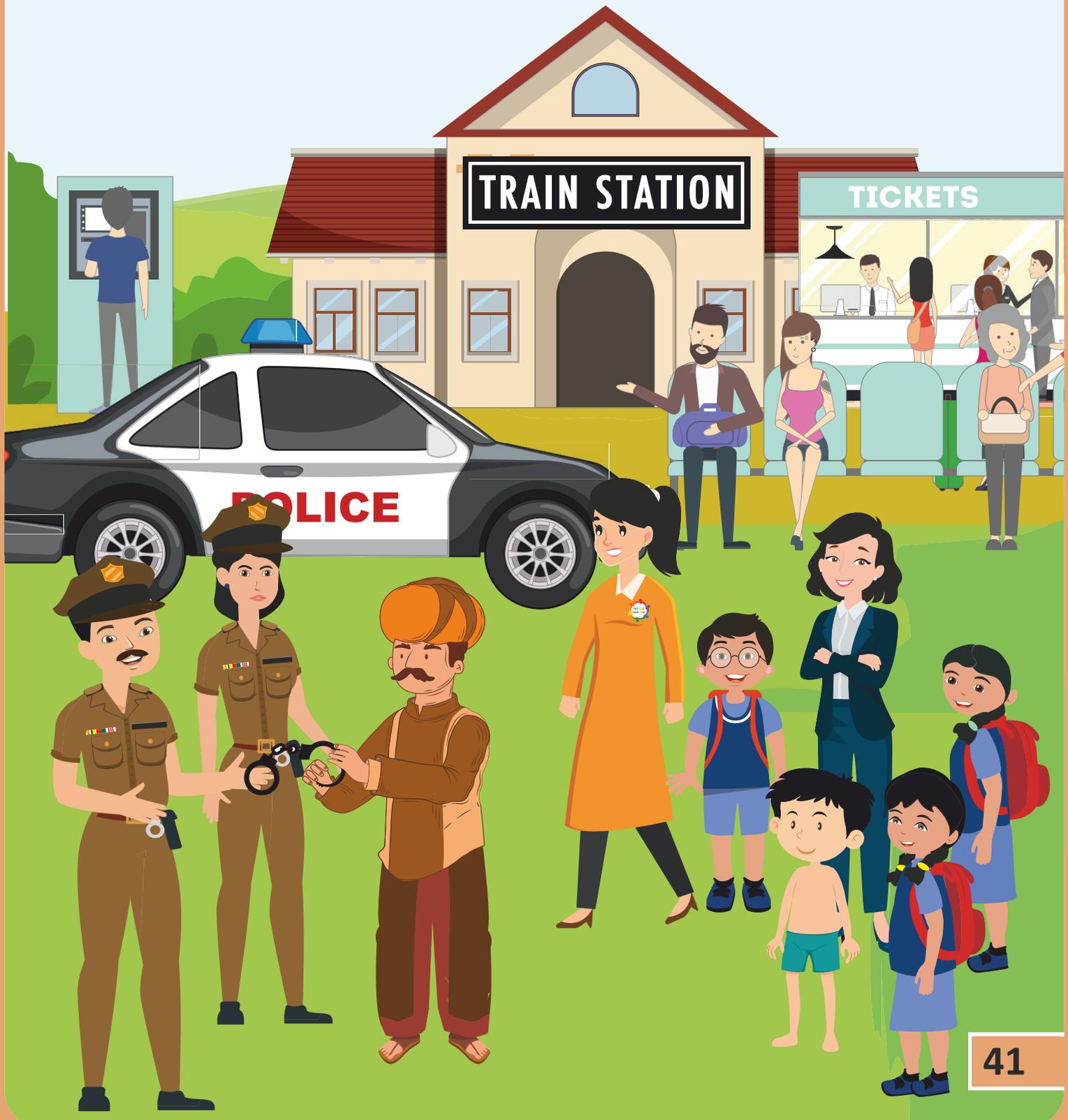
The crowd was amazed and clapped. But Munni, Rani, and Sanju were stunned. They understood that the little boy was being forced to participate in the performance against his wish.





In ten minutes, a social worker from child help line arrives at the place of incident. After viewing the scene the worker calls the police. Police too reach the spot of incident. A police constable starts interrogating the snake charmer. Meanwhile, the social worker starts conversing with the little boy. The name of the little boy is Krishna. Krishna stated that he was afraid of the snake and was not willing to perform the street show. Krishna was an orphan and hailed from a village in Jharkhand. The snake charmer had promised Krishna that he will take him to his uncle's house in Kolkata. (Prior to two months Krishna accompanied him from his village in hope to go to his uncle's house). Krishna was never taken to Kolkata at his uncle's house by the snake charmer. Instead, he forced Krishna to perform street shows with him as his assistant.

The police took the snake charmer in-to custody. The police presented Krishna's case to Child Welfare Committee for his care and protection.



# Explanation:

In part A, we learnt that, by being aware and alert we can prevent ourselves from getting trafficked. Sanju was prevented from possible potential harm during his online pursuits.

In part B, we learnt that, one can not only help himself/herself to prevent from getting trafficked but also save others from getting trafficked. In this part, due to their awareness Munni, Rani and Sanju could rescue Krishna from further exploitation. After learning the issue of child trafficking in school they could save Krishna by contacting the Child Helpline.

How does the helpline number work? Let's look at the tables below

**Ministry of Women & Child Development**

## CHILDLINE 1098 SERVICES

- ▶ Restoration of Missing Children
- ▶ Emotional Support and Guidance
- ▶ Medical Assistance
- ▶ Linking Children to Shelter Services
- ▶ Protection of Children from Abuse
- ▶ Providing Assistance in Availing Sponsorship
- ▶ Reporting of Missing Children
- ▶ Providing Information about Childline and Volunteering

**CHILDLINE 1098** NIGHT & DAY

Child/ Concerned Adult dials 1098 → Connected to a CHILDLINE centre → CHILDLINE team rushes to child within 60 minutes → Child provided rehabilitation constant follow up.

wcd.nic.in | /PMOIndia | /MinistryWCD | @Manekagandhibjp | /ManekaGandhiOfficial



## Exercise

### Answer the following

- Which gesture of Krishna was denoting that he is not comfortable performing street show with a snake?
- Whom did Rani contact to seek help?
- Who all came to the spot of incident on Rani's call?
- What promise the snake charmer give to Krishna? did he fulfill it?
- Where was Krishna sent after his rescue?

## Class Activity

- Read the news and Discuss in the class.  
[https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/9-yr-old-boy-performs-as-snake-charmer-rescued/articleshow/90527571.cms#\\_ga=2.257091085.706101795.1649158064-amp.LmWQQHi\\_7od\\_yjn2mMANMqiUe1LYf8LS2kKE3bWgi-pnh88whiBD6Pjs9Qwcd1x](https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/9-yr-old-boy-performs-as-snake-charmer-rescued/articleshow/90527571.cms#_ga=2.257091085.706101795.1649158064-amp.LmWQQHi_7od_yjn2mMANMqiUe1LYf8LS2kKE3bWgi-pnh88whiBD6Pjs9Qwcd1x)
- Write a pledge in 2 sentences to combat child trafficking.
- Read the News below for preparing a similar project in your school.

HINDUSTAN TIMES, RANCHI  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 09, 2017

# In human trafficking hub, cops rely on students to be their eyes

**HELPING HAND** Teams of 11-22 keep an eye on vulnerable families, school dropouts in Bengal to check child marriage

**Snigdendu Bhattacharya**  
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**KAKDWIP(SUNDERBANS):** In the first week of November, a Class 8 student of Koaberia Mohammedia High Madrasa in Kakdwip area of the Sunderbans region was told that her parents had finalised her marriage on November 13.

On that date, out of the blue, police landed at the wedding ceremony and arrested the marriage registrar. The girl appeared for her annual exams in December.

What happened between the girl learning about her marriage and the day of the wedding reads like fiction. Only a few days ago, the minor had participated in a day-long awareness camp in her school, where women police officers and NGO workers explained the evils of child marriage and its link to human trafficking—the twin evils that plague the district of South 24 Parganas.

As part of the initiative, a 22-member group was formed with male and female students from 11 neighbouring villages. Its task was to monitor if any children in their villages remained unseen for a few days. The would-be bride first informed some members of the group who brought it to the notice of the group's teacher in charge Mahiuddin Sardar. He promptly informed the block development officer of the impending wedding.

### Tackling the menace



**Between 2011 and 2016, Bengal topped the country in human trafficking five times**

- 45% Bengal's share in the total trafficking cases in 2016
- 85.7% Female were trafficked from Bengal
- 75% of whom were minors

One-fourth of India's trafficking victims between 2010 and 2016 are from Bengal

Bengal also accounts for 85,855 (15.6%) of total 549,008 people missing in India

About 62% people missing from Bengal are women, majority of them minors.

#### Swayangsiddha groups to the rescue

- The groups comprise 11-22 students from both genders
- Each group is guided by a teacher in charge, who coordinates with NGOs, police and block-level officers
- Members gather information about planned child marriages and teenagers who remain unseen for a few days
- Groups formed in about 200 schools

■ District police has taken the initiative to check child marriage and trafficking.

SAMIR JANA/HT

Koaberia Mohammedia High Madrasa is among 200-odd schools spread across six blocks where the district police, in association with UNICEF, has created Swayangsiddha (self-reliant woman) groups to battle the evils of child marriage and trafficking.

"We feel thrilled and confident after preventing her marriage. She wanted to study. We are keeping our ears open," said Anja Ara Khatun, a Class 9 student and

member of the group. About 75% of the madrasa's 850 students are girls. Each group has 11-22 members and is led by a teacher. The members meet every week, while once a month, they are joined by a teacher.

In many villages, the students have organised rallies to raise awareness about social evils.

"This is a large-scale community policing initiative and the first of its kind in India, where the

police sought direct involvement of students," said Rishi Kant of Delhi-based NGO Shakti Vahini. The organisation played a vital role in the rescue of several women trafficked from Bengal.

"We have been asked to identify vulnerable families, school dropouts and children who never went to school," said Chaitali Mondal, a Class 9 student of Chak Panchghora Sitanath High School at neighbouring Joynagar

and a team member.

Standing outside the co-ed madrasa in Koaberia, local resident Imranul Haque, 45, said: "Girls need to be educated. Even Class 9 and 10 students elope with unknown boys. God knows where they end up."

A visit to these areas illustrates how poverty and illiteracy allow trafficking to flourish. Koaberia, located along a tributary of Muriganga river and situated in the buffer zone of the Sunderbans, is dotted with agricultural fields that yield only during monsoon. Most of the population lives in mud huts. Teenage boys often travel to Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh for work in zari and tailoring industries.

Villagers claimed at least four families had no contact with their daughters since their marriage.

"Early in 2016, we realised we needed to involve the schools and village panchayats to create listening posts on the ground. Since child marriage is often linked to trafficking, we decided to turn it into a combined campaign," said Chandra Sekhar Bardhan, additional superintendent of police, Diamond Harbour. He played a key role in developing the concept and its implementation.

"If a minor is being trafficked or married off, it's her or his friends who are supposed to get the hints first," Bardhan added.

**Project:** Under guidance of teacher in charge prepare a RAKSHA group comprising at least ten students of both genders, conduct awareness camps in school premises on preventing child trafficking.



— [www.eca-aper.org](http://www.eca-aper.org) —

# Using Education to combat Human Trafficking

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