

# **HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN CENTRAL ASIA: 1991-2016**

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**MASTER OF PHILOSOPHY**

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## DECLARATION

Certified that the dissertation entitled “**Human Trafficking in Central Asia: 1991-2016**” submitted by Shriya Sinha in fulfilment of the requirements for the award of the degree of **Master of Philosophy** of Jawaharlal Nehru University is his own work and this has not been submitted for any other degree of this University or any other University.

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## CERTIFICATE

We recommend that the thesis be placed before the examiners for evaluation.

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## **List of Abbreviations**

UNODC	United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
CEDAW	Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
GRTP	Global Report on Trafficking In Person
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
UAE	United Arab Emirates
RFMS	Russian Federal Migration Service
ICG	International Crisis Group
PTSD	Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
UNAIDS	United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS
PWID	People Who Inject Drugs
STD	Sexually Transmitted Disease
IRIN	Integrated Regional Information Networks
CAR	Central Asian Region
NCW	National Commission of Women
EU	European Union
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
ICAT	Inter-Agency Coordination Group against Trafficking in Persons

# CHAPTER-1

## INTRODUCTION

It was rightly said by Abraham Lincoln, "If slavery is not wrong nothing is wrong". The words of the great leader if taken seriously would have led to no gap between the oppressor and the oppressed. The word slavery brings with it the flashback tale to the mind of the people in the present day as most people think of it as something that has passed, and had a long and tragic historical event that involved the capture and exploitation of human beings as forced labor with no freedom of movement or choice. Slaves were none other than the bonded laborers who were controlled by the kings during ancient times. Slavery for us dint mean much then forcible transportation of Africans into the new world, which had its connection with colonization. Today if we look at the situation we would find that the tragic reality still exists as the horrifying situation of the similar nature with a little shift in the pattern of slavery which is often termed as modern day slavery that is existent on an even bigger scale with broader business goals in this commercialized world. Human trafficking can be best described as one of the most dreadful face of slavery that has imprisoned the present era and tends to violate the human rights (Idang, 2013).

As per the IMO reports Trafficking in persons refers to the illegal trade or "sale" of human beings for illicit and sexual exploitation or forced labor through abduction, the use or threat of force, deception and fraud. It knows no gender, race, age, or even boundaries due to globalization (Perkins, 2012). If we talk about the world's biggest human rights violations it is none other than Human trafficking as the traffickers act cleverly in picking up their prey hence they play smart when it comes to picking up the prey and there focus remains on the most vulnerable members of society, people burdened with poverty, disabilities and discrimination. Slavery in recent times have taken a big shape drastically and is often called by other names, like human trafficking and undocumented immigration but slavery remains slavery and we find people stripped of human dignity still where they are not given any choice, be they women or children smuggled across national or international borders to forcibly participate in the sex trade or men, women and children are trafficked across borders

to work in unclean and even hazardous conditions in sweat shops, creating cheaply made garments or goods for export for little if any compensation, in a state of perpetual indentured servitude. There have been many such cases where both women and children have been taken to other countries forcefully as domestic servants or nannies, with force and fraud and have deceived victims and their families, who often believe they have done their child a favor sending them somewhere to get an education and live in a nice house. Human trafficking is often viewed from the perspective of international migration. As Paul J. Smith points out, international migration is often explained by a basic “push” and “pull” model: “economic deprivation, high fertility, and unemployment (push factors) in lesser-developed countries work in concert with such elements as family reunification, higher wages, and increased demand for labor (pull factors) in industrialized countries, to create an influx of immigrants.”<sup>60</sup> This model holds true for the trafficking phenomenon as well. Poverty, unemployment and lack of future perspectives are among the push factors; demand for “services” and potentially higher wages are the pull factors in receiving countries, for women taking the risk of going abroad and getting trafficked (Sulaimanova,1995).

Human trafficking can be best characterized as one of the most disgusting dilemmas of the society as a whole having negative impact on the different members belonging to the society including innocent children, women and men. Morally, it's most defective if such kind of slavery is taking place in any part of the world. This practice of human trafficking is widely known to be one of the most dreadful and sorrow state of any society as the general compassion of one individual towards the other is at question. Human trafficking in today's time has become a remarkably big social deadlock and makes advantage in the name of abduction, intimidation, and sometimes violent force. Human trafficking is an inhuman practice and has had a negative effect on the lives and future of numerous people which is clearly an abnormality that has affected negatively in the lives and mental state of people who gets affected by this tragic inhumane practice, and thus should at all cost be abolished. The fact remains that individuals alone are being deepened by the horrific act of trafficking and in majority are the children and women. If possible sending message to counsel criminally orientated individuals could possibly results in better moral reasoning, with a decent expected outcome would be a wide coverage and awareness within societies



and communities on how to report and help government authorities let go this monstrously inhumane practice. Human trafficking is detailed by UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) as the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons using force, coercion, abduction, fraud, deception, abuse of power or vulnerability. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime is a tool that discusses the root causes of trafficking in persons and the economic and social policies identified in the Office under Drugs and Crimes (UNODC, 2014).

I believe the best theory to explain human trafficking would be the conflict perspective. Conflict perspective focuses on the different groups in a society, as a result of it conflicts between these groups occurs that leads to economic inequality. The Human trafficking is nothing but the outcome of extreme level of ambition that has created a market for trafficking with men, women and children who are engaged in all forms of forced labor, including agriculture, domestic service, construction work and sweat shops, as well as sexual exploitation. The two groups that conflict here are not only the traffickers who search for the victims to be trafficked and the industries that surround them with the trafficked people whom they select among the most vulnerable sections but also all those who use them for their own benefit creating a demand. Human trafficking is one of the most difficult crimes to prove. In Central Asia, the plight is such that the victims of such crimes often do not wish to report their suffering to the law enforcement agencies thinking of the dire condition and that they might get trapped into in future. Their mentality gets so narrowed down that it in any case doesn't always allow speaking up about being trafficked or forced into prostitution. This makes an assessment of the threat's real extent a complicated task. At this point, there is limited data on human trafficking and one can only guess an actual number of the people affected (Michele, 2005).

For example, Kazakhstan is reportedly registering about 400 human trafficking cases per year. If we look into the condition of Tajikistan, we would see how only 59 cases were reported in 2015 and the Uzbekistani authorities mentioned 696 investigation processes, 372 criminal cases and 460 people convicted for trafficking humans in 2015. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan specified that 924 people were trafficked in 2015 and 784 of those were taken out of the country (ICG, 2002). But much difference in part of real estimation can be seen. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) mentioned 175 trafficking cases in

Kyrgyzstan in the first half of 2016. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kyrgyzstan registered 8 crimes in the same period. Turkmenistan authorities identified 12 victims of human trafficking in 2015 yet an international organization reportedly aided 40 victims of trafficking in the same year. In a similar fashion, the state bodies in Tajikistan identified 8 victims in 2015, however NGOs and international organizations confirmed providing support to 56 victims in the same period of time (IWPR, 2016).

Human trafficking in Central Asia has emerged as one of the fundamental challenges of today's world. It has an effect on all the regions and countries and can be seen as a grave violation of human rights. The trading of women, children and men have led to various kinds of distress, violence, inhuman and tragical circumstances within and across boundaries of Central Asia. Not only in Central Asia but globally we would see that the nature of human trafficking has been underscored by the International agencies. The profit generated by human trafficking offenders per year is estimated up to ten billions of dollars. Different forms of human trafficking prevail, ranging to sexual exploitation, forced labor, organ trafficking, forced marriage, child trafficking, child soldiers etc. There has been a raising concern about the higher trafficking risks for vulnerable social groups including refugees. There has been a unanimity in the matter of human trafficking as a consensus exists that human trafficking constitutes a fundamental threat to the humankind, a serious infringement of human rights and dignity and gravely affects the mental and physical health and well-being of the victims. If need to understand human trafficking deeply it becomes essential to accumulate accurate and valid data, information and statistics as they are not only essential for a better understanding of human trafficking, but also for effective anti-human trafficking policies, measures, strategies, and actions. It becomes quite difficult to assess the magnitude and extent of the human trading due to the hidden nature of human trafficking, gaps in research methodology and data collections, the reluctance of victims to report instances of trafficking for the fear of stigmatization, retaliation, and coercion from traffickers (Lee, 2002).

Also, if we look into various other countries we would find that many countries do not have definite data on trafficking as reported instance of abduction, attack, violence, rape, and migration-related infractions are combined. In my chapters I attempt to provide a greater understanding of human trafficking, a historical overview and the

internationally agreed upon definitions of the human trafficking phenomenon and the different forms of trafficking. My goal here would be to explain the main causes of human trafficking including poverty, conflicts, and globalization and the consequences of trafficking. This dissertation will comprise and comprehend the human trafficking phenomenon through sociological perspectives as well as the rights-based approaches to gain insights of the reasons underlying trafficking, the modus operandi of the human traffickers and their results on human trafficking victims.

## **BACKGROUND**

Trafficking in persons has become the foremost human rights problems in the countries of Central Asia and has received global attention at large. We see how the focus of human traffickers has shifted to Central Asia, a region with social, political, and economic backwardness. Initially the trafficked women were considered as a source of assistance and advocacy. But today, there is recognition that women, children and men are trafficked into many different forms of labour, and are sexually exploited. The most cited definition is given by the United Nations where it has a protocol to prevent, suppress and punish the trafficking of humans. 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. Both Asia and Central Asia has become the most important source of trafficking and the natives of Central Asia face significant problem in countries such as Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. Two of these countries, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan, were on the peak of the 2003 Trafficking in Persons Report, released by the United States Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, both the governments and the societies in Central Asia were “reluctant to discuss the problem of trafficking in humans, pretending the issue does not exist in their countries.”<sup>1</sup> In this predominantly

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<sup>1</sup> Farangis Najibullah, Central Asia: Governments Slowly Changing Approach to Human Trafficking, Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL), July 2, 2003.

Muslim region of the world, any open discussions on trafficking or prostitution have become almost a “taboo” (Ahluwalia 2009).

The root cause behind trafficking is various and there are different factors that lead to Trafficking. Human being Trafficked are various and differ from country to country. Trafficking is said to be as a complex phenomenon .One such factor is Migration (Laruelle, 2008).

The desire of Central Asian population to migrate is in search of better condition, no poverty, desire for attainment of human rights, search of better social and economic opportunity, political stability etc. Tends the exploiters to take hold of potential victims. The pressure is created on the victims that push themselves into migration and hence in control of the Traffickers. Studies rely on data from case-records from services providing care to repatriate trafficked girls such as and women. Data have been collected on, for example, HIV status or other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) and health conditions tuberculosis. There have also been a small number of studies conducted with women who were still in sex work settings, but the application of varying criteria on who was ‘trafficked’ means it is difficult to draw reliable conclusion,” while victims prefer not to report their experiences to the authorities, “for fear that the conservative societies will reject them.” As of 2000, no international organizations or non-governmental organizations NGOs have conducted research examining (Mattar, 2004).

Under Human Trafficking process the people are transported from their origin to the destination where they are being taken in the name of attainment of better Job Opportunities etc. But are exploited for the purpose of either Forced Labor, Prostitution etc. Here “Palmer Protocol “definition needs a mention where it has set forth a definition internationally regarding the concept Human Trafficking where it deals with the question of Consent: Article3(b)and (c) of the Palermo Protocol address how the consent of the trafficked person goes in vain in case of any sort of coercion or force applied. The trafficking in Persons Report (TIP Report) 2009 published by the department of United States talks about the misconceptions regarding the consent of the trafficked person. It clearly states that even though the people agrees to migrate or to take up a job its consent or effort to join the work becomes irrelevant in case any kind of physical coercion is applied on the person or if they compelled during the

legal process. It is another dangerous factor, which is fueling local discontent and creating a potential threat to the political stability and security of the weaker states in Central Asia and Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan in particular (Obokata, 2006).

Trafficking amongst humans is considered as modern day slavery where by the acts of slavery, Luring or Forcing are applied upon the victims so that they get compelled to leave their home to work for little or no payment. Victims especially Women and Children are promised for “Better Life”, lured under fake job opportunities with no negative aspect and lastly forcefully beaten, kidnapped or raped. They are kept under deplorable condition whereby rarely they are given any sort of medical assistance and most of the time they are not even given any treatment. The victims get very nervous as their passport is confiscated. In a way we can say human trafficking has become “Second largest Criminal Industry” (TIP, 2009).

If we see closely Central Asia has become the growing Centre with 8% Women, 69% other, 1000 Child victims, 2000 EU citizens being victims .The country of origin is Uzbekistan followed by Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. The victims are taken to countries like South East Asia and Greece etc. Decline of Job opportunities, Breakdown of Economic condition gives birth to Trafficking in and around any nation state as is the case with Central Asia. It clearly violates the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which says, “No Human shall be held in slavery or servitude”. The cause behind trafficked victims in Central Asia is the Repelling economy of the citizens, poor economic conditions of people due to which the poor and needy accepts the offer given to the victim in the name of both Job or Better life, it gives them Psychological Peace. Despite “Trafficking Victim Protection Act” (TVPA), Trafficking of children is not unheard. In the Central Asian Region children younger than 12 are reported to be trafficked which is a matter of grave concern for the government. Street Crimes and Sexual exploitation takes place at large numbers in Central Asia A 2006 UNICEF survey found Five common characteristics of Children at risk for trafficking in the Balkans (Natalia, 2008).

1. Domestic Abuse
2. Teens used for sexual exploitation
3. Lack of financial support and protection
4. Have dropped out from school.

5. Those belong to ethnic minority groups of the region.

Here, the prime concern would be to throw some light on the work done by any N.G.O., civil society or Government or not as it is possible only then to help escape victims in trafficking.

## **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

Siobhan Morrissey (2006) in his article has articulated that Human trafficking has been considered as "the fastest-growing and third-largest criminal industry in the world today after the trades of drugs and arms and drugs that generates billions of profit each year," as per the introduction stated by the ABA Center for Human Rights in their resource manual on the issue published in October. He further highlighted that "Sex trafficking has been one of the most profitable industry that involves sexual exploitation in prostitution or pornography, bride trafficking or the commercial or sexual abuse of children. She further describes how millions of innocents are mistreated each year and are made victims in this contemporary form of slavery; where by thousands are trafficked within every now and then.

Erica Marat (2009) in her book, "Labor Migration in Central Asia: Implications of the Global Economic Crisis", explain as to how migration leads to intensive labor migration further leading to a future impact on global economic crises in central Asia. She further explains as to how over the past decade the former Soviet zone gets twisted and turned into one of the major human migration regions in the world. Also how the amount of remittances sent home by labor migrants have grown significantly She also explains how from the 2000s there has been an increase in the amount of remittances sent home to 2008. Among the former Soviet republics the labor migration has become a potential major force for integration. Unfortunately on the migration issue both sending and receiving states failed to cooperate including weak state response. She further points on how in the regions of Central Asia labor migration is treated as a political issue, mainly with the countries like Russia and Kazakhstan who are recipients using migrants to exert pressure on migrant-sending countries. Meanwhile, she has a firm idea regarding Uzbekistan a major sending country that has blocked the dialogue of labor migration issue at regional meetings.

Johannes Koettl (2009) discussed about the level of economic exploitation that occurs in central Asia as a result of human trafficking and modern day slavery. Here in this article her motive is to relate the two concepts of Trafficking with modern day slavery. That is, no matter if movement of victims is involved or not it is still considered human trafficking whenever people are lured or forced. Here though, a large overlap can be seen with extreme consensual exploitation whereby victim is forced to accept the exploitative work due to their economic vulnerabilities. She further explains the specific type of laws which address issues which gets associated with exploitation in the name of migration. Consensual exploitation can be addressed through social and labor law, an area where World Bank has enough experience about. While nonconsensual exploitation emphasizes upon the criminal law.

Here she strongly believes and focuses on the need to look into the broader aspect of trafficking and the need for the international organization like The World Bank to look into the issue of trafficking at large from broader global perspective and World Bank should consider establishing more of its efforts on nonconsensual exploitation, particularly it should focus on the areas which can provide justice for the poor and empower vulnerable groups so that justice and good governance can be demanded. In similar lines there is a need to enhance the knowledge on frequency, causes, and magnitudes of nonconsensual exploitation. In doing so, the role of the World Bank becomes necessary as it should seek partnerships to complement existing initiatives and expertise, but at the same time should also consider providing leadership which would be apt in the fight against exploitation and human trafficking.

Prof. Sergey Ryazantsev (2007) in his book, “Human trafficking for labour exploitation and Irregular migration in the Russian Federation: trends and aspects” has explained the acute problem of human trafficking and how it has in the Russian Federation led to labor migration and exploitation. It has been due to the country’s special socio-economic situation and geographical location. She explains how the collapse of USSR in Russia, was followed by a sharp increase in social and economic inequality leading to rise in unemployment and poverty, which in a way created a socio-economic rationale for the involvement of certain kinds of groups among the Russian population in trafficking. Russia by virtue of its geographical location and size, has become a country through which a significant number of migrants from Asia, Africa, and the Near East attempt to enter Europe. It at the same time acts as a

source of destination country for both internal and external trafficking for labor exploitation in human beings.

According to IOM Report (2015), it is expected that much growth can be seen in relation to the entry of migrant workers from Central Asia. Since 2012 the growth in the list of foreign citizen is expected to grow and is anticipated to soon reach 300 thousand entries, most of them migrant workers from Central Asia. More and more migrant workers are consulting IOM Tajikistan and expecting its support for the migrants who are denied entry in the Russian federation after returning to Tajikistan during the low season, leading to serious economic difficulties for most. Unable to resume work in the Russian Federation for extended periods of time, these “banned” Tajik migrant workers are unable to work in the Russian federation and must now look for other sources of income in their home country but it is again difficult because of the lack of economic prospects in Tajikistan. It is because of this reason that these workers left in the first place and join job in some other country. There has been a lot much irregular migration as a result of the re-entry bans of most of the interviewees. In order to enter the Russian Federation only an internal passport for Tajik citizen is required due to the visa free regime.

Francesca Omolar Ekwuyasi (2015) in his research explained how with the neo liberal era a rise in the level of Human Trafficking can be seen leading to the dramatic expansion of labour migration and rise in the level of migrant workers. There has been lack of governmental control as there are limited governing bodies to regulate the activities of recruiters, as a result of which the migrant workers are left with no option but to remain at the mercy of recruiters and depend upon them despite the atrocities they lay upon them. The recruiters are known to charge exorbitant fees those indebt migrant workers prior to arriving at their destination countries and they get burdened enough and get trapped in the false contracts provided by the recruiters. The sad part is that the conditions been shown to the migrants before do not reflect the conditions in which migrant workers find themselves upon arrival at destination countries.

The research paper here focuses that Vulnerability is not only created by Gender, race and class as vulnerability has a great role to play every aspect of the trafficking process. For example, the desire for a high standard of living and peaceful



surrounding compels people to migrate from one place to the other. Poverty (a condition of social class) if we consider and the desire for better working conditions and better quality of life plays a role in determining people's choice to migrate in the immediate place. He further highlighted that it is the victims of trafficking who are being exploited. He explains it in the context of labour migration as human trafficking in the GCC. The recruiters are basically traffickers and their work is to provide workers in origin countries with false and illegal contracts and other such deceitful activities, and the private sector employers are basically the exploiters. However, the state can be claimed as an exploiter whose legislation allows these abuses to be legally reasonable or at the very least, such kind of states can be termed as a facilitator that creates such type of conditions which go favourable to human trafficking and exploitation. It seems as if indirectly the government gives its approval for such criminal activities in its ambit.

This research even uses data from the IMO on migrant labour, ILO conventions, the protocols from the United Nations Convention against Transnational Crime, and migrant labour protection, qualitative data on narratives of victims, and documentary evidence based on interviews collected from academic studies done on the topic. It makes use of documentary analysis of the above listed sources, as well as data collected from existing academic research on labour migration and research papers studied and collected from studies done on the region. In order to have data on the human trafficking there is a need to have exact numbers or figures due to the secret nature of trafficking and exploitation and to render data accuracy on the exact numbers of people therefore this research uses estimates provided in the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the ILO, the IOM, as well as academic studies on labour exploitation and human trafficking in the broader perspective. The Human Rights Approach is also considered in this research, which seeks to move the focus of trafficking from the orientation of criminal investigation of traffickers and the criminalization of victims, to the preservation and protection of the human rights of the victims (UNHCR, 2011).

It is through the Office of the Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (OSCE) that the study is put forwarded on the business and economic model of human trafficking in line with the United Nations Global Initiative(UNGIFT) IN 2010. This study confers that in case the trafficking

organization and traffickers function as businesses with the primary goal of limiting above your head costs and maximizing profits, then it becomes necessary to understand how decisions are made.

Becker (1986), even argues how the individual chooses to be a trafficker and how a thing called Rational choice framework asserts that behind every criminal step they take or move they make there is a logic behind and in order to measure they weigh through the costs, benefits and risks. At an individual level if we see we will make that certain kind of opinion are made by the individuals according to their choice and the choice is to become traffickers and indulge in criminal activity. With regards to human trading, this decision building may include a reflection of the payoffs, such as the chance and prospect of an available supply of potential victims, significant appeal for those victims in the market, a considerably high return on profit small probability of being arrested and prosecuted.

Besides, there is the Demand Theory and Economic Theory which has been put forth in the work of both Thozama Mantissa Lutya and Mark Lanier (2015). From a business economic point of view if we have to analyze the characteristics of the traffickers we would find how it highlights motivations of traffickers, employers and consumers of trafficked labour as primarily economic, i.e. as in search to make the most of profit and contentment with minimal investment. It proposes that if one has to address human trafficking there should be a need of an effective means and it should be taken from an economic standpoint as well, such as removing inducements that make the employment of trafficked labour more desirable by for employers by mobilizing a consumer boycott of commodities produced with trafficked labour. Moreover, due to the development of more certain and severe penalties for traffickers makes them, according to Rational Choice theory, less likely to choose to engage in human trafficking. Similarly it explains how the availability of legal and attractive job opportunities reduces the likelihood that people will choose to engage in human trafficking as they would have access to a work that can sustain their livelihoods.

Mahdavi and Sargent (2011) cite Chang and Kim (2007) in her book argues and are concerned towards the growing unemployment and lack of economic opportunities due to the emergence of Globalization and the implementation of neo liberal policies. These policies have in a way forced the people to shift from their own country to the

other in search of better opportunities. She further explains how this results into an increasing demand for cheap labour that increases workers' motivation to attempt to migrate for the purpose of selling their labour elsewhere. (Chang & Kim, 2007) They go further to claim that people from all parts of the world migrate-“immigration, migration and trafficking are taking place everywhere simultaneously leading to human trafficking at large”.

Consequently, Mahdavi and Sargent (2004), criticizes the gendered construction of discourse in which she they treat human trafficking as a phenomenon which is extremely dichotomous, as for them it over generalizes the extremely difficult issue of trafficking and profess the notion of how men willingly choose to undergo irregular migration as having an agency, and thus completely get trapped in the vicious circle of trafficking and women along with children as having been fooled and/or forced from their homes, and are not economic migrants.

The United Nations Human Rights Office of the High Commissioner (OHCHR) highlights that human rights is most relevant to human trafficking as Human rights as: In this conception we can say that it is because of human trafficking that human rights gets violated. And the result of migration is due to the concern regarding our right which calls for an adequate standard of living (Human Rights and Human Trafficking Fact Sheets UNHRC, 2014). Most relevant to the process of trafficking and responses to trafficking respectively are the rights to be free from slavery and the right to fair trial. (Human Rights and Human Trafficking Fact Sheets UNHRC, 2014).

Scholars such as Hila Shamir (2012) critique the Rights-based approach by claiming that it lacks meaningful effectiveness on the issue relating to human trafficking as with it impression is created that the international community is more active in addressing the root causes of trafficking than working for the issue in real. In place of that she proposes a labour approach so that it can address what is her understanding on structural labor market and its condition that leaves workforces with a bargaining power which is inferior in their places of work that leaves them vulnerable to exploitation. (Shamir, 2012) An anti-trafficking approach is called by her and she calls for a shift in the policy from human rights to a labour approach.

Shamir (2012), gives a view from the vantage point on a different level and says that despite the similar goal carried by both the Labour Rights and Human Rights

movements of promoting 'distributive justice' and expanding the safeties of those populations which are structurally marginalized and disadvantaged, as well as recognizing the role that rights play in attaining these goals, there remains considerable amount of differences in their understanding and consideration of what and who can be termed as disadvantage and how that can be lessened and to which extent. She argues that both the approach target on different realm of power and influence as the labour approach and human rights approach have specific targets of their own hence a difference in their realm of power and influence can be seen while on the one hand human rights is focused on the individual's power in comparison to the state labour right which has its concern with labor power in relation to capital.

Therefore, the labour rights movement gives priority to class struggle and socioeconomic issues such as the right for workers to unionize, collective bargaining as a tool for improving labor's working conditions and increasing share of profits (Shamir, 2012). On the other hand, the human rights movement has been concerned with embedding universal human rights and absolute values into national constitutions and legislature.

Comp (2010), in his book advocates that the current dominant approach in international anti-trafficking is evidence and an indication of the coming together of the human rights and labour rights approaches and its consequences, as we will see how the majority of both movements have accepted that it is but the human rights approach that is hampered due to human trafficking. She further goes on to argue that this is dangerous as it excludes the core values of labour movement concerning the acute understanding of the power dynamics which is imbalanced. She critiques the narrow scope of human rights, in that it focuses largely on the rescue of victim and does little to deal with the structural causes of worker vulnerability.

Nicole J. Jackson (2006) on the other hand offers us with the explanation as to how the illicit activity gets lumped by the international organization by using specific language use specific language through a single 'threat package' that needs to be combated and fought as early as possible. The crux of the matter is that during migration process if at any point, any characteristic of human trafficking such as threat, abuse or exploitation is introduced in the scenario, even in the case of consensual smuggling then even in the case of consensual smuggling, then all

agreement cancel out and the situation transform from migration or interchange to human trafficking.

## **RATIONALE AND SCOPE OF THE STUDY**

This Research will briefly deal with objective which is to contribute to the prevention and elimination of Human Trafficking that occurs due to migration. Here I wish to create new roads to understand the study of trafficking so that the quality of research can be enhanced. I wish to assess the current state of Trafficking Research and to highlight ways by which trafficking programme can be countered. Although combating Trafficking has become a growing priority in Central Asia. Still the information regarding the magnitude of the problem remains limited. How to identify trafficked victims among irregular migrants is another factor that requires clarity. In Central Asia the trafficking chain needs to be checked as to how far the level has gone.

The objective of this research project is to accumulate information which are factual and contribute to a deeper and broader understanding about the issues of trafficking and its impact in migrants in Central Asia. The following data will be of greater use to the relevant authorities, organizations, and agencies so that the issue of trafficking should be addressed and properly implemented. There is a need to have a set of recommendations for the trafficking issue. The research will also be needful in the process of implementation of further projects to address the problem related to policy implementation, legislative and operational measures on border control, awareness raising and public information, and direct assistance to trafficked migrants. Further, the current knowledge is biased towards trafficking for Sex Exploitation as research is overly focused in this area though the new research has widened this. So, we also need to focus on trafficking for forced labour and the child begging should also be included in Trafficking Research. A consistent and uniform assessment is required in Central Asia according to its impact on trafficking.

## **RESEARCH QUESTION**

1. How do traffickers recruit their victims in CAR?
2. Why are people trafficked in central Asia?
3. What is the root cause of Trafficking in Central Asia?
4. What is the role of N.G.O. or civil society in central Asia regarding human trafficking?
5. How does the international community help combat human trafficking Internationally?
6. What effect does trafficking have on the victims?

## **OBJECTIVES**

1. To analyze the Reason behind Trafficking.
2. To analyze the statistical analysis given by Imo or IRN report.
3. To assess the function of the government in the matter concerning CAR region.
4. To assess the future of central Asia with special reference to the growing criminal industry i.e. "Human Trafficking".
5. To analyze the implication of the increase in Trafficking in CAR region and the current challenges.

## **HYPOTHESIS:**

1. Lack of economic avenues is the main cause of Human Trafficking.
2. Central Asian Region after 1991 has very less avenues of sustaining livelihood leading to labor migration.

## **DATA SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY:**

The study would be quantitative, qualitative and analytical in nature and is based on primary and secondary data of IMO reports and IRIN reports in central Asia. The

qualitative part will be an assessment of the root cause of Human Trafficking in central Asia and its implications on the future of Car region. A major challenge in Trafficking related research is how to obtain reliable and comparable data. Database such as IOM global human trafficking database is good example of quantitative method. Human Trafficking Reporting System (HTRS) allows Law enforcement, Victim service provider, Labour inspection and others work together to enter information about cases of Trafficking. It is based on both qualitative and quantitative in nature. Efforts to combat Trafficking are predicted on method which are logical and reliable and logical data. The analysis of methodological approach applied here is predominated by qualitative methodology. Quantitative method is scarce. The scarcity of database is both due to unavailability of database or difficulty in gaining access to existing database. The U.S federal government also doesn't show much statistical information on Trafficked victims. The lack of database has forced the research to rely on qualitative methodologies. The research would apply various primary and secondary sources. The primary sources would include raw data of IOM report, the HTRS Report etc. The secondary sources will include books and articles published, newspaper reports, internet materials from Google and web reports.

## **TENTATIVE CHAPTERIZATION**

### **Chapter 1: Introduction**

This chapter will explain that how Human Trafficking is on the rise in part due to the dramatic expansion of labour migration in the neoliberal era. Due to globalization and the structural adjustment programs imposed on the developing world in the eighties and early nineties, the resulting development process was very uneven, favouring some parts of the world while impoverishing others. In this chapter the focus will be on how migration leads to human trafficking and exploitation in the hands of trafficker.

### **Chapter 2: Human Trafficking Trends in Central Asia**

This chapter will include with the uncertainty and vagueness with which central Asian states suffer after the collapse of the Soviet Union. As the Central Asia states were in a situation of vagueness and uncertainty, characterizing the process of transition from

the planned to a market economy. This process develops with great challenges, difficulties and social tensions. Stagnation of key industries, huge unemployment, absence of transparent business practices, lack of transparency in the privatization process of the state property, as well as the weak judicial system had its negative impact on the young Central Asian states formation, criminalization of the society and “shadow economy” development. Not only economic stagnation, but also a political instability led to intrastate conflicts (e.g. the civil war in Tajikistan) with the mass outflow of migrants to neighboring countries. Unfortunately, till present time, the conflict potential in Central Asian region remains sufficiently high. The recent ethno political conflict in the South of Kirgizstan could serve as a vivid illustration of it. As a result, the number of forced migrants or displaced persons in Central Asia substantially increased leading to exploitation and manhandling.

### **Chapter 3: Impact of Human Trafficking in Central Asia**

This chapter will identify the Economic Supply and Demand approach which argues that there is a market for human trafficking generated by the increasing demand for low cost labour by businesses and the increase in vulnerability of human beings to exploitation. It then assesses Political Economy Approach that draws connections between the expansion of the capitalist system, particularly its present stage of neoliberal globalization, and the precarious economic conditions in many parts of the developing world. It understands human trafficking to be a consequence of neoliberal economic policies implemented in the developing world from which a majority of trafficking victims originate and the high demand for cheap exploitable labour in the Global North. It illustrates the changing patterns of global movement and how it provides opportunities for traffickers to exploit the migration pool. This chapter discusses the changing global division of labour and the ways in which neoliberal globalization has restricted the global labour force; it considers the consequences of this changing labour force on migrant workers. In addition, it paints a picture of human trafficking that shows the various forms that human trafficking takes, the patterns of geographic distribution, and some demographic information on the victims and perpetrators of human trafficking.



#### **Chapter 4: Measures taken by the International Organization to Combat Human Trafficking in Central Asia.**

In this chapter we will deal with the international response whose focus is to act and to coordinate anti-trafficking activities that started in the 1990s, and led to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which includes the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Air and Sea. Here we will also see how several multilateral agencies have activities against trafficking, chief among them ILO, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOHCHR and UNODC. We will see how these core agencies are active against trafficking most everywhere. Others have important contributions to make in combating sex working and trafficking in human beings.

#### **Chapter 5: Conclusion**

The last chapter would give a summary and main finding of the study and give some of the recommendation which can be useful to the countries in Central Asian region. The ultimate aim here would be to understand what do we know of migration and its side effects that results into Trafficking of various types i.e. Community sex exploitation to Trafficking of minors and to define strategies so that we can prevent and identify the victims and survivors.

## **CHAPTER-2**

### **HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRENDS IN CENTRAL ASIA**

Human trafficking is a global issue which is evident through patterns across the world. It is seen to be happening heavily in certain parts of the world compared to others, in which this is caused by different factors and processes. There are both social and economic impacts that result from human trafficking that also occurs worldwide. Human trafficking can be the result of women's unequal economic status. Women make up almost 70% of the world's poor and 65% of the world's illiterate. Women face discrimination that limits their educational and employment opportunities, and also experience sexual harassment in workplaces. This causes many women to be forced to work abroad and makes them more vulnerable to exploitation (NEWSWEEK, 2009).

In the commercial sex industry there is always the male demand to purchase commercial sex which drives the industry and traffickers respond by continuing to exploit more females.

The supply of human trafficking is seen to be increasing which corresponds to the increase in the number of people living in poverty. In the 2009 global employment report by the International labour standards (ILO) the economic crisis in 2008 led to revenue losses in countries such as Mongolia because of falling copper prices and high inflation which reduced real incomes, reducing investment and resulted in the loss of employment (ILO 2009).

This caused more people to live in poverty therefore wanting to seek work away from home, which makes them vulnerable to human trafficking and increasing the risk of trafficking. Human trafficking causes life to be potentially worse than death. Human trafficking negatively affects victim's physical and psychological health which may cause them to be excluded from society due to their experiences. Any form of human trafficking would've restricted victims to absolutely no freedom, for example in a victim of sex trafficking would be forced to live in the conditions of residential brothels that are constantly supervised 24/7 (Saodat and Igor, 2003).

Following the geography concept of perception, we understand Gabriella's story who was saved by the Polaris Project, an organization that assists victims of human trafficking from a brothel in Columbia. She was tricked by her childhood friend and held in debt bondage, causing her to be forced into prostitution. She said she lived as the property of her traffickers, in which she was transferred to unknown brothels every week and couldn't seek help. Being watched all the time and not knowing where you were everyday would've terrifying for Gabriella as she would've been traumatized from experiencing the horrors of abuse, violence and torture and felt the urge to escape. Drug involvement would've occurred to induce victims to cooperate, which would cause addiction and ending their life sooner. Victims involved in sex trafficking are expected to experience pregnancies (SIAR REPORT 2015).

They can be traumatized by the fact traffickers force abortions to happen, using non certified practitioners and unclean tools potentially leading to a spread of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV. Victims are subjected to long-term impacts from their experiences. This includes trauma, as mentioned above, which includes posttraumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression in which studies show that trauma worsens during trafficking and may continue beyond the end of any exploitation. Following from abuse and torture, victims can sustain injuries and disabilities which may stunt further development and cause social difficulties (USDS 2014).

Due to the horrific experiences, victims may appear to be uncooperative and aggressive about what has happened to them therefore may be rejected from family and/or community.

Human trafficking also negatively affects the world's economy, as there is a loss of human capital. This especially affects young children and teenagers as human trafficking interrupts the educational process and development through years of abuse, therefore the work force in the economy is less knowledgeable and unable to perform at full capacity. The abused children turn into traumatized adults who may be unable to work and will eventually depend on the government's welfare benefit system (OSCE, 2014).

This reduces the amount of funds the government can spend on supporting other social welfare programs. Due to nature of human trafficking, criminal organizations

generate a stable flow of income. Trafficking occurs within the black market, in which criminal organizations operate at an unseen level and do not record the amount of income earned. This results in loss of human capital and decreased tax revenue for the government. Majority of countries with human trafficking occurring experience increased and deeper poverty and a change in the labour market and the forms of labour. In 2003, the children's institute of University of Cape Town stated 75% of children in South Africa are in poverty. Criminal organizations in South Africa use their profit to traffic more victims every year overseas, including arms dealing and drug trafficking. This results in the amount of human trafficking, unemployment, poverty and inequality to continue to increase. As a global issue human trafficking has become quite evident through patterns across the world. It is seen to be happening heavily in certain parts of the world compared to others, in which this is caused by different factors and processes. There are both social and economic impacts that result from human trafficking that also occurs worldwide ( Alexander and Chetail, 2003).

According to the International law human trafficking can be defined as nonconsensual exploitation, that includes all forms of exploitation that involve threats, coercion, fraud, or deception of any kind. In reality we find the boundaries between coercion and economic necessity tends to remain imprecise. Hence, the concept of *consensual exploitation* that means when individuals have no choices, and no alternative they get defeated in the hands of exploitation. There is a need to differentiate between the two terminologies named consensual and nonconsensual exploitation. In case of fighting gender consensual exploitation it might require passing judgment on what constitutes *unfairness* in circumstances where employers possess disproportionate bargaining power. The apt legal remedies to fight consensual exploitation can be found in social and labor law. If we have to fight with then consensual exploitation, the prime focus must be on removing the elements of coercion, deception, or fraud. The legal remedies in case of nonconsensual exploitation and human trafficking can be found in criminal justice law (Gallagher, 2001).

Exploitation has an inverse effect on the economic growth as exploitation has an inverse growth on both efficiency and equity. Through the work in the areas of labor markets, social protection, social development, and rule of law reform the International development community recognizes the initiative and work done. Most of these interventions indirectly works for the development opportunities of the

vulnerable section of the society, enhancing economic opportunities for the poor, and strengthening the bargaining power of workers in the labor markets. Rule of law related reforms and policies have a more direct impact on non consensual exploitation by authorizing the exploited to seek justice from rule of law institutions<sup>2</sup>.

Human trafficking often referred to as modern-day slavery, is an example that shows how globalization can enable and grow international crime keeping economic gains in mind. Not only does it occur domestically but also it has transnational wings which spread both in developing and developed nations. The ugly face of this crime is its involvement of humans for sexual exploitation as here both buying and selling of human beings are involved. The very nature of sex trafficking seems to have taken a horrible turn where even young children are involved. State have ratified myriad international level treaties in order to combat human and sex trafficking as a whole against the vicious cycle of Human trafficking along with new laws but despite such efforts and steps taken by the community in an inclusive level, statistics show that human trafficking is still on the rise. In case of the trafficked women we will learn how they are kept in the are kept in a state of virtual house arrest and are transported only to the place of work and from work. Even when women have relative freedom of movement, they hesitate in seeking assistance from the local authorities with the fear in their mind as they carry illegal immigration status, the incapability to speak the local language, lack of documents, and fear of being arrested, mistreated, or deported. With such apprehensions in mind they fail to disclose their problems with the higher authorities and in turn get trapped in the vicious circle of trafficking (Brown, 1996).

The other angle through which Human trafficking is viewed is from the perspective of international migration. As Paul J. Smith (2002), points out, international migration is often explained by a basic “push” and “pull” model: “economic deprivation, high fertility, and unemployment (push factors) in lesser-developed countries work in concert with such elements as family reunification, higher wages, and increased demand for labor (pull factors) in industrialized countries, to create an influx of immigrants.”

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<sup>2</sup>Handbook on Performance Indicators for Counter-Trafficking Projects. (2008). Washington DC: International Organization for Migration.

This model holds true for the trafficking phenomenon as well. Poverty, unemployment and lack of future perspectives are some of the most common push factors; demand for better “services” and possibly higher wages are the pull factors in receiving countries, in the light of which the women take the risk of going abroad and getting trafficked.

Boosting the pull factors are “stories of better and advanced opportunities overseas,” which are often untrue and unrealistic and most people get trapped in the adventurous rumor that is spread around. Few incidents are often childlike as during a study of trafficking from the CIS, I found, one respondent said she knew she would have to engage in prostitution, but she thought it would be similar to the film *Pretty Woman*, where one man would support her and she having imagined the situation went into the shit of the scandal. One could argue that this is an extreme level of innocent and childlike incident, but having considered that the former Soviet countries were totally isolated from the rest of the world for almost 70 years, these kinds of illusions are not surprising. Though limited but there exists few literature that provides some insight into the links between human trafficking and organized criminal groups. In most cases, trafficking is carried out by organized criminal groups with extensive international links. These criminal groups threaten the women in the name of retaliation against family members at home if the women do not obey them. The most common reason of women being trafficked are because of poverty, unemployment, the low social status of women in their home countries, lack of opportunities and prospects for the future, and in many cases, because of an idealistic impression people have towards the Western world and the wealthier countries in general. All of these logics are to be found in Central Asia. If we consider the Poverty index in Central Asia we will see it has reached unprecedented levels: 51 percent of the Kyrgyz population lives below the national poverty line, as do 34.6 percent of Kazakh citizens and 26.5 percent of the Uzbeks. The plight of Turkmen is even worse as forty four percent of Turkmen live on less than \$2 a day (IOM, 2013).

The worst affected population groups in terms of poverty are women, children, and the elderly. The first one to lose the job is the women due to downsizing and economic shifts. As per the National Statistics Committee reports, Kyrgyzstan reports that 70 percent of women in Kyrgyzstan are suffering due to financial difficulties. The rate of unemployment is very high and those even employed are not in such good

condition<sup>3</sup>. Kazakhstan can be termed as a country which is considered to be a destination and a source and transit country for men, women, and children who are not only subjected to sex marketing but also forced labor. The most consistent problem with the Republic of Kazakhstan is domestic trafficking which has various victims being identified. If we consider the case of women and girls from Kazakhstan we would see they are subjected to sex trafficking in the Middle East, Europe, and the United States. Women and girls from neighboring Central Asian and Eastern European countries, as well as from rural areas in Kazakhstan, are put in danger to sex trafficking in Kazakhstan; in most cases, traffickers target young girls and women, luring them with promises of employment as waitresses, models, or nannies in large cities. Not only young girls but the situation among children are miserable too where they are forced to beg and are most often coerced into criminal behavior (IRIN, 2005).

A large number of Kazakhstanis from rural village gets attracted towards the economic prosperity in the government capital Astana, the financial capital Almaty, and the western oil cities Aktau and Atyrau, as a result of which they get trapped into labor trafficking and sexual exploitation and are victimized under dreadful conditions. From Chinese to the natives of Kazakhstan, and other Central Asian citizens, particularly Uzbekistani men and women, are endangered to forced labor in household service, construction, and agriculture in Kazakhstan. If we go through the case of the victims of trafficking in Kazakhstan we would have various indications of the process by which they were tempted and the methods used like fraud and deceit, or most of the cases are the victims being mishandled by their friends or acquaintances, and, not only this but also exploited by small organized criminal groups in Kazakhstan. (Baybusinov, 2004).

The sorrow state of nature is that the Government of Kazakhstan is not quick enough to meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, it is claimed that efforts to eradicate this heinous crime is taking place. The governments increase in the fund and strategical move in this regard can be seen as implementation of awareness campaigns have been made, and in the same line victims and the cases related to them are being invested with maximum possible efforts. The government

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<sup>3</sup>Report of SIAR Research & Consulting “Identification of rehabilitation and reintegration needs of men, victims of human trafficking”, 2015, prepared for the International Organisation of Migration, <http://iom.kg/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Needs-of-male-VOT-Rus.pdf>

also significantly increased its funding for victim assistance and continued its robust partnership with international organizations and NGOs to protect victims and raise awareness of trafficking crimes. Various kind of legislations have been adopted by the government in order to allow funding for long-term shelters, as well as standards for the provision of services to trafficking victims. However a decrease in the convictions of traffickers can be seen significantly, in part attributed to insufficient resources and high turnover rates for police. Media can be seen significantly reporting continuously regarding the allegations of police officers' complicity in human trafficking, but if we look into the findings of the government no investigations or prosecutions of police or other government officials suspected of trafficking crimes ( Aleinikoff, T, Vincent 2003).

According to the estimates about the global annual profits of human trafficking The International Labour Organization ILO (2001), amounts annual profits of human trafficking up to \$32 billion. Firstly, as of 2012, an estimated 58 percent of human trafficking globally was for the purpose of sexual exploitation, according to the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Secondly, this means that sex trafficking alone is a multi-billion dollar trade which is increasing annually. As listed by human trafficking researcher Siddhartha Kara, "sex trafficking is one of the ugliest contemporary actualizations of global capitalism". Thirdly, Globalization made the huge scale and profitability IOM for example, collects both qualitative and quantitative information on trafficking based on the numbers of trafficked people it assists. IOM's trafficking database includes information on the number of victims assisted, their country of origin, age, travel route, and the manner in which they were trafficked. In 2001, IOM provided assistance to 1,324 victims of trafficking, and in 2002 the figure is expected to rise to 2,200. The report also estimates the annual profits made by traffickers worldwide (IOM, 2001).

The ILO (2005), estimates that minimum of at least 12.3 million people are victims of nonconsensual exploitation ("forced labor" in ILO terminology), including child labor, bonded Labor, sexual servitude, and transnational human trafficking. Bonded labor, is the most important form in South and Central Asia. The Asia and Pacific region combined account for at least 9.5 million (77% of total) victims of forced labor, followed by Latin America and the Caribbean with at least 1.3 million (11%) victims. In Kyrgyzstan, migration processes are the result of the political and socio-



economic situation it has experienced since its independence, and in particular, over the past ten years. Although, it should be noted that, due to the large scale of the phenomenon, migration processes have also, to some extent, impacted the main socio-economic and societal developments in the country. According to the State Migration Service under the supervision of the government of the Kyrgyz

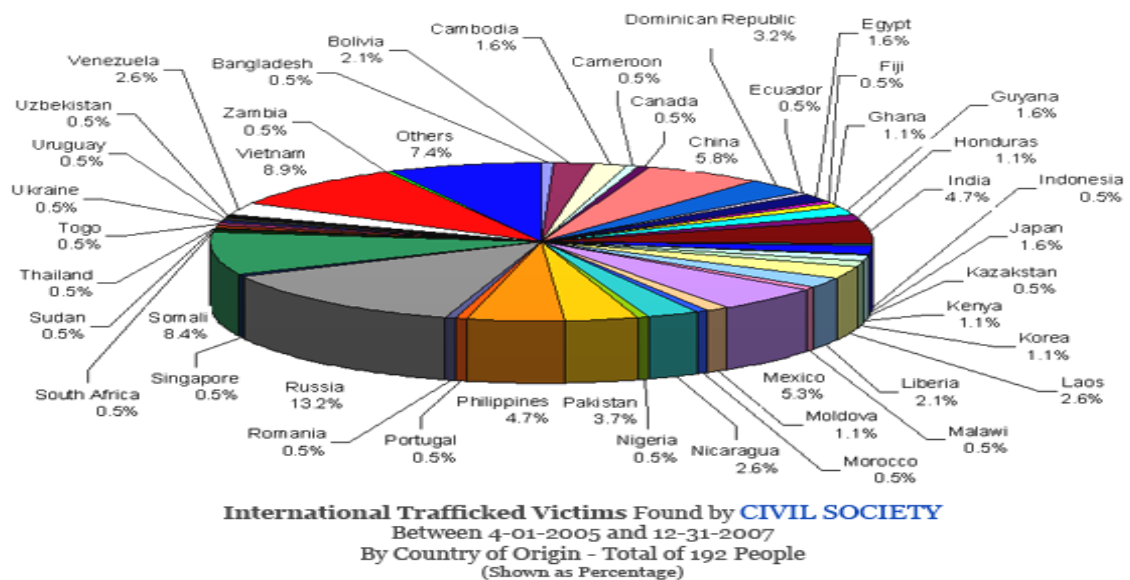
Republic, nearly 700 000 Kyrgyz citizens work outside the country out of a total population of 5.836 million in Kyrgyzstan. Migration experts estimate that the official data is underestimated, and almost 20% of the Kyrgyz populations are migrant workers (Rafis, 1999).

According to the Kyrgyz Joint Report on Migration, published under the supervision of the State Migration Service, nearly 40% of these migrant workers are women. Kyrgyzstan is an exception amongst Central Asian countries of origin. In Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, those who migrate are mainly men, whilst women tend to be left behind with their children. Although both male and female Kyrgyz migrate, migration is not a gender-neutral phenomenon (Sergei, 1995).

The situation of Kyrgyz female migrants differs from that of males, mainly in terms of the reasons for departure, decision making processes, the employment sectors into which they tend to migrate, the types of abuse and violations they can be exposed to, and the consequences thereof. According to general recommendations set forth by the UN Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Committee): “To understand the specific ways in which women are impacted, female migration should be studied from the perspective of gender inequality, traditional female roles, a gendered labor market, the universal prevalence of gender-based violence, and the worldwide feminization of poverty and labor migration. The integration of a gender perspective is therefore essential to the analysis of the position of female migrants and the development of policies to counter discrimination exploitation and abuse. ”Female migrant workers present a double vulnerability: as women and as individuals affected by migration. Through the scope of the situation of women affected by migration and its consequences, this report aims at highlighting the human rights violations faced by Kyrgyz migrants and the members of their family. Despite the lack of available statistics, it can be presumed that feminization of the migratory flows is accompanied by an increase in the number

of children who migrate with their mothers or their parents. According to the Russian Federal Service on Migration, in 2016, 18% of Kyrgyz documented migrants in Russia are children under age of 14 years. Like migrant women, children who have migrated, whether alone or accompanied by their parents or another member of their family, are doubly vulnerable: as children and as individuals affected by migration (Michele, 2005).

**Figure-1: ILO Estimates on Minimum Incidence of Forced Labor per 1,000 Inhabitants (1995-2004)**



**Industrialized Countries:** If we look into the graph of the industrialized countries we will observe that they have at least 360,000 victims of forced labor. The greater majority of them are victims of nonconsensual sexual exploitation (55%), although if we see almost a quarter is subject to nonconsensual economic exploitation, in particular in labor extensive sectors like agriculture, garments, construction, packaging, and food processing. So far, three quarters of forced labor victims in developed countries have been trafficked across the line of international borders. Condemnation to immigration authorities and deletion of identity documents are often used as a threat to keep human trafficking victims in worst kind of hazardous and exploitative working conditions. Exploitation even gets favour from restrictive immigration laws that make migrant workers visas dependent on a single employer. In a recent report it has been found that The U.S. H-2B visa has reportedly been abused

of trafficking semi-skilled workers into the United States (Alexander and Oleksiy, 2010).

**Eastern Europe and Central Asia:** If we focus on the transition countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia we will find that they have about 210,000 victims of forced labor. The region have two distinct points: first, almost all victims have been trafficked across international borders (200,000) second, 46% of their victims are entirely subject to nonconsensual sexual exploitation. According to the U.N reports various significant numbers of minors from Central Asia have been trafficked into Western Europe. Not to be amazed but the research on nonconsensual exploitation in Eastern Europe and Central Asia has been focusing on (transnational) human trafficking (Rafis, 1999).

Clert (2005), in his work evaluates that Moldova, Albania, Romania, and Bulgaria are the main source countries of transnational human trafficking from Eastern Europe, with countries like Western European, the U.S., Canada, Israel, Turkey and countries in the Middle East as the main receiving countries. If we look at the estimate no Eastern European or Central Asian Countries have been placed in Tier 3 by the U.S. State Department, but on the contrary countries like Armenia, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Russia, and Ukraine have been placed on the Tier 2 Watch List<sup>4</sup>. When examined in detail, the IOM data point to new trends. For instance, they show clearly that there is considerable trafficking within Central and Eastern Europe, and not only between the East and West. In 2001, the majority of trafficking victims assisted by IOM came from Moldova, Romania, and Ukraine. In the majority of cases, the women had been trafficked to countries and provinces in the Balkans, especially Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo, and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. IOM data also indicate that trafficking is occurring between Central and Eastern Europe and Asia. For example, in 2000 IOM assisted Romanian and Moldovan women who had been trafficked to Cambodia (IOM, 2008).

In the countries of origin of trafficking victims in the developing world, it is more difficult to obtain data. Nevertheless, there are many indications of a growing problem. For example, in February 2000, Nigeria, the most populous country in

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<sup>4</sup> The World Bank: Migration and Development Brief (2012). Migration and Remittances Unit, Development Prospects Group. Retrieved 26December2012.

Africa, hosted the first pan-African conference on human trafficking. The conference was opened by Nigeria's President Olusegun Obasanjo, who reported that 1,178 Nigerian women and children believed to be victims of trafficking were deported from states abroad and returned to their homeland between March 1999 and December 2000.

Although most trafficking data refer to women and girls, there are reports of boys being trafficked. For example, over the last 10 years nearly 2,000 boys have reportedly been trafficked from Bangladesh to the Persian Gulf states to work as camel jockeys, since they are the lightest possible riders for races. Besides the scale of trafficking, there are many other reasons for the scarcity of data. Among the most important are the victims' frequent reluctance to report crimes or testify for fear of reprisals; disincentives, both structural and legal, for law enforcement officers to act against traffickers; a lack of harmony among existing data sources; and the unwillingness of some countries and agencies to share data. It is likely that the majority of trafficking cases remain unreported because the victims fear retaliation by the traffickers, who are often affiliated with organized crime syndicates. In addition, they may fear government penalties because of their status as undocumented migrants. Those brave enough to testify against traffickers may simply find themselves deported. The combined effect of these fears is to quiet the victims, lower the number of reported cases, and limit the data available to researchers. Lack of data can also be attributed to the low priority placed on fighting trafficking by law enforcement officers, who face two major disincentives. First, legislation for prosecution and victim protection is often lacking, inadequate, or not implemented, making the conviction of traffickers very difficult and often impossible. Second, trafficking convictions are often, though not always, based on witness/victim testimony that may not materialize if the victims are likely to be deported. The net result is that the police often prefer not to go after traffickers at all, knowing that a great deal of effort only rarely results in a conviction (Maggy, 2007).

Workplace issues among law enforcement agencies may also contribute to the lack of data collection. One study of police practices in Germany, one of the few countries to publish annual statistics on the magnitude of trafficking, found a decline in the number of people trafficked between 1994 and 2000. However, researchers attributed

the perceived decline to a lower number of victims registered, partly resulting from fewer police investigations due to:

- Understaffing of police units concerned with trafficking offences
- Shifting of focus to associated criminal elements that can be tackled more easily
- Assignment of police concerned with trafficking to a wide range of duties, making it almost impossible for them to detect and prosecute trafficking offences
- Execution of a significant proportion of large-scale investigations by organized crime units rather than trafficking unit
- Whether caused by weak legal frameworks, reluctant witnesses, or internal police issues, the end result of hobbled investigations and prosecution of traffickers is less access to data (Maggy, 2007).

Despite the lack of data from law enforcement sources, other new sources of data are emerging as more agencies around the world take action to combat trafficking. The U.S. government alone reported that in 2001 it supported over 110 anti-trafficking programs in around 50 countries. In Europe there are numerous agencies implementing programs to fight trafficking. However, no single agency acts as a focal point for the collection, collation, or harmonization of statistics on trafficking either at national level or at a regional level, presenting policy makers with a significant degree of uncertainty. Moreover, it is often the case that existing data are program-specific. They are frequently based on the varying definitions used by each individual agency. They may also only cover those receiving certain types of assistance, e.g., persons participating in voluntary assisted return programmes, or those accommodated in shelters for victims of trafficking. Each agency gathers data according to its own needs, and the same individual may appear in data produced by more than one organization (Natalia, 2008).

Data also varies according to the resources of the organizations concerned. Some are better financed and accord greater priority to data collection than others. Some NGOs register first contacts with victims, others monitor hotline calls or those eligible for temporary residence permits. Some agencies compile data over a one-year period,

while others produce statistics covering the duration of a specific project (USDS, 2009).

**Figure-2: United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime**



Another problem is that at the international level, the sharing of information on trafficking tends to occur on an ad hoc basis, especially between countries of origin and destination. This is true for both governments and international agencies. The reasons for this reticence are varied. Some countries regard data on human trafficking as classified information, and therefore do not share it. Other states have data protection laws prohibiting the dissemination of personal information, while some ministries simply adopt a policy of restricted distribution. Authorities in destination countries may be reluctant to share information with source countries whose authorities and law enforcement agencies are suspected of involvement in trafficking (World Refugee Survey, 2008). Some agencies, for their part, are reluctant to release data simply because of concerns about its quality. NGOs may be reluctant to share data for other reasons, e.g., to protect the confidentiality of the trafficked persons they assist.

## **Tackle the Data Shortage**

Although the arrangement of obstacles to collecting accurate data on trafficking is daunting, significant work is still underway to eliminate such problems. The effort is likely to gather strength from two sources: an overall increase in government and multilateral efforts to combat trafficking, and more deliberate institutional strategies to systematically deal with trafficking data. There has been a continuous growth politically for the battle against trafficking which was illustrated by the largest-ever European Union conference on "Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Human Beings," which was held in Brussels in September 2002. The event, organized by IOM on behalf of the EU, brought together over 1,000 representatives of European institutions, EU member countries, states applying for EU membership, and relevant third countries. The delegates were drawn from governments, international institutions, and nongovernmental organizations. The conference produced the "**Brussels Declaration**," which described a set of policy recommendations to the EU on trafficking (IOM, 2002).

In the United States, too, trafficking has been rising on the political agenda. In October 2001, the State Department created the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, and in June 2002 the department published its second report assessing the efforts of 89 countries to fight trafficking. This report is the most inclusive review based on anti-trafficking to be issued by any single government. The focus here is to help fill the knowledge gap regarding trafficking in various ways, whether through better data collection and broadcasting by individual governments' programs, or by cross-border, inter-agency coordination that focuses on enhanced and improved data sharing and analysis (MOSCOW TIMES, 2005).

Besides the overall efforts to boost the anti-trafficking fight, there have been various deliberate efforts taken to systematize the collection of data. In this line, the United Nations Population Division organized an inter-agency meeting in July 2002 to discuss ways in which data on international migration could be improved and made more widely available. The conveners emphasized that scarce and unreliable data had made systematic coordination among data collectors and analysts a top priority (US REPORT, 2006).

The need for better union and collaboration of existing data is particularly appropriate in the case of information on human trafficking. With the increase in the counter-trafficking programs an increasing amount of statistical data on trafficking is becoming available from a variety of sources, and it is likely that such data will improve as more NGOs, intergovernmental organizations, and others step up their efforts to combat trafficking. However, a mechanism to coordinate and standardize these disparate data collection systems and various indicators of trafficking is still lacking. Much more is needed to be done in the area in order to improve the comparability of the limited amount of statistical data currently available from a wide variety of agencies (Alexander, and Chetail, 2003).

The most essential of what may be possible to achieve is the establishment this year of a "regional clearing point" in Belgrade for the Balkans. This project, which was established within the framework of the Balkans Stability Pact Task Force on Trafficking in Human Beings in July 2002, has aim to create a database regionally on trafficking. By collecting and analyzing information gained from a wide range of sources, the project intends to foster a comprehensive understanding of human trafficking throughout the Balkans. This type of project needs to be handled, which is managed under IOM auspices, and it should be extended to other regions where IOM implements counter-trafficking programmes. Another realm exists in which more systematic efforts can be made in this regard. Existing sources of information on trafficking, including possible indirect indicators, have yet to be fully exploited. Although there are relatively few statistics relating directly to human trafficking, there may be other indicators that suggest the occurrence of trafficking (IOM, 2005).

## **RECOMMENDATION**

### **Kyrgyzstan**

If we consider the region of Kyrgyzstan, one of Central Asia's poorest countries, human trafficking can be seen as a booming industry, despite a sequence of recent government attempts to combat the practice. As to another place in Central Asia and the Caucasus, the trade gets driven by high unemployment and poverty rates. If we look at the condition of Kyrgyzstan we will see its population of 5.4 million people



live in poverty and nearly 8 percent are unemployed. Yearly their salaries average goes just \$1600, with most of its job concerted in agriculture. The trend of trafficking is rising due to the extensive local corruption and violence against women, according to anti-trafficking activists and parliamentarians (Golunov, 2007).

Little and very less reliable information exists on the exact number of trafficking victims in Kyrgyzstan, but as per the United Nations' International Office for Migration (IOM) estimated report some 4,000 Kyrgyzstanis per year are sold into slavery. Not only that even Men are often taken to Kazakhstan, Ukraine and Russia for work on tobacco agricultural estate, farms and in manufacture. Young women, usually up till the age group of 25, are usually sold as prostitutes to clients in the Countries of United Arab Emirates, Syria, Turkey, China, Germany, Greece, South Korea and Cyprus (Koettl, 2009).

Kyrgyzstan too turns as a point of transportation for those being trafficked into countries adjoining Europe, such as Russia and Turkey, or even to the markets in China, South Korea and the United Arab Emirates. According to few estimation it is seen that as many as 200,000 women each year pass through Kyrgyzstan to be sold as sexual workers abroad. The IOM has reported that girls at the age group of 10 years, often from remote mountain villages, can even be trafficked into prostitution as there is no limitation of age (Friesendorf, 2009).

Agreeing to some reports, traffickers in Kazakhstan go very rich by simply doing illegal and illicit crime in the field of trafficking and can earn as much as \$250,000 from supplying Kyrgyz workers to tobacco plantations for a single season. Women sold into sexual slavery can reportedly earn traffickers ten times that amount. Victims here often claim that traffickers are often known to them as they frequently keep meeting them as either they are their friends or family members, according to information from the IOM (IOM, 2012).

## **CRIME IN KYRGYZSTAN**

Kyrgyzstan is a country of Central Asia where crime is very rampant and a matter of grave concern. In the south of Kazakhstan the Organized crime and Norco-trafficking are extensive in particular to the provinces of the Bat ken and Osh. Incident like petty

theft, pick pocketing in local open-air markets and bazaars are quite common in this area and the nature of the crime is fueled by alcoholism, drugs and poverty. Intake of the Public intoxication is quite rampant among the local public, especially during the winter. We must nail down the fact that kidnapping foreigners is rare in Kyrgyzstan; though, their occurrence is mostly in the southern areas. (UNODC, 2009).

In the early **2000s**, we find lots of narcotics and human trafficking taking place in western part of Kyrgyzstan as a result of its location between Tajikistan (a major transit country for narcotics from Afghanistan) and Russia that has made the western part of Kyrgyzstan (particularly Osh) a major region of transportation for narcotics and human trafficking, with related increases in overall crime and in the incidence of the virus of human smuggling. During that period, a sharp increase regarding women's abuse could be seen. In 2005 Kyrgyzstan had the increasing rate in the domestic crime groups and there also has been link with transnational groups around the same year (Madeleine, 2009).

All five republics of Central Asia have suffered increasing rates of crime in the liberalized atmosphere of the post independence years. Drug trafficking, organ donation, official corruption has increased most noticeably. The lack of resources to equip and train qualified police and specialized forces are in a way responsible to deal with the post globalised era crime that has taken place in every nook and corner of the globe and Central Asia in particular. Traffickers can be considered as the new generation criminals who are very smart in doing and rapping up there work. Statistics for the years 1990 and 1994 from Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan show dramatic increases in every type of crime, biggest among them are done by the traffickers in the area of Human Trafficking. During the period between 1995 and 1996, Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan set up new, specialized police units to deal with organized crime like trafficking (Glenn, 1996).

### **Crime Threats in Kyrgyzstan**

The rate of crime is at such height in Kyrgyzstan that the U.S. Embassy has advised U.S. citizens to exercise caution in urban areas of the Kyrgyz Republic due to the high rate of violent crime against foreigners as the foreigners in most of the cases kidnapped and often sold by the hands of the traffickers. Hence, post evening time travelers should exercise caution when taking public transportation. The U.S.

Embassy in the same line even advises its employees to avoid the use of unmarked or “gypsy” cabs; use radio-dispatched taxis and sit in the back seat. Visitors are advised to make arrangements for the use of a well reputed taxi which should be registered all the way through their hotel. Travelers arriving at Manas International Airport should in advance arrange transportation for themselves keeping in mind their safety concerns. Foreign travelers have been the victims of extortion initially by some airport taxi drivers, who appeared to be conspire with airport personnel to identify victims and later fix them in the hands of the traffickers<sup>5</sup>. A regular advice for the visitors is that they should exercise caution near the southern borders. The U.S. Embassy restricts travel of Embassy employees to Balkan Oblast because of concerns that terrorist groups are able to travel through the region from Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan; such are the coalition of the Kyrgyzstan region (Lehti and Aromaa, 2006).

It is due to the uneven terrain and lack of resources that the authorities are facing problem in controlling the borders in this region. Kyrgyz law restricts movements by foreigners in some border areas that are seen as vital to national security or are otherwise sensitive. (Maggy, 2007).

### **Crime in Kyrgyzstan in the 1990s**

In the early and mid-1990s, we have preservation of internal security against a variety of crimes, and especially against growing commerce in narcotics, which has become an extremely difficult task. Human trafficking and the white color corruption have added to the atmosphere of social disorder around the cities of Kyrgyzstan. Some described the post globalized crime problem in Kyrgyzstan as out of control. In 1994 more than 40,000 crimes were reported, or more than one crime per 100 citizens, and a high percentage of those crimes were classified as serious. Foreigners were the prime target group of the crime, as they were during the Soviet era. In 1994 some 185 crimes against foreigners were registered in Bishkek (Library of Congress, March, 1996).

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<sup>5</sup>Source: “Kyrgyzstan 2015 Crime and Safety Report,” Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC), Bureau of Diplomatic Security, U.S. Department of State.

## **Drug Related Crime in Kyrgyzstan**

Since the use of narcotics and illegal drugs is relatively low in Kyrgyz it is assumed that it is a country away from the Drug trafficking, but it is a myth to believe that. Because on the contrary due to the permeable borders and close proximity to Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan is a transit country for illegal drugs, which are smuggled to Russia, Europe, and occasionally North America. Corruption and lack of training/equipment for law enforcement agencies at large obstruct and get in the way of the efforts to control the flow of drugs<sup>6</sup>.

According to the United Nations, in 2006, 31,392 drug related crimes were recorded in Kyrgyzstan. The decline in the subcategories of drug related crime between 2005 and 2006 can be seen with the exception of smuggling. The same U- trend is seen in Kyrgyzstan related to the crime related to Drug as seen in other countries in Central Asia. In 2006, if we see the drug related crimes recorded was 38 percent lower than its peak in 2000. However, the number of offences for the sale of drugs has steadily increased: 46 percent from 2001 to 2005. From the following it is clearly evident that there has been a continuous increase in the sale of drugs (UNODC, 2008).

### **Crime Offenders related with drugs in Kyrgyzstan region:**

In Central Asia as a whole Issyk-Kul too has the highest drug related crimes. The following above pattern gives a clear picture regarding the pattern that conforms to the trend seen in Kyrgyzstan with crime, opiate seizures, and registered drug users concentrated in a few selected area .(Natalia. 2008)

Main Drug Related Crimes Registered in Kyrgyzstan are mentioned as under:

- A) Smuggling: 75 in 2005; 96 in 2006;
- B) Storage: 1685 in 2005; 1642 in 2006;
- C) Distribution: 578 in 2005; 464 in 2006;
- D) Cultivation: 99 in 2005; 94 in 2006;
- E) Brothel Maintenance: 64 in 2005; 66 in 2006.

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<sup>6</sup>Kyrgyzstan 2015 Crime and Safety Report,” Overseas Security Advisory Council (OSAC), Bureau of Diplomatic Security, U.S. Department of State.

This shows how and with what speedy rate the crime and activities related to it are taking place in the areas of Kyrgyzstan. (USDS 2008)

### **Human trafficking in Kyrgyzstan**

According to the U.S. Department of State: “Rape, of any kind including spousal rape, is illegal, but as in previous years, the government of this country has failed to enforce the law effectively. Various social activists continued to note a growing number of reports of sexual abuse and also the problems related with it. NGOs have been claiming a dramatic increase in the women trafficking cases that goes underreported, and victims rarely bring such cases to court. No statistics on the number of cases or convictions during the year were available (ILO, 2005).

According to the U.S. Department of State: Kyrgyzstan “is a source, transit, and destination country for not only men, women, but also children are subjected to forced labor, and in case of women and children subjected to sex trafficking. Kyrgyzstani men, women, and children are subjected to forced labor initially in Russia and Kazakhstan, and to a lesser extent in Turkey and other Eastern European countries. They are not only subjected to compulsory manual labor and forced to work within the countries agricultural, forestry, construction, and textile industries, but at the same time they are forced to do the job as in domestic service and child care. In the year 2012 26 Kyrgyzstani forced laborers are reported as identified in Finland (USDS, 2005).

The plight of the Kyrgyzstani women are horrible as they are subjected to forced prostitution abroad, reportedly in Turkey, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Russia, Kazakhstan, and within the country. That is to say that in Kyrgyzstan both intra and inter level trafficking takes place. Small numbers of women and children from Uzbekistan are subjected to sex trafficking in Kyrgyzstan and the transfer of women within the two regions occurs quite swiftly. Some men and women from Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan transit the Kyrgyz Republic as they migrate to Russia, the UAE, and Turkey, where they subsequently become victims of sex and labor trafficking<sup>7</sup>.

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<sup>7</sup> Source: “2015 Trafficking in Persons Report: Kyrgyzstan”, Office To Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, U.S. Department of State.

The boys and girls from Kyrgyzstan are subjected to go through sex trafficking and forced labor, including the forced selling and distribution of drugs, within and outside the country. According to the report of the NGOs some schools in the south of Kyrgyzstan often cancel classes and at the back of it they send children to pick cotton, and few other schools have need of children to harvest tobacco on school grounds. The vulnerable sections of the children who are engaged in Streets in begging and children engaged in domestic work are vulnerable to human trafficking (REGNUM, 2016).

If we talk regarding the efforts made by The Government of the Kyrgyz Republic we will come out with the answer that the government does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, significant efforts are being made do so. In kind contributions are being made by the government to assist NGOs and international organizations in training law enforcement officials, providing the premises used for protection of identified trafficking victims, and work is done in order to raise awareness of the crime. However, the government's investigation of trafficking crimes tend to decrease as no further report is being convicted or found for the second consecutive year (VICTORIA, 2006).

The U.N. Special Reporter has opened a sensational opening by putting charge on the policemen with regard to the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography and alleged the serious and endemic corruption of police officers, who allegedly participated themselves in the detention and rape of child sex trafficking victims. The point to note here is that no action was taken by the Kyrgyzstani government to investigate allegations of officials 'responsibility in trafficking crimes. It identified few victims and did not adequately protect child victims during the investigation and prosecution of their traffickers (GAO, 2006).

In Europe and Central Asia, trafficking of human beings can be visible by the beginning of the 90s, whose aim generally used to be sexual exploitation. The reasons vary from one agenda to the other but broadly, they can be related to the unstable political situation and the economic crises of certain countries, the lack of better future perspectives and more so the increasing gap between north and south divide. As the first article of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime states: "The purpose of this Convention is to promote cooperation to prevent

and combat transnational organized crime more effectively”. As per the agreed definitions, it makes a clear distinction among both smuggling migrants and trafficking of human beings, which are both forms of irregular migration. Smuggling is, in relation to the “Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air (OSCE, 2000).

“Smuggling of migrants means the procurement, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit, of the illegal entry of a person into a State Party of which the person is not a national or a permanent resident.”

According to the reports mentioned by the UNODC Global report of trafficking in persons, represented by 79% of the victims which are trafficked for sexual exploitation. This target group is chased by an 18% trafficked for forced labor purpose. If we talk about women they are of the worst forced into prostitution and tend to be the most visible; they are mainly working in the city centers or along highways. In fact if we talk about sexual exploitation, we will get the frame that it is the type of trafficking which is most reported and documented, compared to other forms of exploitation that are under-reported like: forced or bonded labor domestic servitude, forced marriage, organ removal, exploitation of children in begging and warfare. There are various factors that need to be considered as the nature of trafficking gets more complex. It's not having any static expression process. The character of the observable fact differ from one another that depend upon the nationality, the age, gender etc. That is why we say it as a dynamic phenomenon where the criminals keep changing and renewing their behavior of exploitation in order to be less visible and always different in order not to be traced by the police (Evgeniy, 2007).

### **Who are potential victim?**

Because of many differences and lack of data concerning victims, it becomes almost impossible to describe a typical victim of human trafficking. They arrive from different countries so they are part of different ethnic groups. Victims can be represented by children, women, transsexuals and men. Most of the victims are originally from developing countries where the conditions of poverty are high. Quite often they have an emigration project in mind in order to enhance their quality of life, but limited resources force them to use illegal channels to reach destination countries.

Certain vulnerabilities characterize many potential victims, sometimes just because they are minors or very young, or, as mentioned above, poverty conditions which automatically reduce opportunities and create very harsh living conditions. Sometimes also their families put pressure or in some cases sell them in order to gain a better. According to UN.GIFT the majority of victims being trafficked are between 18 and 24 years old. An estimated number of 1.2 Million are children who are trafficked each year. 95% of the people involved are victims of physical and psychological violence during the trafficking process. 43% of the victims end up in the forced sexual labor market of which 98% are women and girls. 32% of the victims are used for forced economic exploitation, of which 56% is represented by women and girls (UNODC and UNGIFT 2010).

The proportions of human trafficking can be quite varied but there is a majority, according to the UNODC Global report of trafficking in persons, which represents the amount of 79% of the victims which are trafficked for sexual exploitation. This target group is followed by an 18% trafficked for forced labor purpose. The women forced into prostitution tend to be the most visible; they are mainly working in the city centers or along highways. In fact sexual exploitation, is the type of trafficking which is most reported and documented, compared to other forms of exploitation that are under-reported like: forced or bonded labor domestic servitude, forced marriage, organ removal, exploitation of children in begging and warfare (UNODC, 2009).

Because of the complex nature regarding the phenomenon there are many factors which need to be considered. The phenomenon does not have an established expression process. The characteristics of the phenomenon differ from one another depending on the nationality, the age, gender etc. That is why, the phenomenon taken into analysis, is a dynamic phenomenon where the criminals change and renew their ways of exploitation in order to be less visible and always different in order not to be cached by the police. The trafficker or trafficking organization can be very simple or more complex; it can be an individual or an organized trafficking network business.

According to Schloenhardt (2001), he demarcates different roles taken by participants of a certain organization. He distinguished:

**Investors:** those who put forward funding for the operation, and oversee the entire process of trafficking. They are on the top of the organization and often the



employees of the organization do not know them personally, so they are most of the time anonymously;

**Recruiters:** they are the one who recruit the potential victims and ensure their financial commitment. They can be part of the victim's community, have more or less the same cultural background;

**Transporters:** are the one who assist the victim while he or she is leaving their country of origin in every circumstance either by land, sea or air;

**Corrupt public officials or protectors:** they may assist in obtaining travel documents, or enable potential victims to enter/exit illegally a country;

**Informants:** who are gaining crucial information on matters such as border surveillance, immigration and transit procedures, asylum systems, law enforcement activities;

**Leaders and members of the crew:** are responsible for moving the illegal migrants from one transit point to the other or helping the migrants to enter the destination country;

**Debt-collectors:** they are in the destination countries to collect the debts the victims have towards the organization that consented him or her to achieve the destination country; 29

Supporting personnel and specialists: may include local people at transit points who might provide accommodation and other assistance (Schloenhardt and Aronowitz 2001).

Meanwhile, the government's position is that of the struggler as they are struggling to respond. If we look into the case of August 2003, we would find that an amendment was made to Kyrgyzstan's Criminal Code that punishes human trafficking with a prison term up to 20 years. In an additional law it was stipulated that a 15-year prison sentences for those found guilty of related trafficking crimes such as kidnapping, coercing victims into prostitution, or trading in children was made mandatory. As per one of the report of October 2003, according to the US State Department Human Rights Report, one person had been sentenced to five years in prison for involvement in trafficking operations. In March 2004, the formation of a special division of the

Ministry of Internal Affairs was formed with the aim to investigate supplementary cases. Yet we will find that the progress has been slow. Law enforcement officials promulgated eight cases in the first three months of the year. Currently, only one Bishkek family is facing charges for the recruitment and delivery of human migrants into slavery abroad has been faced by only one member of Bishkek family ( Rafis,1999).

"Until now, the lines which saved the slave traders from punishment was that the women knew why they were traveling. As we go deep we will understand that it is very difficult to draw a line between forced and voluntary prostitution. But the charges are obvious in such cases," said Myrzabek Ismailov, an Interior Ministry colonel who was involved in the battle against sex agents. It is very difficult to trace the money trail, as per the officials claim. At the start the Legitimate companies hire workers for clerical, agricultural, restaurant or other jobs, and at that point transfer them to a partner firm based abroad that supplies the manual worker to customers converting it to a certain kind of business (Raymond, 2002).

The government quotes that it is but the involvement of mafia in trafficking that has become as one of the big reason for their difficulty in tracking criminals, but it is questioned by some NGOs as they charge that the government itself is often part of the problem. Trafficking victims are usually understood as criminally liable for their activities, as they promote many family members to not inform the militia in case of the missing of any relative. "Law enforcement officials do not take into account that women have been deceived and taken abroad by intermediaries using forged documents," said Elmira Shishkaraeva, the Kyrgyzstan program manager for Win rock International, an NGO that fights human trafficking. "In-depth training of Kyrgyz militia is needed on how to fight the slave trade. Many of them believe that if someone has become a slave, they are guilty of something." (ICG, 2002).

Most Kyrgyzstani sex slaves are girls who are juvenile girls and upon returning to Kyrgyzstan, are sometimes impeached for passing the borders illegally. Dinara Makeeva, coordinator for the Centre for Assistance to Women, put it succinctly. "The militia should change its approach toward victims. The majority of victims do not deliberately choose to become slaves."Some members of parliament counter that there is a need for political measures as they are needed to terminate the trade. Adahan

Madumarov, chairman of parliament's Committee on Social Policy, said that a slave trade banning law was "urgently needed" (REGNUM, 2016).

It is because of the lack of funds available with the government that the incentive for fighting Kyrgyzstan's human trafficking problem has basically hand over to international non-governmental organizations like Winrock International or the United Nations' IOM.

The IOM says that all expenses relevant to the release of Kyrgyzstanis from slavery abroad are being handled by the NGOs, reaching from transmission of former slaves to Kyrgyzstan and subsequent psychological rehabilitation and employment. In the past year, the organization has returned more than 120 Kyrgyz citizens from various countries, the IOM's Karimov told Eurasia Net (IOM, 2008).

In Bishkek, Osh and Kadamjay, the Swiss Development Agency has financed hot lines that let any trafficking victim talk about their experience with a trained advisor.

But ultimately, activists argue, responsibility for tackling the problem lies with the state. "Laws and programs are promulgated in this country," said Kudrat Karimov, manager of the IOM mission in Kyrgyzstan", but they are not implemented." (UNODC 2009).

The Government of Kyrgyzstan does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, it is making significant efforts to do so. A June 2015 parliamentary report provided the first evaluation of government anti-trafficking efforts in a decade and provided recommendations for improvements. As a result, ministries have formed an interagency platform to begin inter-ministerial communication on trafficking and initiated the development of victim identification guidelines for front-line officials. Additionally, in 2016, Parliament established a working group, which is focused on bringing anti-trafficking legislation in line with international standards. Further, the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MVD) has begun playing a significant role in publicly highlighting trafficking in persons problems and advocating government-wide changes to better address them. However, the government failed to address alleged complicity in trafficking and trafficking-related offenses, despite a 2013 report by the UN special rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution, and child pornography that concluded there was serious and

endemic corruption of police officers, who allegedly participated themselves in the detention and rape of child sex trafficking victims. In addition, authorities reported fewer prosecutions and convictions of traffickers in 2015 (SPUTNIK, 2016).

The government enlarged efforts on the way to prevent trafficking. In June 2015, a parliamentary commission publicized an evaluation of the government's overall anti-trafficking efforts, marking the first analysis of implementation of the 2005 national anti-trafficking law. Efforts have been reinvigorated and reforms have been directed as per the parliamentary report. The platform to initiate an interagency dialogue on trafficking was formed by the government in the year 2015 as discussions on trafficking had been lacking so various agencies started preparing report. In late 2015. State Migration Service was assigned duty to coordinate national anti-trafficking efforts as the government assigned the responsibility to the newly established ministry. A 2013-2016 national action plan was seen unimplemented according to the civil society representatives. In order to ensure further monitoring of the government's implementation of its anti-trafficking obligations the parliament established a working group and the reports of both the civil society and international organization representatives shows it is working productively. Two employment centers continued to be operated with the support of an international organization and government that provided employment services to 16,552 people in the year 2015, vacancy advertisements, a list of licensed foreign labor recruitment agencies, and pre-departure orientation (which included trafficking prevention) in order to search for employment and to ensure safer migration and job opportunities. The government also continued to provide a national toll-free telephone line and office space was provided by the government to an NGO-run hotline whose work was to provide legal assistance and help on working abroad; the total number of calls that the hotline received in the year 2015 was 3,413. In July 2015, a law was passed by the government to increase the penalties against those agencies who would be found operating without a license. Officials lamented that the regulation did not get someone ready nor was the law enforcement enough to combat licensed recruitment agencies that send Kyrgyz migrants to exploitative worksites abroad which is unfair and began researching a legislative fix during the reporting period. 132 events was conducted by the government and information campaigns were aimed at raising awareness programmes that aims at checking trafficking according to the reports of MVD. Anti-

trafficking guidance was provide by the government for its diplomatic personnel. The government did not report no efforts to reduce the demand for commercial sex acts or forced labor was reported by the government (SPUTNIK, 2016).

Efforts have been made by the government to protect victims, various kinds of provisions have been made that allows for future funding of long-term shelters and set standards for the provision of services to trafficking victims. The first tranche of 44,000 Kazakhstani Tinge (KZT) (\$240,000) will be available for use in 2016. Identification of 92 trafficking victims in the year 2015 took place, an increase from 74 victims in 2014 among them were seventy seven sex trading victims and fifteen forced labor victims. Two of the identified victims were from Kazakhstan, 19 of the Kazakhstani victims we will see were endangered to trafficking in Indonesia United Arab Emirates and Qatar whereas the rest were internal victims, drafted from urban to rural India where areas for both labor and sexual exploitation. All of the victims used to receive assistance from the programmes funded by the government. (Obokata, 2006)

There are three NGO-operated trafficking shelters which provides legal, and medical and psychological assistance and are available to all the victims being trafficked regardless of citizenship they belong to, their gender, or age group. The government has allocated about 4,700,000 KZT (\$25,700) for direct victim assistance, together with 3,500,000 KZT (\$19,100) for shelter assistance to one NGO-run shelter for trafficking victims in Astana, which assisted 48 victims, and 1,200,000 KZT (\$6,600) for direct victim assistance during investigations. An additional of 31,100,000 KZT (\$170,000) has been allocated by the government for funding both NGO and government run shelters providing services to victims of crime, domestic violence, and trafficking. In the year 2015, 162 trafficking victims were assisted by the NGOs as per the report compared to 161 the previous year; among these, police referred 50 and international organizations, embassies, NGOs and all were responsible for the additional 112. If we look at the trafficking victims being assisted, 51 were found to be as Kazakhstani and 111 were foreigners, about 49 were victims of sex trafficking, 113 of forced labor, 55 female and 107 male. A special social service law was expanded by the government in the previous reporting period, in order to entitle trafficking victims to care as “victims of violence.” (Gallagher, 2001)

In 2015, a final standard criteria was set up by the government for shaping appropriateness for a wide range of social services. However, the government did not implement the new standards, which will be used in the operation of shelters for trafficking victims. Amendments to the penal procedural code, came into force in the year 2015, which was made in the previous reporting period allowing victims to seek compensation from a government fund. Due to an urgent need to implement regulations, the fund had not yet been established in an appropriate manner. NGOs reported that an effective victim referral along with police cooperation with anti-trafficking units allotted to each region. It is but the Law enforcement units which has its mandate to address migration or trafficking issues and also they have a formal system to identify trafficking victims among those persons who are at-risk persons, such as unregistered migrants or persons in prostitution. The government encouraged victims to participate in investigations and prosecutions by providing witness protection during court proceedings, access to pre-trial shelter services, and basic provisions such as food, clothing, and medical and legal assistance. Also the role of the government is to provide foreign victims adequate legal protection, that includes suspension of deportation proceedings, and special temporary residency all over the criminal investigation; nevertheless, if an illegal case was not initiated, authorities did not recognize and give protective status to victims. NGOs reported various problems in the health of foreign victims due to a lack of health insurance or habitation permits. In 2015, there were no reports of authorities criminally punishing victims for crimes as a direct result of being subjected to trafficking (Enos, 2014).

### **UZBEKISTAN:**

Let's now talk about Uzbekistan as it is known to be a source and destination country for men, women, and children who are later subjected to forced labor and women and children subjected to sex trafficking. Uzbek women and children are subjected to sex trafficking in the Middle East, Eurasia, and Asia, and also internally in brothels, clubs, and private residences. Uzbek men, and to a lesser extent women, are subjected to forced labor in Kazakhstan, Russia, and Ukraine in the various sectors like construction, oil, agricultural, retail, and food. Internal trafficking is quite widespread in the country. Forced labor of adults remain prevalent during the annual cotton

harvest in Uzbekistan. Some adults who refuse to pick cotton, or fail to perform their duty are often threatened with, or face the consequence in the name of not getting social benefits, termination of employment, or harassment (UN EMBASSY REPORT UZBEKISTAN).

In a recent report of 2015 it was observed that an independent observer alleged several workers were injured and at least one died, due at least in part to harvest-related activities. There were also reports regarding some local officials who used to mobilize classes of students between age group of 14 to 16 years in the final weeks of the harvest in breaking of the central government's prohibition on child labor. There are reports some officials required state employees and adult students to sign labor agreements or statements that they would pick cotton voluntarily. Independent observers asserted that forced mobilization of adult workers increased in 2015 to compensate for the loss of underage workers. Local officials used forced adult labor, including employees of schools and medical facilities, for weeding cotton fields. There were also isolated reports stating local officials forced teachers, students (including children), private business employees, and others to work in construction, non-cotton agriculture, and the silk industry, as well as to clean parks, streets, and buildings. Authorities harassed, detained, and, in some cases, abused independent activists attempting to observe the spring weeding season and the fall harvest, and at least two activists faced criminal charges, potentially as retaliation for attempting to document labor violations in the cotton fields. In the words of Kailash Satyarthi; "Children are never responsible for wars and conflict, yet they are the worst sufferers" (Satyarthi, 2017).

There is an urgent need that the sense of morality should take the place of power. With so much of unrest around there is an immediate need to get up and be responsible and think it to be our collective duty to protect the needy and vulnerable section. The Government of Uzbekistan does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking and is not making significant efforts to do so. Government-compelled forced labor of adults remained endemic in the 2015 cotton harvest. The central government continued to demand farmers and local officials fulfill state-assigned cotton production quotas and set insufficiently low prices for cotton and labor to attract voluntary workers, which led to the wide-scale mobilizations of adult laborers and a smaller number of child laborers. The

government also increased its attempts to conceal possible labor violations in cotton fields by aggressively confronting, harassing, and detaining independent monitors attempting to observe and document the harvest. However, the government took a number of steps this year regarding the cotton harvest (Laura, 2005).

The government continued to collaborate with ILO and fulfilled its agreement with the World Bank and ILO to allow ILO officials to conduct a labor recruitment survey under the Decent Work Country Program and, separately, monitor the 2015 harvest for risks of child and forced labor in 11 of Uzbekistan's 14 regions, comprising 60 percent of Uzbekistan's cotton producing territory. For the fifth consecutive year, Uzbekistan reduced its use of child labor, largely, effectively enforcing its decree prohibiting the participation of children younger than age 18 in the harvest. Awareness programs for the prohibition of child labor has been conducted round the year 2015 in the field of cotton harvest and also it is the second year the government of Uzbekistan has conducted a countrywide campaign to raise awareness and the first time the government included anti-forced labor messaging in the campaign. In addition to it, the government also enacted an action plan at a national level which intended to end forced labor and for that it made consultation with the World Bank and ILO (ILO, 2005).

The source of funding required or this plan has already been decided. Individually we would see the government got committed to keep the college and lyceum students (equivalent to a U.S. high school) out of the 2016 cotton harvest, together with those children with the age group of over 18. A rehabilitation center was already being funded by the government and on the transnational trafficking, authorities continued to prosecute suspected traffickers. The government also provided trafficking-specific training to police, judges, and other authorities. Uzbek authorities collaborated with foreign governments on several transnational investigations in 2015 (OSCE, 2016).

### **Challenges:**

It is a challenge in the country of Central Asia to come up with accurate patterns and trends of human trafficking due to the lack of reliable statistics pertaining to nomadic flows from Kyrgyzstan, and especially lack of disaggregated statistics specifically on the movement of women and children at a national and regional levels, that makes it a bit difficult to evaluate the full impact of migration on women and children. Various



experts agree that these data underestimate the number of Kyrgyz migrants working abroad, which could be up to one million. It is challenging to have an authentic picture of migratory flows mostly because of: 1) the visa-free regime in post-soviet countries where Kyrgyz migrants tend to work, 2) significant gaps can be viewed in data recording at border check points, and last but not the least 3) the majority of Kyrgyz migrant workers are illegal as they are not registered in documents (UNAIDS, 2009).

As a result, no match between both statistics from both the Kyrgyz State Migration Service, the Russian Federal Migration Service (FMS), as well as estimations of experts on migration can be seen. For example, although it has been declared by the FSM in 2015 that 540 000 Kyrgyz citizens worked in Russia, and that according to the Kyrgyz State Migration Service the numbers would be 520 000, various experts do not agree as for them in reality this number could be up to 800 000. If we do a deep study we will find that on an average 60% of Kyrgyz migrants are undocumented. In Russia, those who do not have the required documents to stay and work legally in the country with a contract signed in it as a part of permission such as that of a valid license, a health insurance, etc. are considered to be undocumented. Moreover, it is essential to make a note of the fact that issues such as psychological, physical, and sexual abuse, reproductive health or sexual transmitted diseases are particularly sensitive, especially in the region of south Kyrgyzstan and rural areas where communities are usually more traditional and conservatives (World Refugee Survey, 2008).

Some key target groups in third world countries include people from impoverished and low income households, indigenous people, hill tribes and illegal migrants. Potential victims are taken advantage of their vulnerabilities, for example if they're uneducated, neglected, unemployed, immigrants or refugees etc. In these regions there would be certain groups of people at risk, for example in Southeast Asia, daughters of poor rural families are at risk, in the U.S foster kids and illegal immigrants are targeted. In parts of Africa young boys, particularly orphans are taken by traffickers to train as soldiers to fight in violent conflicts. Women and girls who are economically disadvantaged are more likely to be targeted by sex traffickers to be transported to other countries that can support the commercial sex industry. The graph above in 2011 shows the number of victims trafficked by age and gender. 49% of trafficked

victims are women, while following are girls at 21%. By gender, females are targeted more than males by traffickers. Human trafficking can be the result of women's unequal economic status. Women make up almost 70% of the world's poor and 65% of the world's illiterate. Women face discrimination that limits their educational and employment opportunities, and also experience sexual harassment in workplaces. This causes many women to be forced to work abroad and makes them more vulnerable to exploitation (Alexander, 1999).

In the commercial sex industry there is always the male demand to purchase commercial sex which drives the industry and traffickers respond by continuing to exploit more females. They are facing the horrors of abuse, violence and torture and felt the urge to escape. Drug involvement would've occurred to induce victims to cooperate, which would cause addiction and ending their life sooner. Victims involved in sex trafficking are expected to experience pregnancies (Ollus and Natalia, 2008).

They can be traumatized by the fact traffickers force abortions to happen, using non certified practitioners and unclean tools potentially leading to a spread of sexually transmitted diseases as HIV. Victims are subjected to long-term impacts from their experiences. This includes trauma, as mentioned above, which includes post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression in which studies show that trauma worsens during trafficking and may continue beyond the end of any exploitation. Following from abuse and torture, victims can sustain injuries and disabilities which may stunt further development and cause social difficulties (UNAIDS, 2006).

Due to the horrific experiences, victims may appear to be uncooperative and aggressive about what has happened to them therefore may be rejected from family and/or community. Human trafficking also negatively affects the world's economy, as there is a loss of human capital. This especially affects young children and teenagers as human trafficking interrupts the educational process and development through years of abuse, therefore the work force in the economy is less knowledgeable and unable to perform at full capacity. The abused children turn into traumatized adults who may be unable to work and will eventually depend on the government's welfare benefit system (Tiefenbrun and Susan, 2007).

This reduces the amount of funds the government can spend on supporting other social welfare programs. Due to nature of human trafficking, criminal organisation generate a stable flow of income. Trafficking occurs within the black market, in which criminal organisation operate at an unseen level and do not record the amount of income earned. This results in loss of human capital and decreased tax revenue for the government. Majority of countries with human trafficking occurring experience increased and deeper poverty and a change in the labour market and the forms of labour. In 2003, the children's institute of University of Cape Town stated 75% of children in South Africa are in poverty. Criminal organizations in South Africa use their profit to trafficking more victims every year overseas, including arms dealing and drug trafficking. This results in the amount of human trafficking, unemployment, poverty and inequality to continue to increase (IOM, 2012).

### **Fighting Human Trafficking in Central Asia: Problems and Challenges**

“An insufficient and poor quality coverage of human trafficking in the regional media is another issue complicating the fight against the threat”. It has been the role of media which has become so weak that human trafficking has taken such backseat and people are still not aware adequately regarding the consequences of human trafficking. For example, According to journalist like Zaynab Dost trafficking exists and they do not go beyond that”, she is an independent analyst, who writes for Cabar Asia (Bahodir, 2014).

### **Problem of defining the scope of the human trafficking**

Human trafficking is one of the most difficult crimes to prove. In Central Asia, victims of such crimes often hesitate on the question of reporting their trial to the law enforcement agencies as they fear the trial might lead them to some sort of a problem. Their approach is different as there mindset does not always allow speaking up about being trafficked or forced into the criminal industry such as prostitution. This makes an evaluation of the threat's actual level a complex task. At this point, if we see we would find limited data on human trafficking and to guess an actual number of the people affected becomes difficult. For example, about 400 cases have been reported and registered in Kazakhstan over a year. In Tajikistan, 59 cases were reported in 2015. The Uzbekistani authorities mentioned 696 investigation processes, 372 criminal cases and 460 people have been convicted for trafficking humans in 2015

.This has been mentioned by the Uzbekistani authority. As per reports of The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan about 924 people were trafficked in the year 2015 and 784 of those were taken out of the country (UN Report, 2014).

A difference can be seen between the official numbers and independent estimates. In the year 2016 The International Organization for Migration (IOM) mentioned 175 trafficking cases in Kyrgyzstan. Meanwhile, in the same period 8 crimes have been registered in Kyrgyzstan by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Kyrgyzstan registered 8 crimes in the same period. Turkmenistan authorities identified on 12 victims of human trafficking in 2015 have been recognized, yet various information was found by the international organization which reportedly aided round about 40 victims of trafficking in the same year. In a same manner Tajikistan’s state bodies recognized about 8 victims in 2015, however support was being provided by the NGOs and international organizations during the same period of time (HUSEYAN, 2016).

Table 1. Human trafficking victims in Central Asia in 2015

(Based on the US State Department Report on Trafficking in Persons 2016)

<b>Жертвы траффинга в 2015 г.</b>	<b>Узбекистан</b>	<b>Таджикистан</b>	<b>Кыргызстан</b>	<b>Туркменистан</b>	<b>Казахстан</b>
Жертвы выявленные государственными органами за 2015 г.	924*	8	62	12	92
Число людей, которым была оказана помощь ННО и международных организаций за 2015 г.	774	56	192	40	162

### **Types and routes of the human trafficking in the region**

Subjecting people to forced labour and forcing women and children into prostitution are the two types of trafficking found in central Asia. The sale of Central Asian men as slaves to work in construction and field work is now an established reality in recent times is the transportation and sale of the men of central Asia who are being sailed for construction and field work. People gets driven towards migration as a result of the difficulties and unstable income in their home countries. Some of these individuals

end up becoming enslaved by the hands of the traders. Vulnerability is based on the kind of education and surrounding a person is residing in. Men between the age of 18 and 34 with no university or specialized education, who reside in the secluded areas of Central Asian countries, are mostly under the target. If we consider the case of men from Uzbekistan we will see how they are forced to work in construction, trade and agriculture oil extraction, and food industries of both Ukraine and Russia. The other nations of Central Asia suffer from the same fate. People do go from one country to the other like Kyrgyzstan to Russia for work but most of them end up being exploited in agriculture, forestry and in textile industry (Atabaki and Kane, 1991).

Central Asian women are more vulnerable to sexual exploitation. Both Women and children from Uzbekistan are forced into prostitution in the Middle East, Eurasia and Asia from Uzbekistan. In May 2016, the Uzbekistani security services cracked down on a criminal group engaged in trafficking girls to Turkey from Uzbekistan was cracked down by the Uzbekistan security. An incident took place in November 2016, in which police and international organizations freed 17 Uzbekistan born girls victims of sexual slavery in Malaysia Unfortunately, not all the women escape safely as it can be observed it was reported by the Indian media by the end of 2015, about two Uzbek dancers Shahnoza Atabaeva and Shahnoza Shukurova who were brutally murdered in Delhi. The further investigation was established that Shakhnoza Atabaeva, a native of Khorezm in Uzbekistan, had been promised a job of a housekeeper in India but if we introspect inside for the real picture it was found that she was forced into prostitution. Another Shahnozgot submitted to a similar fate, whereby she was being slaughtered to death by the same pimp who had lured both girls into trap with the help of his wife's, ho happened to be a native of Uzbekistan (Saunders, 2005).

It's significant to mention that human trafficking often occurs within Central Asia itself. Kazakhstan due to its relative prosperity, has become both the country of origin and destination. For example, a young man from Djizzak in Uzbekistan had become a slave after he believed a woman who had promised him a monthly 500 US dollars salary for cultivating melons and watermelons in Kazakhstan's Dzhetisay area which was taken seriously by the man but soon he realized he was in trap. This young man and his friend were sold to the field owner who had promised them better life but instead took their passports and made them work in inhumane conditions day and night. It was only due to harvesting season's end and the assistances granted by the

another person, that these two Uzbek men were successful in escaping to Uzbekistan (ENOS, 2014).

According to the estimates, victims of forced labour among the Central Asians prevail over the number of victims of sexual exploitation. The UNODC trafficking figures for 2016 show 63% of the victims as men, 31% women, 4% and 2% of children, male and females, respectively. At the same time, the data varies by country – in 2014 Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan seem to have a higher number of forced labour victims, while Tajikistan has more cases of people trafficked for prostitution (UNODC, 2016).

### **Combating human trafficking: Central Asia.**

Central Asia as a country has a very firm legislation all the needed background to combat trafficking successfully. Trafficking has been recognized as a criminal offense by all the Central Asian countries and defines this crime accordingly from time to time. These countries are party to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (New York, 15 November 2000). All the countries but Kazakhstan have ratified The Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children have been ratified by all the countries including Kazakhstan supplementing the UN Convention above ( Baybusinon, 2016).

In Uzbekistan, the *Trafficking in Persons* coordinates the activities of the state bodies, *mahalla* (local self-governance entities) and the non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to fight human trafficking. The men, women and children are given funds from the Tashkent Rehabilitation Center by the government of Uzbekistan with an official status of a victim to work towards eradication of trafficking that has occupied the scenario. A comparison was made and the centre assisted 503 victims in 2015, in contrast to 369 people in the year 2014. The government role in bringing awareness is very crucial as the government tries to inform the public about the after effects of human trafficking via setting up information boards, showing films and supporting theatrical plays so as to bring more and more alertness regarding this issue. Another measure to fight human trafficking via demanding all women under 35 years old to get an official permission from their parents or husbands for travelling abroad which for obvious reason is quite peculiar (Asia Plus, 2015).

The government of Kazakhstan in the year 2014 in the month of May approved its Plan to Prevent and Fight Trafficking in Persons for the year 2015-2017. The authorities have been looking for and working on recognizing the victims of human trafficking so that it can come up with the criteria to assess ill-treatments leading to a person's social isolation. This assessment and confirmation of a victim status is supposed to be taking place regardless of whether a criminal case is open or not (UNODC, 2016).

In Tajikistan, the Office has been made for Combating Organized Crime (OCOC), with the contribution of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the United States which are known for supporting activity of a relatively new Anti-Trafficking Centre. A new law has been passed by the Parliament in the year 2014,". On combating human trafficking and assisting the victims of trafficking" and to outline a harsher punishment for the crime. Events to highlight the problem of trafficking have been organized by Tajikistan in similar lines with Uzbekistan including theatrical performances (OSCE, 2015).

In the year 2015, Kyrgyzstan's State Service for Migration developed a draft law on amendments to the law "On Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Persons" in collaboration with international organizations. In addition, the country launched its interdepartmental working group to come up with criteria to identify victims of human trafficking.

In order to combat trafficking in the year 2014 the government of Turkmenistan has also set up its working that included the state representatives and public officials. A National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking for 2016-2018 has also been adopted by the government. (Project 2015) Central Asian governments collaborate with the non-governmental organizations and foreign partners to counter human trafficking. They cooperate with the UN representatives, the OSCE, the IOM and UNODC and take part in trafficking prevention and victim protection programs.

### **Challenges in Combating Human Trafficking**

It is but the economic inequality and lack of opportunities for a decent lifestyle which is pushing many people to migrate from one country to the other. It is assumed in countries like Central Asia, and many post-Soviet countries, that for growth and

success it is essential to migrate abroad or at least finding a temporary job there is taken as a first step towards growth. As a result of it, there are many inexperienced youth that easily fall into the traps of traffickers who in every possible manner lure the victims by promising them a good lifestyle with good money in hand. If we analyze the UNODC data for 2011 – 2014, we would see a direct connection between the gross national income per capita, and cross-border trafficking in persons (SIAR, 2015).

An important issue that has complicated the fight against the threat has been the poor quality of information with the insufficient coverage of trafficking by the media of regional level. For example, some journalists clearly limit themselves to stating that trafficking exists and they do not go beyond that. If we look into the case of Kyrgyzstan, we would see about 70% of hardcopy and digital media report the facts alone, while investigative journalism pieces are rarely found which is a big source of collection and frames the reader's opinion. The same scenario is observed looking at the media materials of other countries in the region. It is the result of the social stereotypes that do not always allow people to reveal the real victims stories. However, it is very essential on the part of the reporters to understand that silence can have a negative impact on the public awareness of modern-day slavery which has been a disguise to the Nation as a whole. For example, the Uzbekistani media suffer from a self-censorship problem a problem due to which they are under the wrong conception as many journalists and editors, have a believe that one needs to report solely positive news which most of the time is harmful keeping in view the future of the development of the country as most of the people live in ignorance (UNTOC, 2004).

A distrust of the human trafficking victims felt towards the law enforcement bodies and refusal to ask for help is another challenge in countering the problem. According to the representatives of the OSCE in Tajikistan, people are more likely to turn to non-governmental organizations, rather than police for the first time. The same kind of situation is observed in other countries for a number of reasons. First of all, a formal recognition of a victim's status has never been a straight forward procedure in Central Asia. A statement of the victim alone is not sufficient. For example, If in Kazakhstan we recognize someone as a victim that completely depends on a successful process of investigation and prosecution. In Tajikistan, it is the sorrow state of the government as



the NGOs do not play enough role in determining the status of human trafficking victims and they should be allowed to a certain amount of freedom based on which they could do its job accurately. Second, the lack of legal knowledge and skills related to protecting the rights of the victims often lead to their re-victimization and discrimination and the deterioration of the individual starts taking place. In few cases, we will observe how people who are forced into slavery had to pay penalty for having crossed the border illegally and get deported. Third, A certain amount of corruption can be seen that there is corruption among certain law enforcement officials in the region. For example, some Kyrgyzstan police representatives allegedly exploited women – victims of trafficking (including girls younger than 18 years old) and received bribe from traffickers for not launching a criminal case against them. One cannot ignore the fact that trafficking in Central Asia and in the world at large, sadly occurs with the help of corrupt law enforcement and border control authorities. A condemnation of such cases in the media and fight against those is another important step to counter the trafficking in persons. (ICG, 2010).

### **Efforts to Prevent Human Trafficking**

At the very outset, it is quite essential to make out that raising journalism standards and expanding the media coverage is a vital necessity in the 21st century. Conditions must be created by the governments of Central Asia for the state and non-state media to highlight the human trafficking threat freely and must be freed of any taboo attached and they must be allowed to discuss on the matter openly. More and more Investigative journalism and publication of real-life stories must be followed with the trails of human trafficking routes as it could be of greater use for the population as opposed to plain reports on human trafficking which has not much to offer. The NGOs role must be enlarged and be given more opportunities to publish their reports and evaluations in the regional media outlets so as to create and generate the sense of awareness amongst all the member groups (UNHCR, 2002)

In Uzbekistan, the state tries its level best to come up with the broader issues of human trafficking as it indeed covers special programs on the matter and broadcast them on TV and radio, and internet portals. For example, the Department for Countering Human Trafficking and Missing Persons of the Ministry of Internal Affairs had been publishing a number of series in 2015 on real human trafficking

cases that gives an insight on the current condition on this issue. However, journalists could supplement the law enforcement agencies information by special reports with a greater emphasis on the human story. In addition, information boards and leaflets warning against human trafficking must be present in all international airports, train stations and border crossings of Central Asian countries. The importance of digital media should be also taken into account given its popularity among the young users. In 2014, there was a practice of sending text messages warning against human trafficking by mobile operators across Uzbekistan 26. Given the popularity of social media, the law enforcement bodies could distribute information through mobile apps like Viber, Telegram, Imo, and social networks like Facebook and Odnoklassniki (Daily News and Analysis, 2015).

Second, the current preventive measures in Central Asia are mainly aimed at holding special trainings and giving public speeches at the universities or specialized education institutions. Given that victims of human trafficking are often people without education (although there may be exceptions), prevention should target informing people starting from their high schools. The governments of Central Asia together with the assistance of psychologists, NGOs, law enforcement agencies and international partners could launch a program of recurrent trainings at schools warning the younger generation against the dangers of an illegal work abroad. Trainings could include real stories of human trafficking victims and be based on the human rights and dignity protection enshrined in the constitutions of Central Asian states. Moreover, the program could warn against tricks and methods used by traffickers, highlighting the fact that relatives and acquaintances can be traffickers too. Accordingly, it is imperative to normalize a practice of a thorough check of any information about a potential job offer abroad via the middle men. As a rule, no legitimate business would hire foreign employees without relevant paperwork. (Fitzpatrick 2009).

Third, it's obligatory to establish a single regional digital database to track crimes related to human trafficking. As trafficking in persons occurs within the region, it's important on the part of the law enforcement bodies to have a constant exchange of information to coordinate all the required activities. Such kind of a database could be launched by a direct government support with assistance from international donors. It can be founded as an independent project or it can be implemented within existing

analytical centers of information. Bearing in mind the link of trafficking to other organized crime forms, such as terrorism and drug trafficking, it could be possible to create such a database within the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for combating illicit drug trafficking (CARICC). Another option we have is to develop the project within operating anti-terrorist bodies in the view of terrorist organizations' links to human trafficking. It is popularly known that the so-called "Islamic State" organizes markets for the sale of both women and children.

Fourth, there is a need for a greater coordination in monitoring and restricting criminal organizations involved in human trafficking in Russia, Kazakhstan, the Middle East and Southeast Asia is needed at the earliest. For the executive branches of power Joint and regular cooperation of the law enforcement authorities of respective countries is highly required and also their recommendations. Suppressing the demand for humans in the countries of destination would bring a drop in supply in the countries of origin. Finally, it is essential to create jobs and practice economic freedoms with an essential diversification of the Central Asian economies. Opportunities for entrepreneurs in this region is too high after the incidents of trafficking and not only that rather a departure from the resource-based economies is a massive task for the countries of the region. In this respect, the government must make united efforts with those of NGOs, media, academia, public figures and donor organizations to eradicate the menace called Human trafficking (USDS, 2014).

Gulchehra Mirzoeva, The director of the NGO Modar, Gulchehra Mirzoeva works on human trafficking, and says that most migrants have lack of knowledge because of which they are unable to defend themselves abroad. She further goes on to explain that most of the million refugee workers who leave Tajikistan every single year are not aware of the language of the country they go to. That is the prime reason behind there exploitation, and the risk is basically with the young. Mirzoevais concerned more about the whole issue as she believes that not enough is being done to raise consciousness amongst the young and new people of the dangers of human trading. These kinds of ignorance is well known to the Criminal gangs and use it to "lure young people into slavery", said Firuz Saidov, an independent expert on social affairs. (IWPR 2006).

According to a source both the ILO and UNDP initiative is aimed at boosting effort of all national partners involved in the migration sphere so as to increase the protection of Tajik workers abroad and to create an environment bit more decent for working conditions in the home country. According to the survey report ILO, various types of pilot projects will be conducted in the Rasht Valley (eastern Tajikistan), which is an economically undersized area with the highest migration rate in the country. If we consider the report of the Tajik Labor and Social Protection Ministry, About 600,000 Tajik workers are employed abroad (ILO 2008).

One of the most difficult crimes to prove overall is the trade of humans. In the countries of Central Asia, victims of such crimes often hide and hesitate as they do not wish to report their tribulation to the law enforcement agencies as for them to go under trial is like nightmare. Their approach is different as they do not always like to be talked about being trafficked or forced into prostitution. This makes a calculation of the threat's real degree a complex task. At this point, there is incomplete data on human trafficking and one can only guess an authentic and genuine number of the people affected.(IOM 1995).

About 400 human trafficking cases per year have been reported in Kazakhstan according to the reports. In the year 2015 approximately 59 cases were reported in Tajikistan. The Uzbekistani authorities. About 696 investigation processes, 372 criminal cases and 460 people convicted for trafficking humans in 2015 have been mentioned by the authorities of Uzbekistan. As per The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan it identified that about 924 people were trafficked in 2015 and 784 of those were taken out of the country. A difference between the official numbers and independent estimates can be seen. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) mentioned 175 trafficking cases in Kyrgyzstan in the first half of 2016 (IWPR 2016).

## **Conclusion**

The complex nature of human trafficking is difficult to understand due to its secretive nature of work. The traffickers are linked professionally with the high profile bureaucrats and ministers as a result of which it become difficult to trace the activities related with trafficking in Central Asia. It has been seen there are many factors which need to be considered awaken in Central Asia regarding the trade of Human

Trafficking which seems never ending since centuries, which has its roots linked to “Global Trade” all around the globe in general and Central Asia in particular.

As in the case of Kyrgyzstan the transportation takes place from Europe, Russia and Turkey. The basis of transportation from such region is said to be lack of economic avenues and better standing of living as a result of which the innocent native of the region fall in prey of the traffickers who lure them showing opportunities abroad but contrary to that the people of Kyrgyzstan get victimized and forced to act as bonded labour and maximum of them are used for sexual exploitation. The following chapter explains that the dimension of trafficking in Kyrgyzstan shows that how the govt. has been taking efforts to combat the illicit activities which are taking place in the name of Human Trafficking. The Kyrgyz government has been successful in implementing various measures from placing hotlines to spreading awareness among the people via NGO and different agencies. So far the government has to its credit various developmental projects that focuses on the ways to eradicate human trafficking but having said that even the government is somehow not able to come with the strong legislation or agenda’s due to the lack of adequate resources required to combat trafficking in Kyrgyzstan.

Similarly, if we look at the case of Uzbekistan the situation is more or less same to that of Kyrgyzstan. As both men and women and children are trafficked from Uzbekistan and subjected to forced labor, children trafficking and prostitutions. Uzbekistan as country deals with internal trafficking due to the cotton harvest as more and more manual labour are forced to work in cotton field which often leads to harassment and death. The government of Uzbekistan with the help an NGO has come with “Cotton Campaign” which prohibits the inclusion of children which has proved successful on the part of children as their right against sexual exploitation has been safeguarded which shows the positive step being taken by Uzbek Government towards controlling the menace of human trafficking. The government of Uzbekistan is still improvising on its action towards the issue of eradication of trafficking by uniting with various Non-Governmental agencies and International Organization.

## **CHAPTER-3**

### **IMPACT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN CENTRAL ASIA**

Human trafficking is a comprehensive phenomenon that manifest in the form of sex trafficking, bonded labor, and organ donation. Poverty lies at the heart of human trafficking. If we look at the sex trafficking both women and children are used for sexual markets and their status is no less than that of sexual commodity. It has now become an industry of billion dollars and has at its core corrupt public officials as principal participants. Prostitution has become largest industry that is polluting the countries and degrading the concept of Humanity (Fiona, 2006).

We live in a world that has accepted man's dependence towards each other and that man is a social animal whose nature is to control and seek control vice a versa. It is in the human psyche to keep absolute control over another. It is to note that the 21<sup>st</sup> century is facing the greatest challenge in the name of “human trafficking”. This has in a way degenerated the affairs of the state. Human trafficking involves the use of trick to exploit the vulnerable through force and by fraud, strip their dignity and self-worth. An unequal picture is being portrayed in our society due to human trafficking, a society which not only talks about rights but also equality. Here it gives a contrasting picture of inequality among equals with regard to the right of every individual over his or her life, as victims are duty-bound to sell their inbuilt freedom and are subject to coercive suppression. Their cry for help is taken a backseat and drowned in the sea of regular domination and sense of apathy which has been continuing for centuries. (Koettl, 2009).

The broken environment of the victims are taken for granted by the exploiters as they tend to misuse the plight of the victims by giving them fake promises of a better standard of living. During the process of trafficking, victims are forcefully subjected to constant physical and sexual abuse and are groomed in order to force them to submit themselves. Blind faith leads victims to the pit of darkness as caution is compromised because of desperation. Cops sometimes cooperate the exploiters just for some money. The most brutal form of sex trafficking is the commercial exploitation of children. Sadists still keep faith on the accepted belief that having sex

with a virgin would cure them of sexually transmitted diseases. It is more than insensitive to learn the plight of the little girls who are raped and tortured in such brutal manner that their reproductive system gets permanently damaged depriving them of their natural right to motherhood. The incidents of sexual exploitation among young boys are seldom heard of because we fail to acknowledge the fact that even male can be victims of such gruesome activities and that we must get rid of the gender biased assumption. If we take an example of male sex prostitution we can find almost similar activity being practiced other than in central Asia of *bachcabaazi* in Afghanistan and *laundanach* in India, where boys dress up as girls and entertain men, provides an insight into the world of male sex slavery and prostitution (Fernanda, 2009).

Even social stigma gets attached in society regarding the lifestyle of the victims as a result of which we face disappointment to reintegrate victims of sex trafficking in society. The problem with the mainstream society is largely questionable as they do not accept and welcome the victims who gets rescued. Standing on pedestals, which is created by our own self-righteous minds, we judge trafficked sex-workers with disgust and contempt, and fail to realize that most of them were sold into the flesh trade by their families and friends. (Laczko, 2002)

This social isolation is one of the reasons that drive victims back into the flesh trade. Another destructive and negative aspect of human trafficking is the transformation of female victims into exploitive traffickers themselves as their sense of right and wrong is spoiled by the luxuries provided by instant cash. It is imperative to realize that it's not the prostitutes that are criminals, but it's the victims of the society that has allowed prostitution. The unjust, age-old practice of bonded labor, is very much prevalent in today's scenario in developing nations where labor is provided as a means of compensation of loan with very little or no pay, and are forced to work in an inappropriate and unhygienic conditions. It is a kind of slavery of a contemporary form which has its roots in the lack of government welfare schemes. (Solla and Fernanda, 2009)

The world has been plagued by a new concept which is arising in the business of human trafficking and that is Organ trafficking. Demand for human organ is increasing as the middlemen patch up with the medical professionals to cheat the poor

and unaware people for want of cash in return. These people are unaware of the after effect of organ donation just for a desperate need of money and trust the medical institution (Marlene, 2008).

Human trafficking is an industry having both demand and supply sides. If demand gets restricted, i.e. those financing such illegal operations, it will help in curbing human trafficking. Countries must collaborate to prepare a draft and database to gather much needed information regarding human trafficking. Embassies should become victim friendly. Security at international borders should be tightened in order to counter transnational trafficking. Training must be given to enforcement agencies of law so that they can handle rescue operations and deal with victims of sex trafficking. (Kara, 2011).

The expansion of human trafficking is also due to the lack of political will to immediately address the root cause of human smuggling that takes place. Government policies are flawed and they must realize that every individual has the right to life, which includes right to food, education and employment and therefore provisions must be made. In Central Asia and other developing countries, to combat slavery, it is crucial to have a deep understanding of the financial, political and cultural power structures in society. Surveys must be conducted to identify people involved in any form of trafficking even can set up commissions, along with NGOs so that the victim should be kept in safety and can go through their process of rehabilitation.

It should be every person's responsibility to contribute towards this cause by being watchful and attentive in his locality and reporting suspicious activities to authorities on hotline numbers. Only when we will start researching we will realize the absolute seriousness of this problem and the fatal consequences attached to it. It is even necessary to create awareness among students through seminars and workshops regarding the ill effects of human trafficking. There is no doubt we live in a world that comes up with new issues and broken people every day. We've reached a point where eradicating human trafficking is not depended to a particular individual or organization as it should be a collective responsibility of each member of the society to help in minimizing this condemnable condition It just comes down to whether we are willing to take that first step. Human trafficking has been such a terrible crime around the globe still the graph of its crime is one of the most difficult offenses to



prove. In Central Asia, plight of the victim remains both aching and throbbing. Despite all the pain victims of such sin often do not wish to report their trial to the law enforcement agencies. Their mentality has been such that they are not ready to share the dreadful incidents of their forced prostitution or how they got trafficked. This makes an assessment of the threat's real extent a complicated task. At this position, there is limited data on human trafficking and one can only make a guess about the actual amount of involvement in this regard. (Kelley, 2005)

For example, Kazakhstan is reportedly registering about 400 human trafficking cases per year. In Tajikistan, 59 cases were reported in 2015. The Uzbekistani authorities mentioned 696 investigation processes, 372 criminal cases and 460 people convicted for trafficking humans in 2015. The Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Uzbekistan specified that 924 people were trafficked in 2015 and 784 of those were taken out of the country. (Laczko, 2002)

The impact of trafficking is difficult to measure because of its hidden economies and secretive nature. The determinants that make it difficult to scale the human trafficking are as under: Lack of legislation and inadequate national definitions; lack of political will; inexperience in dealing with the issue; corruption; victims' inability or unwillingness to cooperate (Abramowitz 2009). However, trafficking is too hidden a phenomenon that it becomes very difficult to actually measure the yardsticks of trafficking. (Erica, 2009).

Estimates suggest that 400,000 illegal immigrants reach Europe each year, while 850,000 arrive in the US annually (however, these figures include those who have paid smugglers as well as trafficked victims). It was In the year 2004 that the, US government estimated that 600,000-800,000 are trafficked internationally annually, of which 80 per cent are female and 50 per cent are minors, with 70 per cent of females being trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation (US Department of State 2004). ILO estimates that 2.44 million people are in forced labor worldwide. (ILO, 2008). The right way to regulate the business of prostitution or to be more appropriate women selling and men buying sex, are such major concerns that such questions have led to a harsh debate and are widely discussed among civil society organizations, academics, politicians and public opinion makers internationally (ICG, 2010).

The matter of concern here is to come up with the “right way” and be able to answer the questions whether any kind of difference is possible or not between women selling and men buying sex at one point and women being exploited by the hand of men in order to satisfy their sexual desires. At this stage and at first order it becomes essential to go into the detail analysis of the whole criminal episode going around our planet called “Earth.”

The latter is closely related to the so called abolitionist approach, while the former is understood to be the regulatory approach. Even though some experts point out that searching a right way by going through the prostitute regime may not be of much help in looking for the expected right way out. (Farrier, 1997).

UN Special Reporter on Trafficking in persons stated: “the elements of trafficking is satisfied by the data’s used and the level at which prostitution gets practiced. Thus, it becomes the responsibility of the States Parties with legalized prostitution industries to ensure that their legalized prostitution regimes should not simply be responsible for widespread trafficking. If we look at the current conditions, States Parties that maintain legalized prostitution are far from satisfying this obligation”(UNODC, 2012).

The recent studies have confirmed the danger inherent to legalized prostitution systems that enables in enhancing trafficking in human beings and as a result it must be checked. Therefore, At EU level it has been suggested to monitor and regulate both prostitution and fight against human smuggling as both needs to be checked in order to bring control on each other. In any case, the need of the hour is to “dry out the market” of prostitution so that human trafficking and women selling should be checked. As stated in the official evaluation report of 2011 of the Swedish anti-prostitution legislation. However, this report has been put to question by stakeholders for drawing too far reaching conclusions and failing to accomplish its target.

It has been pointed out that trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation was still taking place in Sweden because of which a decision has been taken recently to implement a new evaluation.

Report which looks much deeper into the matter concerning women and its effects of the legislation on women selling sex than the earlier ones. Higher inflow of trafficking

into the sex market occurs in the prostitution field where it's all legal and research further shows how for the traffickers it becomes easy to trap victims easily. Legalized prostitution paves way for the middlemen and traffickers to play the dirty game of sexual abuse under the ambit of law.

One of the main problems for the states is to find and adopt such a regulatory approach by which sex industry should be brought under control. The concern of the authorities are lack of resources or flawed legislation because of which their work gets hampered. As a result we see, the operations to check the illegal sector remains marginal due to lack of official and valid data on the prostitution sector and also the reports on trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation remain scarce (Irina2006).

The above mentioned analysis compels some experts to focus on the area of men where they could also suffer situations as that of the females but females tend to be more vulnerable to the business of trafficking. Men are not much into the field of prostitution and sexual service are taken by men from women.

If we look at the different angle, poor men can also be found among those buying sexual services from women. In this respect, some authors drew attention towards the unbalanced power relation among men and women that is the fact of any society notably regarding financial and economic resources. These power relations continue to affect men and women's sexuality and perpetuate images of men buying sex from women. Prostitution is therefore not only supposed as reinforcing gender stereotypes but also as an expression of the idea of men's unlimited access to women's bodies based on their economic power. It in a way brings about the assumption that sexual needs are a kind of right that every (male) individual is permitted to. Such supposition in a way dirty the overall scenario and the concept of womanhood. (Perez and Fernanda, 2009).

According to abolitionists, human rights of women gets violated under prostitution as it is regarded as contrary to the dignity of women their human rights and to gender equality. The concept of gender equality fails the moment men buy females for sex under legalized prostitution. Hence the basic idea here should be to abolish the practice of Prostitution. This was one of the main reasons for the Swedish legislator to introduce the penalization of the purchase of sexual services at the end of the 1990.

Going even further but in the same sense, prostitution has been qualified as a space where men can buy the sexual abuse of women. Therefore, the label given to prostitution is that of as “paid rape “In fact, research in the US thinks to have established a positive association between both legalized prostitution and elevated rape rates. (Gallagher 2001).

Human smuggling has turned into a world-wide commercial industry, incorporating millions of people annually, and generating an annual turnover of billions of dollars. The impacts of trafficking are felt both in the countries from which people are trafficked, and the countries to which they are trafficked. In both sets of countries there are implications for not only society, economy but also regarding health. If we look at society we see how gender relations and family have negative impacts and women who are sold to sexual slavery are ill-treated and with hatred. **Economically**, if we see will find out how people in the name of seeking employment opportunities migrate and end up being trafficked, resulting in significant remittance losses **Health** as an indicator is very uncertain as women and children trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation are at risk of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections, and of spreading the diseases among wider society; people are trafficked in dangerous conditions and often held, even after they reach their destinations, in circumstances that can have long-term detrimental effects on their mental and physical well-being (IOM, 2010).

As per the nature of trafficking, they are secretly performed activities as a result they are unseen and hidden so difficult to see. Trafficked persons often remain aloof and have limited access to basic necessities such as food, clothing, shelter, safety, hygiene, and medical care. There are variations regarding effects of trafficking as they depend on the type of trafficking and the specific situation. It is a known fact that trafficking is based on the exploitation of individuals, hence all victims of trafficking are in a way subject to physical, psychological, and social impacts. Trafficked victims often has to undergo harsh treatment as they are forced to work over harsh conditions otherwise force is applied on them as a result of which they experience cruel impacts. In the same light we will find victims are exposed to serious health risks, such as HIV/AIDS, as well as serious mental health risks. Mental disorder like Pain, anguish, anxiety, insecurity, fear, and trauma are all products of trafficking. Several studies indicate high levels of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) in former trafficked

persons. Trafficking has various such shocking diseases like cognitive impairment, memory loss, depression, and even suicide. (UNDOC 2000).

Trafficking leads to a very negative impact on the minds of young children and their growth as well. These minors are all the more vulnerable due to their age. Trafficking most greatly impacts children's emotional, physical, and overall psychological development. Trafficked persons mostly has to experience the pain of social exclusion from their family and community at large. Such persons are often isolated from their social circles, leaving individuals unable to engage socially or reach out for help. Victims are in deep trouble when they get trafficked internationally and therefore in most cases not able to engage due to a lack of linguistic capability or geographic and cultural familiarity. Individuals specifically trafficked for sex have describe facing all kinds of negative responses especially from friends and family members due to the stigma attached with sex workers and share their painful experience (Li, 2005).

The social impacts of human trafficking are rather universal though some variations regarding the degree of impact may differ from one country to the other. Those who have truly experienced human trafficking are the ones who are coping with the societal and health related impacts. Although, HIV and AIDS can be spread because of human trafficking, which can affect any and all of the population. Similarly statelessness is the situation very common in the states of Central Asia and similar to that one of the region of Central Asia Tajikistan is facing this problem and it is due to the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, where there were many countless people either with no nationality confirmed or those who couldn't acquire nationality with which they had ties through birth, decent, or habitual residence. The situation got worsened due to the migration movements of people from one country to the other particularly from Central Asia. Another major reason behind the recent occurrences of statelessness have arguably been due to mixed marriages and births; gaps which occur in nationality legislation and the conflict of nationality laws in different states; and administrative obstacles preventing the acquisition of nationality. UNHCR can be seen as a global level mandate to address the issue and problems of statelessness and with the support of UNHCR the With the support of the UNHCR, the state of Tajikistan have been making progress in order to resolve the situation of statelessness in Central Asia. (UNHCR, 2001).

In such a challenging situation the risk of statelessness still arise. That said, challenges increasing the risk of statelessness still arise. Government of Uzbekistan withdraws nationality of their citizens if their citizens reside abroad for five years or above without registering at consulates. If we read the Article 7(3) of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness we will see that the loss of nationality in such cases like as a result of departure, residence abroad, failure to register, or similar does not render people stateless. However, Article 7(4) at the same time provides an exception to this rule, claiming that one might lose in case one happens to reside abroad for seven consecutive years. Here thus, we will see that the gap in the legislation could result in statelessness regionally. The people of Tajikistan suffer from a different kind of setback as the statelessness has a negative impact on the population residing in border areas, the occurrence of statelessness has a particular impact on people residing in border areas, including those originating from Uzbekistan who arrived in Tajikistan before the introduction of the visa regime in 2004. If they remain in Tajikistan without valid identity documents, they are subject to administrative penalties and deportations without knowing whether the provisions of Uzbek nationality law are being applied to revoke their nationality. (Evgeniy, 2007)

The practical application of domestic legislation also leads to statelessness. Valid identity documents are of particular concern and are also related to Gender dimension. No gender-discriminatory provisions is provided under nationality law in ensuring the right to a nationality. The implementation of legislation exposes women to a greater risk of statelessness either directly or indirectly. Over 2000 stateless persons or those at risk since 2014 have been identified under the vigilance of a joint government and UNHCR pilot exercise which is run under the coordination with the civil society. Among them over 65% of the identified are women and children. It could also be argued in a way that with the limited financial resources in a household the male member of the family was given the identity documents and supposed to travel abroad to seek employment. On the other hand, women were told to stay back doing household activities and used to get engaged in informal sectors where there is no need for identity document for women. (UNHCR, 2014)

Although the magnitude of the issue is not yet grasped in the country, substantial numbers of people are in legal limbo. Though the magnitude of the issue is not known

much to the country. It is often observed that women generally endure hardship more than men and in silence, as stressed in the recent **CEDAW recommendation**. Stresses laid upon the complementarity between international human rights law and statelessness-related instruments according to this recommendation. “Without status as nationals or citizens, stateless women and girls are often marginalized, deprived of the right to vote or stand for public office and may be denied access to public benefits, a choice of residence and free movement, in addition to access to various rights and benefits flowing from status as a national, including rights to education, health care, property or employment”(CEDAW, 2010).

No significant law enforcement was demonstrated by the government of Turkmenistan. Through Article 129 of the criminal code which was being adopted in May 2010 the government prohibits all forms of trafficking in person which prescribes penalties ranging from four to 25 years’ imprisonment. These kind of consequences are sufficiently severe and proportionate with those prescribed for other serious crimes, as rape. The government made no efforts either in terms of investigating, prosecution, conviction, or punishment any trafficking offenders during the reporting period. Two cases of trafficking under non-trafficking statutes had been reported and investigated during the previous reporting period. The government provided no information on whether the individuals prosecuted in these cases were convicted or sentenced to time in prison. Various international organizations also provided Training for more than 100 officials from the State Migration, State Customs, and State Border Services on the legal anti-trafficking framework and general trafficking issues was provided by various international organization. The government did not report efforts to investigate such officials for trafficking related complicity despite some unconfirmed reports that the migration officials were complicit to human trafficking. The government of Turkmenistan does not form anti trafficking partnership but it despite not being part of any kind of partnership with government it allegedly issued directions to its foreign missions abroad to cooperate with foreign law enforcement authorities on trafficking cases (INTERFAX, 2012).

If any person at any point of their life had to experience human trafficking, they have known a life worse than death itself. They are trapped and kept under dark conditions and are forced to live in the brothels which is all the more terrible. Victims of human trafficking have absolutely no freedoms, and experience horrors such as abuse,

violence, deprivation, and torture. Under such kind of conditions most likely victims slip to trauma. We can just not even imagine their urge to escape and how helpless and miserable they would feel (Olena, 2016).

Unfortunately, such misdeed are often made and the crime doers move freely otherwise they must never go without punishment, as their crime are never minor. The level of torture they undergo is heart aching as according to a case study a person once had to submerge their body in a barrel filled with water contaminated with scorpion and other vermin, and sit there for one week. As if that wasn't enough, they also had to sit in the darkness all lonesome. The cruel and ugly face of trafficking is very high. Another way by which the traffickers make the victims more cooperative is by injecting them with drugs, leading to addiction, which meant the brothel was ultimately their lifeline. Many people at first fight hard to get out of the gutter hole but when they realize they fail all scope and have lost the battle they learn to give cocktail smile and flirt, but it is only an act from inside, they are broken and crying (Michael, 2013).

Since, human trafficking involves selling a person for sex, pregnancies are often expected. No wonder, in Central Asia human smugglers have even found a way to make that seem gloomy and twisted. In the process they force those who are pregnant to have abortions, with unclean instruments by non-certified practitioner keeping their life at risk. This lack of sanitation is one of the many factors in the ever spreading HIV in the human trafficking world. The relationship between human trafficking and HIV isn't always completely obvious but in most of the cases it is one leads to the other. Really, the connection between the two leads to further problems that is not only the concern of an individual but the county as a whole as risk looms largely in such cases (UNDOC, 1998).

Currently, there is not much research to show the connection, but more studies are being conducted in order to have that sufficient information necessary for ending the social issue of human trafficking. What is known so far is that many are not properly educated in the area of sexually transmitted diseases, meaning they are typically unaware of what they are and most definitely whether or not one would have them. This means people all over the world, especially in and AIDS (GRTP, 2012).



### **Child trafficking in Central Asia:**

There is no unified understanding in Central Asia of the concept of child trafficking. How child migration and child exploitation is viewed by the key players in Central Asia is a matter of great variations. We have in central Asia cases and data registered about the child sale in each country. While it is encouraging that some data exist, there are doubts regarding the quality and reliability of data. It is problematic to get the accuracy of each and every data because of variations in legal definitions, registration practices and data collection across central authorities. Trafficking routes are reported in a nonspecific way and no trafficking route have been identified as being specific to child victims. However, human trafficking is reported to have taken place internally in each country, across borders within Central Asia, especially towards Kazakhstan, and out of Central Asia, notably to other areas of Asia, the Middle East, the Russian Federation and Western Europe. Informants argue that children are more vulnerable to internal trafficking than cross-border trafficking.

The reason mostly assumed behind child trafficking or their sale in the region are Labor exploitation and sexual exploitation. Illicit adoption, begging and criminal activities are far less frequently reported as motives. The research however did not confirm any cases of trafficking for the purpose of the removal of organs or the use of children in armed forces or otherwise. The level of exploitation amongst children in Central Asia has been seen at large among unaccompanied, working and institutionalized children. Socio-economic hardship, migration and weakened child protection networks makes them vulnerable with weak decision making power and are put to risk in trafficking activities (Ollus, 2008).

We have various types of legal frameworks based on Anti-trafficking agenda but it has not proved adequate in protecting children. Various international child rights instrument have been signed but full compliance yet to be ratified as the necessary legal work yet to be made. The basic problem with the is national legislations are that they are not in line with international definitions of child trafficking as a result question of child rights remains<sup>8</sup>.

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<sup>8</sup>US Department of State Trafficking in Persons Report 2016.  
<https://www.state.gov/documents/organization/258876.pdf>; p.396

The problems of child trafficking is not adequately addressed and not much policies are framed neither are action plans made. National action plans for children and national action plans against human trafficking fail to deal with the basic problem and are unable to tackle the matter concerning the sale of persons and do not fully undertake the issues which is a failure of government machinery. Hence there is a need to reform Child protection systems and to give them adequate care and support so as to protect them from the risk of child selling. Current system fails to offer a range of community-based protection, intervention and reintegration services. A need for a correctional and educational measures is required, mainly in inadequate residential settings. By failing to support parents in the face of poverty children are subject to face such gruesome criminal activity.

### **Health:**

HIV/AIDs are emerging as a major health threat in the countries of Central Asia. In the late 1990s, the epidemic appeared to be confined to Russia and Ukraine as Ukraine remains the worst-affected country, with an estimated adult HIV prevalence rate of 1 percent that is the highest in Europe. However, although the incidence of HIV was low in Central Asia currently the evidence indicate that the epidemic is constantly at increase with the growing scene of human trafficking in and around Central Asian countries. There has been a substantial increase in the rate of HIV affected people in the last four years. There are both official and unofficial cases of HIV but the sample differs depending upon what figure shows<sup>9</sup>.

Officially reported cases increased from around 500 in 2000 to over 8,000 in 2004—a 1,600 per cent increase, but unreported cases are thought to be much higher. Human trafficking can be termed as the human tragedy of today’s era which has far-reaching social and economic implications for individuals, households and the economy as a whole. Even we witness the fall in the price of anti-retroviral drugs from \$10,000 per person per year in 2000 to \$300–600 more recently, as per the data but unless subsidized its cost will still be difficult to meet. In 2004 more than million people in the CAR region were living with HIV and the figure is likely to increase significantly in coming years (UNAIDS, 2005).

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<sup>9</sup> Report of SIAR Research & Consulting “Identification of rehabilitation and reintegration needs of men, victims of human trafficking”, 2015, prepared for the International Organisation of Migration.

The expansion of this disease is due to the trafficking business that forcefully brings women and young girls into prostitution which results into various sexually transmitted diseases. The drug intake among the victim is also very high and this often leads them into deep trouble. Almost four in every five new infections are among young boys and girls aged fewer than 30, reflecting the fact that it is the young section of our society that are being drowned in the well of STDs and bringing their life to end. However, unsafe sex is also a prime reason behind young people being infected as they are forced to go through unprotected heterosexual sex. This not only affects the health of the people involved rather it even hampers the overall economy as a whole. A study of the potential economic effects of an unchecked epidemic in the Russian Federation suggested that it could reduce economic growth by half a percentage point annually by 2010 and HIV among people who inject drugs (PWID) is a major public health concern in Eastern and Central Europe and Central Asia. In the year 2010 over 27000 HIV cases were diagnosed among PWID. The review was made in order to examine various risk factors associated with STD in Central Asia and how to tackle such issue is the prime goal of such review committee. Of the 5644 research papers recognized from electronic databases and 40 documents collected from our grey literature search, 70 documents provided exclusive estimate of HIV and 14 provided multivariate risk factors for HIV among PWID<sup>10</sup>.

If we look at the example of Turkmenistan we will see that there is a health crisis in Turkmenistan more severe than other countries of Central Asia. The dictatorship policy of Turkmenistan has had a negative impact on the population health, drug trafficking in Turkmenistan from Afghanistan has a worst impact on the health care system of the country and its people (UNHCR, 2002).

The major failure of the regime of Turkmenistan government and its policy of authoritarianism has contributed to the health crisis facing Turkmenistan. The government needs to address this issue of crisis and make substantial effort to remove it as it has emerged as a great evil that demands an immediate solution. What is happening around the globe and Central Asia in particular is a kind of assassination of human rights as the rights of the individual are being violated in Turkmenistan and

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<sup>10</sup>The US Embassy in Uzbekistan: "Report on trafficking in persons for 2016: Uzbekistan", <https://uz.usembassy.gov/our-relationship-ru/official-reports-ru/2016-trafficking-persons-report-uzbekistan-ru/>

their dreams of being free are killed by the hands of traffickers. Recent research has shown a surprisingly close association of this country with traffickers and drug trafficking has grown which has led to widespread drug use in Turkmenistan with severe impacts on the health and well-being of people in the destination countries who are involved in the international drug trade. The health care system has been totally neglected to the extent in Turkmenistan that it has led to the health crisis in the country and parts of Central Asian region. The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), have advocated for this policy change since 2002. Turkmen government however is not accepting the fact regarding the incidence related with HIV/AIDS and Turkmenistan government denies that there have been new HIV infections in recent years. According to UNAIDS, by 2004 only two cases of HIV/AIDS had ever been reported in Turkmenistan, while according to the data reported to UNICEF by the Turkmen Statistical Office, five newly registered HIV/AIDS cases had been reported by 2004, with not a single case reported since 2000. While there are a number of concerns about officially recorded data on HIV in most countries of the former Soviet Union, the data published by Turkmenistan become even more questionable when put to regional context in Central Asia. (Yun, 2007).

### **Economic Impact:**

Beside from the impact trafficking has on victims, the effect on commerce of interstate and foreign remains. It has an impact on both nationwide employment and labor market. Despite the fact that it is the second most profitable criminal industry it hampers the economies both nationally and internationally. Trafficking have most of the time serious implications for national security as in most of the cases the operation performed by the criminal group organization exceeds beyond their area of Trafficking.

United Nations is looking to stop World Bank from supporting the countries like Central Asia financially till the time it makes positive changes to support its economy and make concrete steps in the prevention of Human Trafficking. Neither UN nor does the World Bank wish to be known to support countries with illicit activities. Central Asia suffers from economic breakdown due to trafficking and lack of law enforcement. Trafficking results into various diseases which further leads to lack of

human productivity in a way showing a negative graph to the growth of the economy. It must also be brought into consideration that shifting of people from one place to the other has become very frequent due to the business under trafficking as it's much easier to move one person to the other in comparison to the materialistic things but it in turn has continued to harm the economy of Central Asia<sup>11</sup>.

If we look around globally we will feel the increase in the demand for cheap labor because of the economic crisis that takes place globally. It is in this regard that we see people looking for jobs often being tricked into exploitation and sex work and this trafficking business becomes a vicious cycle and continuously put the poor and vulnerable into the risk of being trafficked.

There must be a framing of a certain kind of economic principles to curb the acts of human trafficking. For that we must need to dismantle the supply chains of sex trafficking by creating preventive measures that acts as disincentives. Harsh financial penalties should also be imposed on the brothels that captivate the traffickers. It may help shutdown the brothels from doing business. However, market intervention alone won't be enough to put a definitive end to human sex trafficking. This is why there is a need for a holistic approach towards human rights so that end of human trafficking could be possible and for all this to happen a strategy based on the 4 P's—prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnership must be adopted by the government at immediate call so that the cruel face of trafficking could be restricted.

The human rights approach will act as a voice to the victims and vulnerable populations in crafting policies and programs that has affected their lives, and it in a way will make government more accountable towards this issue and they will keep a check whenever the rights are violated. In the meantime, the 4P strategy will persuade and promote joint action from actors of all segments of society. Prevention targets not only the vulnerable child through education and livelihood training, but its role is also to focuses on gender sensitivity education for both boys and men. Protection includes rehabilitating past victims, taking the task of rescuing various operations, and collecting evidence in trials against traffickers. Prosecution encourages community policing and strict law enforcement, addressing issues on both the supply and demand

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<sup>11</sup>United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. 2006. Toolkit to Combat Trafficking in Persons: Global Programme against Trafficking in Human Beings. New York: United Nations.

sides of trafficking. Partnerships connect all efforts together, since until these actions are joined together these actions will not be able to sustain. Act of Philanthropy can have an incredible role in putting an end to trafficking in India too. Anti-sex trafficking initiative must be supported so that this crime against HUMANITY should come to an end.

Despite all efforts taken by the government and international agencies the picture remains gloomy as several steps have being taken by the State government still the condition of the countries in general and CAR region in particular remains disappointing. Complaints are still being received regarding the non-registration of FIRs and insensitive approach of police personnel towards the victims of rape and victims of violence. The reports of the inquiries conducted by the National Commission of Women (NCW) in specific instances indicate that the level of sensitiveness and care with which crime against women should be handled is not up to the desired level and optimum watch should be there on the traffickers or the sellers of women. The Government of Turkmenistan did not demonstrate significant efforts In order to prevent human trafficking during the reporting period No significant steps were taken by the government of Turkmenistan in order to prevent human trafficking during the reporting period. The government did not fund or conduct any anti-trafficking awareness campaigns in 2009, although Turkmen citizens traveling to despite the fact that Turkey received written contact information for anti-trafficking organizations operating in Turkey. The Turkmen government did not conducted any of the anti- trafficking programmes in 2009. No trafficking assistance was provided to the people. An information campaign in public schools for young adolescents in 2010 was conducted by the Ministries of Education and Health in cooperation with the IOM. The campaign spread the cause and effect of the human trafficking and brought awareness among all five provinces of Turkmenistan by representatives of non-governmental organizations by using Turkmen language publications and stories that was understandable to the masses as a whole and that warn the residents of the hazards of human trafficking. However, regular efforts was made by the government to monitor the trafficking situation within its borders so that they could put a check on the trading of humans. (Khodjamakhmed, 2006).

If we look at the case of Kazakhstan we will see how this country can be stated as a country of origin, destination, and transit in the trafficking of both men women and

children for forced labor and sexual exploitation. Trafficking is very common within the region of Central Asia and most common type is to and from Kazakhstan and neighboring Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. Those Women who are trafficked from Kazakhstan and forced into the sex trade frequently arrive in the different states of Central Asia and Kazakhstan remains the favorite destination for the traffickers out of other states of Central Asia. Many trafficked individuals we see are transported away from the region into China, South Korea, Western Europe, Malaysia, Thailand, and the United Arab Emirates (Sadovyskaya, 2007)

Human Trafficking has become the trade in human lives and its impacts and after effects are vile and heinous, it can is the scourge of the mankind, and a gross abuse of human rights. It should shame us all as human beings. What is new and shocking, is the volume of trafficking taking place, and how little we know about it. How can a problem, so monstrous and so widespread continue with the majority of society being unaware of its existence (UNTOC, 2004).

Many campaigners believe the legalization of prostitution can help combat the high numbers of victims enslaved in the world of sex trafficking, but as long as there is a demand, supplies will be provided. It is an underworld, a taboo subject that society keeps hidden and while this is so, pressure is not put on governments and authorities to help. Perhaps the legalization of prostitution and registering brothels will help, but what about the other sectors of the sex industry? Are we ready as a society to accept the existence of them and have them legalized? Until we are, the workers of this industry will be kept out of sight and out of mind (UNODC, 2006).

The general public are becoming more aware of the sector of trafficking that is known as forced, slave and child labor, what with 'Fair Trade' products being produced so that consumers know that workers are being paid fairly, but it is still very difficult for buyers to always know exactly where goods are being produced, the age and well-being of the workers, and if they are being produced in safe and respectful environments.

High street retailers and well-known companies use contractors and sub-contractors to produce their goods, denying the accusations that they somehow must be aware of the working conditions of the people who produce their merchandise. Pressure has been exerted by the various organizations on the Government to make changes regarding

law enforcement concerning the safety of women and to bring change by setting proper staff that would be trained, educated to handle the victims of trafficking crimes. Sadly, though, because of lack of funding, a constant failure of the system can be seen where many victims are seen forcefully being involved and the government allows the perpetrators to continue (Olena, 2006).

The UN may also have to reconsider its status as an 'island' separate from the rest of the EU. Not only one country but each country should take part against the fight for human trafficking. We altogether should be part of the UN's fight against human trafficking, and all countries must work fully together. There should be no boundaries and borders where humanity is concerned. Human Trafficking is the biggest abuse of mankind as the life of men has become like that of a market in which human trade is taking place. The trade in human lives is a vile and heinous crime, it is the scourge of the mankind, and a gross abuse of human rights (UN Report, 2006).

What comes as a shock to us is the level of trafficking taking place, and the little we know of it is surprising that the menace as monstrous as trafficking is unknown and people at large are unaware of its existence. But, my concern is are we really so blind, or do we consciously block our vision, turning away and denying this crime exists because it is so alien to us that we lack empathy for the victims?

It is believe that many of the campaigners that with legalization of prostitution one can combat the supply of high number of women enslaved in the land of sex trafficking. But here we must not forget that demand leads to supply hence as long as there will be hidden demands supply will be followed. The pressure not on the government agencies as due to certain taboos the demand is kept covered so; pressure is not put on governments and authorities to help. Perhaps we may say that the legalization of prostitution and registering brothels will help in a way but what still remains a question is that what about the other sectors of the sex industry? Are we ready as a society to accept the existence of them and have them legalized? Until we are ready to have them run legally the workers of this industry will be kept out of sight and out of mind (Sen, 2006).

These days the general public are becoming more alert of the sector of trafficking and about what happens around the society in the name of employment opportunities, in most of the cases forced, slave and child labor, is caught with 'Fair Trade' products



being produced so that consumers know that workers are being paid fairly, but It is still very difficult for buyers to always know exactly where goods are being produced, the age and well-being of the workers, and if they are being produced in safe and respectful environments.

There are many valuable agencies and organizations around who do invaluable work spreading the word and helping victims of human trafficking, the continued governments cuts to funding force these charitable organizations to appeal to the general public for help with financial aid. This subsequently causes society to become immune to such appeals and perhaps this is partly the reason for the public's lack of awareness of Human Trafficking. During the reporting period The Government of Turkmenistan did not make any effort in protecting or assisting the victims during the reporting period. No medical assistance, legal assistance, shelter, council was provided by the government to the victims of the trafficking nor was adequate fund provided by the NGOs or international organisation so that they can assist the traffickers. However, it was pledged by the government in April 2010, that a facility space will be provided for the shelter of traffickers that will be foreign funded and not only that but IOM will operate them. (OSCE, 2014).

The 2007 trafficking law of 2007 guarantees protection and assistance for victims and has provisions for victim care facilities for the victims of trafficking, although in time of reporting these elements of the law were unimplemented. In the year 2009, the non-governmental organisation funded and assisted twenty-five victims government funded organizations, in comparison with 20 victims who were assisted by non-government funded organizations in the year 2008. The government did not refer No victim was referred by the government to NGOs or IOM for assistance in 2009. Government personnel employed No formal victim identification procedures were provided for either victim identification, victim referral, or victim sensitivity training for border guards or police by the government which is a matter to be thought about. The government even did not inspire the victims to assist in the prosecution or investigation of trafficking. The major problem lies in the fact that no reports of victims being punished during the reporting period for the illicit and unlawful acts committed as a direct result of their being trafficked. The repatriation of foreign victims in 2009 were not assisted by the government and at the same time there were

unconfirmed reports of denial of assistance by the Turkmen consular officials to give support to the victims of trafficking.(Konstantin, 2009).

The last few years has brought new laws and acts into force to help combat human trafficking and protect victims, but to effectively combat the problem it is necessary for world leaders and organizations to address the pre-trafficking conditions, such as the poor Infrastructure and economic opportunities that create vulnerability. In order for this to happen, pressure must be put on them to do so. Perhaps the way forward is to look towards using means which will grab the public attention, such means could involve using well known artists and celebrities to help spread the word, similar to the Band/Live Aid projects in the 1980's.

While there are many worthwhile agencies and organizations around who do invaluable work spreading the word and helping victims of Human trafficking, the continued governments cuts to funding force these charitable organizations to appeal to the general public for help with financial aid. This subsequently causes society to become immune to such appeals and perhaps this is partly the reason for the public's lack of awareness of Human Trafficking. The last few years has brought new laws and acts into force to help combat human trafficking and protect victims, but to effectively combat the problem it is necessary for world leaders and organizations to address the pre-trafficking conditions, such as the poor Infrastructure and economic opportunities that create vulnerability. In order for this to happen, pressure must be put on them to do so. (Tiefenbrun, 2007)

Perhaps the way forward is to look towards using means which will grab the public attention, such means could involve using well known artists and celebrities to help spread the word, similar to the Band/Live Projects where employing the use of contemporary artists to bring the attention of taboo subjects to the forefront of society which will help to put pressure on governments to instill the better infrastructures and economic opportunities needed, along with making changes to laws, enabling the prosecution of perpetrators and provision of aid to victims. Human Trafficking touches every country and countless industries worldwide, and while there are many individuals and organizations working globally to combat this problem, it may take time before it is fully realized that how this problem has globally spread (SIAR, 2015).

## **Reasons That Contribute to the Trafficking Set-up**

If we look into the reasons that brings women, men, and children fall prey to human traffickers in Kazakhstan and other Central Asian countries we would find many causes that leads to the focus upon Kazakhstan. If the post-Soviet world is taken into consideration we will find, Kazakhstan's economy has strengthened as it transitions to a democratic society.

Kazakhstan, a country that is a source, a destination and a transit country for trafficking in persons. Though Kazakhstan has done a lot to combat this problem, but there is a need to do much so that one can be able to fight effectively towards the cause and to overcome the menace of human trafficking. A special report was presented in May 19, of the Human Rights Commission under Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan. Both members and the experts of the commission prepared a report that included Vitalya Voronov, Tastemir Abishev, Nurila Shakhanova, Zulfiya Baisakova and Raissa Yurchenko (CIA, 2009)

A comparative analysis of national legislation and law enforcement practice in the field of protection of rights of human trafficking victims are provided in the report in accordance with international treaties which has been approved by Kazakhstan, in order to evaluate the activities of the state bodies and to look after the concrete steps so as to develop the mechanisms for the protection of the vulnerable section of the society and their rights related to socio-economic, labour and cultural rights according to the Constitution and international standards.(Schatz 2000).

The provisions of the special report was further praised by the experts where they marked the foundation of practical implementation of the approvals by the Kazakh government and parliament. The most significant progress done by the Kazakhstan government in eradicating the crime of human trafficking and combatting trafficking in person (TIP) was mentioned in the report, the development in the region was further acknowledged by the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) an office that acts as the special representative and coordinator for combating trafficking in human beings, which was based on the findings of two visits to Kazakhstan in 2013 and 2014 (OSCE, 2014)

As per the document, the introduction of amendments and additions to national legislation and the introduction of amendments on countering TIP and domestic violence proved beneficial, as per its report much more severe sentencing was enabled for related offences so that the preventive impact of corresponding laws must increase to bring with it more and more quick response. If we go through the current report we will be able to better acknowledge the fact that the Kazakh legislation has aimed to combat TIP and for that various measures have been made such as ensuring protection to the victims of human trafficking and providing social protection is a must. Because until social protection granted to them they suffer from social deprivation and disadaptation. It is with regard to the view of the Human Rights Commission that it was deemed necessary to place the safety of the rights of victims and look for their protection in the forefront of activities of public authorities. They seek full support and make full use of civil society institutions if and when there is a need to work for the protection of the rights of victims of abuse and much effort is done in order to pay special attention to increase public legal awareness, including among victims of human trafficking (Ratha, 2005).

The report says there is a need to make significant adjustments so far as the national mechanisms for the safety for the victim's rights of human trafficking are concerned. There is a need to ensure that the victims have access to special social services and if needed adjustment in this field is also a must. Not only that but the rights of the vulnerable sections who are deprived of the main stream such as migrant workers and children even needs to be taken care of. According to the commission believes that the execution of its particular suggestion should have the aim of achieving the following outcomes-

- At first it should be must to Prevent the irregular migration from taking place and TIP;
- Need to integrate both international human rights standards with national legislation and law enforcement practices in the region of the security and prevention of rights of victims of human trafficking;

There is a need to protect the national mechanisms to prevent and ensure rights of victims of abuse, including victims of human trafficking;

- A protective shield must be prepared for the victims of abuse so that they should be effectively protective of their social, cultural, civil, labor and cultural rights
- Special programme needs to be implemented with the aim of fulfilling and protecting the rights of victims of human trafficking;
- There is a need to create a National level mechanism agencies which can be enforced as and when required, for the appointment of the human trafficking victims along with law enforcement agencies, NGOs, healthcare concern and social services;
- Special social service scheme for the victims of abuse needs to be implemented, including victims of human trafficking and domestic violence so that their safety must be guarded.
- Appropriate rehabilitation centers should be formed for the successful reintegration and re-socialization of victims of abuse, including victims of human trafficking and domestic violence as they too can be a part of their therapy.
- Transparency on the part of the government is essential when they are working for the development or betterment of the victims who have been abused. Various government agencies and NGOs are dealing with victims of abuse, including victims of human smuggling and domestic violence;
- High awareness levels among the public is a must and for that awareness programmes and campaigns are essential as they include the victims of human trafficking, in respect of universally-recognized human right (awareness raising campaign in the area of human rights);
- There is a need to improve the knowledge of law and make people aware among law enforcement officers and the public.

“By fulfilling the recommendations of the special report, Kazakhstan will be able to achieve new goals in building a state which is governed by the rule of law and in strengthening government and civil mechanisms for the protection of rights of victims of abuse, including victims of human trafficking and domestic violence at the international standards level,” the commission said (Tsalikis, 2011). The gathering in Kazakhstan was done on a broader level at the foreign ministry as it was attended by heads of central state bodies, representatives of the legislative, executive and judicial branches of government, head diplomats of higher authority, law enforcement

agencies of Kazakhstan, legal scholars, lawyers, notaries and heads of international organizations and diplomatic missions attributed in Kazakhstan, as well as representatives of educational institutions, science, culture, healthcare, business and the media. All in all adequate effort is made towards eradicating the problem of human trafficking in Central Asia in its own level so that the condition of the victim of abuse must be improved. Human trafficking is a word that shames our present so there is an immediate need to tackle this modern form of slavery called “Human Trafficking” (Saunders, 2005).

## **CHAPTER-4**

### **Measures Taken by the States and International Organization to Combat Human Trafficking in Central Asian Region.**

The Nature of human trafficking is a heinous crime and an illegal means by which the business of illegal trade and trafficking continues. Human trafficking is one of the most complex phenomenon that has taken a horrible turn due to which each trafficked especially the vulnerable sections are most affected. On this line it should be the responsibility of many organizations and communities globally to collaborate together in the lines of secure and safe nation and raise voice against traffickers and in support of the trafficked victims. We will see here few examples of how various global community is committed to counter human trafficking, There is a need to focus both on the level of crime taking place and means to deal with the crime and seek measures to eradicate this crime called human trafficking. Much has been done to eradicate this criminal act but still as we see in this field there are miles to go as even global communities too do not take this matter with much concern and there is still much to be done to eradicate this crime. It is the underground nature of the human trafficking process that a challenge towards prevention of this has become a big question as its nature of work is too multifaceted. Policies related to protection and prosecution related measures are yet to be addressed as no adequate amount of law has been enforced towards the betterment of the condition of the trafficked victims. The problem of human trafficking gets increased due to the linkages it has with illegal migration, labor issues and health problems which in a way makes the problem much more complex to handle. It is crucial not only for the international levels to cooperate but also regional and local level find it difficult to share responsibility and cooperate and collaborate in the fight against trafficking of humans (Anne Clark and Michele, 2005).

Few actors who are active in their fight against human trafficking are Law enforcers, local and national governments; international organizations and non-governmental organizations are among the key actors and act as vanguard towards this fight. In particular, the role of the local governments becomes significant as and when we

come to looking after the vulnerability reduction of the potential victims. A significant role is played in this regard towards reducing the vulnerability of potential victims and offering them needed support and assistance and implementing development strategies that address the root cause of trafficking, all in alignment with international human rights standards. UNITAR an organisation are committed to work for the empowerment of the local authorities through its global network of training centers and advance the fight against human trafficking with the aim to strengthen and provide an international support for collaboration and sharing the information among the various participants around the world. Their capacities must be checked and to provide an international platform there is a need to assess the collaboration and information sharing capacity and mode of the participants (Dilip, 1994).

We have Counter-trafficking activities which focus on three objectives, also known as the “3P” paradigm, that includes Prevention of human trafficking, Protection of victims and Prosecution of Traffickers. This 4P principle acts as a policy framework which is used by governments internationally so that one can combat trafficking of persons: Prevention acts as a crucial module that monitors human trafficking altogether. The vulnerable communities have been addressed by the Prevention efforts that have been concentrated largely on the supply side of trafficking<sup>12</sup>.

It has been more so styled in recent times that attention is given in strengthening the labor laws more than making efforts in raising awareness programme and campaigns. Recent trend is to look for the collaboration amongst governments, law agencies and non -governmental organization so that much needed effort must be made with shared responsibilities (SIAR Report, 2015).

We have several other prevention activities that tackle the “push factors” of migration such as the provision of vocational training, access to microcredit and access to education for helpless children at risk. Nonetheless, in most of the cases we will find prevention strategies failing to integrate into policies reason being lack of evidence-based research, planning and impact evaluations. In order to keep the potential victims safe there is an immediate need to protect the victims at risk and provide them shelter. When we talk about protection it must be protection against want and slavery.

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<sup>12</sup>Four Ps: Partnerships. (2014). U.S. Department of State. Retrieved July 5, 2014, from <http://www.state.gov/j/tip/4p/partner/index.html>.



Protection also takes into account the desire and rights of the victims to be looked after and to grant them basic facilities like giving them food and both legal and psychological assistance as per the requirement (Chibba and Michael, 2013).

But we at the same time cannot deny the growing bilateral cooperation among countries which is the result of rescue mission of migrants that few countries are doing in the name of returning victims across borders. Moreover the service of quality has been improving over the years and illicit activities of human trafficking are talked strongly. The check and balance is being done although at times many victims are not identified hence remain unprotected in the process. In the end, we must also remember a point where the protection of victims is directly in the hands of the discretion of the state (Dimitrova, Dessi, and Rachlin, 2007).

Prosecution is one of the most necessary components for governments that help in eradicating human trafficking. Although under the UN Trafficking Protocol there is a mandatory provision that by and large criminalizes traffickers, the crime remains largely under-prosecuted and unpunished. Prosecution-related activities include implementation of specific anti-trafficking laws, provision of training of police officers, Lawyers, and judges to effectively respond to trafficking and the establishment of special Anti-trafficking police units. On the other hand, we will see that many countries fail to provide legal framework that helps to cover all provisions from the protocol in a comprehensive manner (GRT Report, 2012).

### **United Nations launches global plan of action against human trafficking**

General Assembly on 30<sup>th</sup> July adopted a global national plan under the United Nation in order to urge the government all over the world to take steps based on coordination and cooperation and work together consistently so as to defeat the scourge. The plan calls for an integrated effort by all the countries to fight against the menace of human trafficking into the border programmes of the United Nations in order to boost development and strengthen security around the world (Macdonald, 2007).

According to an estimate made by The United Nations more than 2.4 million people are currently being exploited as victims of human trafficking. In the words of Ban Ki-Moon "It is slavery in the modern age," He further says that "Every year thousands of people, mainly women and children, are exploited by criminals who use them for

forced labour or the sex trade. No country is immune. Almost all play a part, either as a source of trafficked people, transit point or destination. The Secretary-General insisted nations, philanthropists and others to donate generously under the new trust fund for trafficking victims so that with each contribution level of security and safety for the potential victims increases. The fund will further aim at helping Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in seeking these vulnerable people with sense of protection and support for their physical, psychological and social recovery. After they have been exploited and abused, they should not be punished, too. Keeping this in mind the secretary general gives a call to almost all essential component of the government to cooperate in the best way possible. The Plan of Action not only focuses on preventing trafficking, prosecuting offenders and protecting victims but at the same time it also stresses the importance of obtaining more research, data and analysis about the problem. Ban Ki-Moon in an interview said, " We must improve our knowledge and understanding of this crime if we are to make good policy decisions and targeted interventions (UNODC, 2008).

Therefore, human trafficking not only destroys the families but at the same time even shatters and devastates the family bond and dreams. Not only does the families of the victim suffers rather the communities are teared apart. When the history of this horror will call, we will be remembering this period of great destruction where the global community could not do anything despite knowing what painful era went by. A Global Action by the European Union (EU) and UNODC have been launched that talks and deals with the prevention of trafficking in persons and the smuggling of the migrants. Year 2019 will be marked as another year that will come up in support of the victims of trafficking under the partnership of both International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). This global action has been planned by the European Union. The Joint Programme aims to prevent trafficking in human beings in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan through skills development, information dissemination and better organisation of migrant workers and to provide justice for trafficking victims by strengthening protection mechanisms and efforts to prosecute traffickers (IOM, 2015).

The key aim is to give people coming from all sections of the society opportunity to work together and help them search for the solutions that would help in assisting victims of human trafficking. This opportunity is granted to government, international

agencies, private sector, NGO'S and give all of them the opportunities to assist the cause of human trafficking in best and efficient way possible. International law is one of the most efficient channels for battling human trafficking. It acts as a pipe that helps in combatting slavery of humans. The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its two related protocols: United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the United Nations Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air are the recent instruments of international law that looks after how to prevent punish and prosecute trafficking in persons and it entered into force in the year 2003-2004. It has been possible to keep a check on the human trafficking by the conventions being created under The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), which have supported international law's ability to combat human trafficking. In support of enforcing these instruments, the UNODC established the United Nations Global Initiative to Fight Human Trafficking (UNGIFT, 2007).

Elimination of trafficking has become one of the biggest problems under its obedience with international law. In order to have compliance with international treaties there must be an inclusion of signature, ratification, and enforcement of international agreements. The UN committees monitors and gives a one to one look of the treaty once it gets ratification from the state which in the same line signs the treaty to show its approval which further needs an input based on consent of non-governmental organization as well. Furthermore, we see that the treaty makes a pressure on the organizations by time to time expecting submission of reports regularly by the states. The United Nations Human Rights Council also issues decrees to those working groups which are theme based and have a special kind of rapporteurs, and country rapporteurs, which help to display compliance with or abuses of certain treaties (UNHCR, 2010).

Trafficking and Smuggling are the two different words having a thin line of difference. Trafficking protocol maintains that no person has the choice on their own to be trafficked nor do they have the right to choose their children to be trafficked. If the person gets smuggled and forced to do the work of a laborer then the crime can be established as trafficking. We do have another approach of the Trafficking Protocol and that is one cannot be forced or threatened directly to be trafficked. The trafficking protocol fails if a person can prove that he or she had no alternative means other than

to comply. These features of the Trafficking Protocol makes the compliance more straight forward and allows for a wider definition of human trafficking to be dealt with (UNODC, 2006).

Criteria about how trafficking victims should be treated are outlined in two comprehensive documents that draw from various international law instruments: the “Human Rights Standards for the Treatment of Trafficking Persons” and the “Recommended Principles and Guidelines on Human Rights and Human Trafficking.” The purpose of the two documents was to ensure that trafficked persons were treated not as criminals rather than they are considered as victims (UNAIDS 2008).

In a special rapporteur on trafficking in person it is stated that the rights of the women and children are taken care of and their rights are being protected and even concrete steps are being taken for their security concerns. Stern steps are being taken in case there rights are being violated. Throughout the world we have various NGOs that keeps an eagle’s eye on the activities of the trafficking groups and keeps monitoring if the human rights are violated with respect to human trafficking. These reports by the various related organizations are of immense help to the UN as through these reports the U.N. is able to more fully assess who is complying with or in violation of international law (UNODC, 2007).

Although human trafficking is a complex issue, the international legal instruments have been implemented to aid trafficking victims and to combat this worldwide epidemic. Even states that are not a party to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its two related protocols are obligated to protect the rights of trafficked persons under provisions in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which comprises customary international law. The issues of compliance and enforcement of anti-trafficking laws are problematic, but not impossible to overcome. Initiatives through the UN.GIFT will provide supplemental funds to states to combat the issue of trafficking, but states cannot rely solely on UN programs as the solution to human trafficking. Regional efforts are promising, because trafficking is a transnational crime, and coordinated efforts are essential to targeting the sources of trafficking and convicting traffickers. States must honestly recognize their role in combating this world-wide epidemic, because trafficking

continues to negatively impact millions of people every year. Trafficking, like pollution, is everyone's problem. The world collectively objected to slavery, and it will require a collective effort once again to abolish the practice of human trafficking (UN GIFT, 2010).

### **The World Bank contribution fighting against Human Trafficking**

The World Bank has made both international and national level efforts to fight back human trafficking but the response to combat trafficking are still not adequate. There are various loopholes and gaps due to which the efforts of the World Bank remains inadequate. There are various close existing errors which is a block on the way of extracting authentic information. There is lack of adequate data collection, legislation flaws, inefficient training and capacity building among law enforcement authorities, and lack of better prevention and protection prospects still looms large despite the efforts made leading the vulnerable groups at risk of human trafficking. The World Bank Group could still make its most essential contribution to the fight against human trafficking by scaling up its interventions in the following areas (UN REPORT, 2004).

They must also ensure that the privacy and identity of the victims are protected by all agencies and institutions. It is most important part that must be dealt by the agencies and institution as until privacy of identity is ensured the victim's life will be a life of permanent shame and inferiority complex because of the social stigmas neither attached nor are they accepted in the like manner. Passing laws regarding this issue would however be the first milestone step is a first step however the success of victim identification also greatly depends on the persons first encountered by the victims whether they are police officers, hospital staffs or labor inspectors. However, involvement by groups other than law enforcers has been reported to be relatively low in victim identification. Certain groups may feel limited in their capabilities to tackle this crime. For example, labor inspectors have the greatest access to worksites where trafficking is frequently cited. However, their responsibilities do not extend beyond labor law enforcement to criminal offenses as human trafficking. Inspectors mainly focus on wage issues or labor conditions rather than asking about debts or fraud which share a stronger link to trafficking. Furthermore, advance notification of inspection has helped traffickers to hide evidence of the crime in time from the inspector and the public. In some cases, traffickers have coached their victims to lie to authority figures

when questioned. It is clear from the above that there is a need for training and the development of new identification methods aimed specifically at groups other than law enforcers. National and local governments in many countries have rooms to improve their capabilities to identify victims. The 2013 Trafficking in Persons Report, from the U.S. Department of State, has highlighted far too many cases where governments apply trafficking laws unevenly, lack adequate training and as result, wait in futile for trafficking victims to self-identify. Many government officials, for example, came in contact with a victim but have failed to recognize the crime. In particular, male victims of forced labor are often disregarded or ignored, regardless of their exploitative accounts, as many officials still assume that trafficking is only a problem for women (Rafi, 1999).

Governments must ensure that counter-trafficking activities and initiatives extend beyond victim identification to comprehensive victim assistance and support as well. Support provided to the victim must be given in a way that restores their sense of control over their lives. If support is given without respect of the will of the victim, this may lead to secondary victimization. In some cases, governments have successfully identified victims only to place them with refugees and asylum seekers, where the services are not tailored to their specific needs. Trafficked victims in mixed-use shelters may also face stigma or rejection from other individuals living there due to their past involvement with forced prostitution or crimes. Cultural and social attitudes towards prostitution, for example, can do more harm than good in the case of sex trafficking as individuals may view women involved in sex works as perpetrators rather than victims (Ollus and Natalia, 2008).

Such environments fail to provide adequate support for victims to restore their confidence and sense of independence. In some places, the shelters for trafficked victims closely resemble detention centers more than safe havens which can potentially create traumatization. Ideally, a shelter is a safe and comfortable place where victims can stay, leave and return according to their wish. It must also provide services catered to their specific needs. For example, individuals who do not speak the local languages will require interpretation services or access to language courses. Migrant victims may need help with obtaining immigration status from authorities. In addition, assistance with reintegration should also be available for trafficked persons

who would like to leave the shelter and seek help with employment, housing, education or skill development (IOM, 2008).

**International level effort required:** As human trafficking is considered as a worldwide phenomenon and an activity of transnational nature not all sections but only few responses like transnational and multinational responses will be successful in creating an impact. If trafficking is to prevent one needs to make Cooperation among states unless trafficking will keep emerging hence it is vital to protect victims and prosecute traffickers and keep making strong alliance among states. Collective cooperation is the need of the hour if we want to eradicate trafficking from its roots on both the global and local level. However, the idea of cooperation is like a utopia and not a reality as the countries around run on the basis of their separate ideologies due to difference in their worldviews. On another national level we will see variety of cultures and languages that often contribute to discrepancies among states concerning their understandings of human trafficking. Clash of views are quite evident within institution, there may be clashing views among departments leading to lobbying against trafficking in different ways. State-based legal systems can also inhibit cooperation across national borders. In case of Gaps in Government supports and governance at the local level it can further build up into larger gaps in global governance. For local government traffickers are tough task to handle because of their alert nature as very swiftly they change the nature of their jobs and also they use the national sovereignty for their profit (Ollus, 2008).

If we see we will realize that many trafficking organizations engage in jurisdictional arbitrage, manipulating both jurisdictional lopsidedness with highly divergent laws and penalties by their side, and voids in countries where laws and regulations or their implementation are less effective against trafficking. These are some of the reasons why regardless of size and population no government feels they are efficient enough to tackle the problem of trafficking of humans alone. Though we must not ignore internal trafficking at the same time rather it should be recognized that response from different states becomes necessary in the matters regarding trafficking (Fernanda, 2009).

Moreover, this is sometimes difficult to implement as each solutions requires each state to abandon the national security and sovereignty matter. Other issues that

provide a challenge to international cooperation comprise from the costs of investigations, the venue of the trial, to that of applicable legal framework and the location of the witnesses (Uranbegk, 2006).

### **World Bank and its role:**

Presently if we see we will find the preventive nature of the World Bank's activities on human trafficking and exploitation are mainly of it comes with an indirect impact on economic, consensual exploitation World Bank as an organization has been engaged in various research related activities and projects that contributes in the fight against human smuggling and exploitation. Most of the work of World Bank here is related to labor markets, social protection, and social inclusion. These involvements aim at lessening the vulnerabilities, creating economic opportunities for the needy, and empowering the poor to participate in the process of law and order and politics (UNTOC, 2004).

Broadly, we may say that these interventions support workers by reducing their helplessness and strengthening their bargaining position in relation to the employers. Therefore we will realize an indirect preventive impact on exploitation occurs with these kinds of interventions. The matter of discussion here is if, the World Bank should engage more directly in fighting human trafficking and the exploitation related to it? To my understanding so far, World Bank needs to broaden and reinforce the pace of interventions in such areas as law enforcement and victim rescue, assistance, and in methods of integration (UNTOC, 2004).

### **Kyrgyzstan:**

It has become very essential for almost every organization to combat the menace of human trafficking. Migration that takes place is one of the prime reasons behind unemployment in the regions of Kyrgyzstan as a result of which more and more women and children are exploited in this name which needs to be checked. If we look at the role of the NGOs we find they are rather more effective and organized than the Kyrgyzstan government as a result of which they tend to work more efficiently towards eradicating this crime. The problem lies with the general public also as mostly they remain unaware about the issue of trafficking and the problems related to it. As a result of which, we would see the survey report of the NGOs where it was



commented how increase in the cases of human trafficking can be seen in past few years. The problem needs to be urgently handled. Some anti trafficking activities have been taken by the thirty six NGOs within the framework of their ongoing activities and few other NGOs have expressed their interest in working towards this cause of trafficking. About fourteen percent of the NGOs are presently involved in conducting certain anti trafficking activities, which comprises of distributing informational materials to “risk groups” and specialists, to making campaigns in the mass media, from giving legal and psychological aid to victims. Some of the specifically mentioned activities are the “Stop Human Trafficking” information campaign that focuses on conducting certain programmes in which the victims were supposed to give their information from all kinds of trafficking experience they have and there experience of going abroad (NDI Information Center, 2015).

Almost twenty seven percent of organizations received funds for all types of anti-trafficking activities through international or Kyrgyz funds. The NGO Initiative Youth “Zionism” (Tokamak, Chuy region) has been one of the organisations that has brought about certain projects with anti-trafficking agenda and has raised funds from various resources for realization. A project on youth labor exchange has been conducted for the youth to provide them consultation about trafficking issue before they plan to move abroad. The only way to receive funding is through international organisation and many of the respondents specified on the need for assistance of both government and organisation what is needed. A financial donor assistance is what is needed. Suggestions on legalization of the labor market, increasing the obligations of employers, strengthening control over hiring practices, and outlawing of child labor were done to enhance legislation against human trafficking. The NGOs made it necessary to inform the public at large regarding the survival of legislative acts through the Preventing Human Trafficking in Kyrgyzstan. Various seminars on human trafficking was attended by the people who taught there colloques regarding the topic and trained them accordingly (Rafis,1999).

How to prevent human trafficking was mentioned in seminars which were attended by various respondents who used to get training through hotline operators, (IOM, Bishkek), seminar for consultants who work with victims of trafficking (IOM, “Sezim”, Bishkek). A project named “Gender rights of women” was launched under which 36.1 % of respondents were trained on discrimination of women (UNICEF),

“Women in social development” was another project that had come in shape in order to provide information to the women among the country so that they can find safety. Various kinds of problem in facing sexual violation and all types of hardships with housing problems and psychological violence in the family were also identified as issues that concerned the women of the family. Domestic violence was ranked last as a pressing problem faced by Kyrgyz women had been domestic violence. NGOs in Kyrgyzstan have assess the problem of human trafficking and realized how immediate action to eradicate this growing problem is needed as no appropriate protection mechanism is present. Government fails to provide regulated mechanism or any legislation nor do they have any other ways to direct any kind of assistance to them. Limited or no cooperation was granted from the side of local police or prosecutors in matters of investigating any case (Raymond 2002).

A round table meeting was held in the year 2003 in Kyrgyzstan with NGO representatives of Naryn region in Naryn Resource Center of the Soros Foundation Kyrgyzstan. In the year 2000 report was provided by the Regional Administration, wherein various cases were put to investigation including several criminal cases related to recruitment of people to work in Kazakhstan. The problem is with the city administration as they do not monitor this process. City administration staff has even though showed interest in working with the NGOs towards working for the cause of the issue of human trafficking. Representatives of various government agencies of the Djalal Abad region showed a general knowledge of labor migration problems and human trafficking. It is however necessary to note that the attention of government agencies is very weak in this area as there is lack of sufficient monitoring of the situation (Winrock International, 2013).

After so much of workshops and programmes being held and NGOs contributing at lengths in this regard we see that even the government agencies of Kyrgyzstan get active and are implementing special programs on increasing welfare of citizens of the region. This has given hope about less number of migrants flowing in. A special microcredit fund for low income families was set up by the administration through funds being raised from individuals and private businessmen. It is easier to get loans from this kind of fund than from the regular bank (Johannes, 2009).

The representative of The Border Guard Service have representative in Kyrgyzstan that said that they are aware of the problem of both human trafficking and smuggling, and of the Presidential Decree that concerns this issue. The main crossing point for entrepreneurs trading with China is "TORUGART". For instance, in the year 2002, 26,180 citizens of Kyrgyzstan and China passed through this checkpoint, and back and forth the travel remained continuous. The situation with humans was known to the members of the Border Guard Service as collateral in China. The majority of people who attempts to cross the border illegally are Kyrgyz who move from china without any passport. In 2002, there were 3 such activities that took place as a result of which the Border Guard Service arrests these individuals and refer them to the members of the National Security service, so that their identity can be verified and proper investigation can be made. An amendment was made in the year 2003 in the month of august to Kyrgyzstan's Criminal Code that punishes the culprit behind the human trafficking with a prison term up to 20 years. In an another laws 15-year prison sentence was stipulated for those found guilty of trafficking related crimes such as kidnapping, prostitution, or trading in children. One person had been sentenced to five years in prison for involvement in trafficking operations according to the US State Department Human Rights Report. In March 2004, a special division of the Ministry of Internal Affairs was shaped so that related cases could be investigated. Though the progress has been slow. Till now the slave traders found easier to escape punishment as they used to say that the women are themselves aware regarding the purpose of their traveling. It is very difficult to differentiate between forced and voluntary prostitution. But in such type of cases, the charges are but obvious (Sputnik, 2015).

The government cites that it is because of the involvement of mafia in trafficking business that has increased the difficulty in tracking perpetrators, but some NGOs charge that the government itself is often part of the problem. The Kyrgyzstan program manager for Winrock International, an NGO that fights human trafficking shows there concern by stating that "In-depth training of Kyrgyz militia is needed on how to fight the slave trade. There is a need to put an end to this trade for which it is essential to include political measures. Adahan Madumarov, chairman of parliament's Committee on Social Policy, said that a law banning the slave trade was "urgently needed" (Frank, 2002).

But due to the lack of funds with the government the motivation for fighting Kyrgyzstan's human trafficking problem has largely handed over to international non-governmental organizations like Winrock International or the United Nations' IOM all expenses which are relevant to the release of Kyrgyzstanis from slavery abroad has been handled by the international agency of Winrock ranging from transportation of former slaves to Kyrgyzstan and subsequent psychological rehabilitation and employment. If we look into the past year, we will see how the organization has returned more than 120 Kyrgyz citizens from various countries (Eurasia Net, 2010).

Hotlines have been financed in Bishkek, Osh and Kadamjay, by the Swiss Development Agency that allows any trafficking victim to discuss and talk about their experience with a trained advisor. But argument is strong among the representative that responsibility for tackling the problem lies with the state. "Laws and programs are promulgated in this country," said Kudrat Karimov, manager of the IOM mission in Kyrgyzstan," but they are not implemented." Back in the year April, 2002 The National Council on Counter-Trafficking was established. The purpose was close cooperation to be established among the various NGOs and the member group of civil society which must deal with the issues related with anti-trafficking. The level of performance the Council made was not up to the mark as it got hampered due to lack of sufficient resources. In particular, we will see how IOM has organized training seminars at a number of levels from high school to universities where ultimately anti-trafficking course would be conducted for their student. A theater play was also staged by the IOM which was dedicated to trafficking in persons and featured the stories of the trafficking victims. This play was premiered on March 28, 2003 (TIP Report, 2004).

It should be noted that all of these actions was approved and financed by the National Council on Counter-Trafficking as the government had lack of funding so wasn't able to provide enough support. At its level the government has provided "free airtime on television that are state run and radio for anti-trafficking announcements," and has "instituted stringent licensing procedures for recruitment firms" The TIP Report 2004 honors the steps taken by the Kyrgyz Government has been honored by the TIP Report as they were very happy to learn that despite lack of funds and enough resources the government improved law enforcement efforts and continued to work with NGOs and national and international organizations on prevention and protection

efforts. In general we will see how the government has publicized the traffickers both arrests and prosecutions and reported them by state-run and independent organisation (TIP, 2004).

### **Uzbekistan:**

If we look at the region of Uzbekistan we will see how every year the Government of Uzbekistan, which has been seen as one of the world's largest exporters of cotton, has forced almost hundreds of people to get out from their regular job and are forced to work in the cotton field and they toil for weeks in arduous and hazardous conditions. Some of the workers even suffer death due to the extreme condition as they often meet with accident. A cotton campaign was launched that worked in partnership with a wide coalition of organisation, lobbying governments, international organisation and businesses that put pressure on the governments of Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan so that the abuse should be put to an end. There had been many types of workshop that had been attended by various big agencies in Uzbekistan and had representatives from the law enforcement agencies of Uzbekistan which were engaged in countering human trafficking such as the Ministry of Interior, Supreme Court, the Prosecutor General Office and National Security Service. All in all the insight provided by the workshop among the participants was very fruitful as it gives the opportunity to the participants to enhance their knowledge of existing both international instruments and mechanisms, as well as international best practices in the field of fighting human trafficking. In light of the efforts being taken by the government of Uzbekistan in order to provide support to the trafficking victim is through the establishment of the country's first rehabilitation center a special focus was made in order to render adequate assistance and protection to victims of human trafficking. In order to support the efforts of the Government of Uzbekistan in combating human trafficking, a project had been implemented by UNODC in the name of "Strengthening criminal justice response to human trafficking in Uzbekistan" since early 2008. It aims at providing assistance to the Uzbek Government so that it can strengthen its response towards criminal justice to trafficking of humans in line with the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its supplementing Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children. In order to deal and pursue certain kind of objective the project activities needs government support in order to strengthen those kind of legislation which are of anti-

trafficking in nature, there is a need for proper training to be given in increasing the capacities of law enforcement and prosecution, establishing a human trafficking database and facilitating regional and international cooperation (Sputnik, 2016).

Thus, if we look at the local newspaper we would find a growing number publications emerging that warns women about their right as per the 2003 TIP Report. To bring awareness among the women a weekly call in show for women was started that involved matters concerning sex trade in order to bring in awareness. On July 2, 2003, Uzbek A national TV station in Uzbek made a documentary statement and ran it for about twenty minutes that titled “Dangerous Trade,” which featured different stories that explain how bad was the life of those six women who initially were trafficked to the United Arab Emirates for the purpose of prostitution and after that the people of Uzbekistan were warned about the increasing danger of human trafficking for Uzbekistan. The government set up regional telephone hotlines with the help of NGOs and the IOM, in seven Uzbek regions, in order to provide legal advice to those kind of people who prefer going abroad in search of work and legal assistance to be given to those who have already fallen victims to traffickers. The government takes assistance of both local level and international NGOs to work on “programs to place anti-trafficking awareness posters in public buses, passport offices, and consular sections” (RTP, 2016).

Specific steps of various kinds were undertaken by the government agencies at central level with the aim at trafficking prevention. Thus, some anti trafficking NGOs were allowed by the country’s Ministry of Education to give trafficking related mindful speeches in public schools to spread awareness. Uzbek National Tourism Company had revoked the license of most of the firms which were involved in illicit activities like trafficking. The government is in a way putting a check and curbing the issue of labor trafficking. Potential migrants have been advised to interact with the country’s Labor Ministry and report the information on the alleged employment agency, due to the fact that various firms that operate have licenses that are expired. As per the reports of anti-trafficking NGOs have been set up and are run by the retired police officer so that immediate effect can be brought and support programme against human trafficking can be done (USDS, 2008).

Among the preventive efforts undertaken by the Kyrgyz government thus far, the following can be cited. The National Council on Counter-Trafficking was established back in April of 2002. It also cooperates closely with various NGOs and civil society groups dealing with anti-trafficking issues. The performance of the Council, however, is hampered by the lack of adequate resources (TIP Report, 2004).

### **Kazakhstan:**

It has been among one of the prime countries of Central Asia that started to take some concrete steps towards prevention of trafficking. If we consider the country's achievement on this regard we will have to date back with the approval of a "comprehensive and detailed" action plan for the year 2004-2005 which aimed at prevention of crimes related to trafficking in persons. The plan expresses the need for cooperation required in specific areas between the government and law enforcement agencies and takes into consideration the fact that takes into account the fact that Kazakhstan is also emerging to be one of the countries that deals with spreading moral science classes to the vulnerable groups of the population and educate them on the issue of trafficking. Thus, a programme was launched by the country's Ministry for Labor and Social Protection, through its regional offices, in order to provide special counseling training based on trafficking in persons to the unemployed, while lectures on the prime issues related to human trafficking by the Ministry of Education is organized in secondary schools and universities all over the country. Moreover, an awareness campaign was created on the issues related to anti trafficking by the Justice Ministry which not only aired on the public broadcasting service but also provided educational materials based on trafficking. It should be noted, however, that the Kazakh government was though for such overly broad decentralization of its anti-trafficking measures was criticized by TIP Report, 2003, as it led to the shift of the burden from national to regional level (Baybusinon, 2016).

The Government of Kazakhstan is one of the countries that despite being removed from Tier 3 watchlist, "supports efforts by international organizations, though rarely financially, that conduct information campaigns and establish hotlines for trafficking victims." Uzbekistan has also been shifted from Tier 3 to Tier 2, and as per the report submitted by the TIP Report they remarks that even though the government is having less finance and funds to assist the programmes related to anti trafficking the

government like to support as much as possible and support the preventive programmes and in a way keep informing actively regarding general information with the public ( Finally, the state media was been used at large by the government whose role was to provide information on the danger of trafficking. A special report and a segment based on the incident was aired on Kazakh national TV channel on the month of July 17, 2003, which clearly showed how the travel Agencies were being involved in supporting the traffickers and how this help proved dangerous in long run. As stated in the TIP Report 2004, The Committee for National Security removed licenses from five travel agencies who had issued documents which were illegal to certain kind of travelers who were trying to seek citizenship in Russia (Diener 2005).

A unique kind of resolution is being made by the government that not only observes strictly the contractual terms with the person rather provide the people the guarantee of returning safe and giving them social insurance. A draft legislation “On Insurance of Civilian and Legal Responsibility of the Tourist Operators and Agents” is under consideration at the parliament. Uzbekistan as a Tier 3 country on the 2003 TIP Report, have rising number of publications that warns the women from the dangers of trafficking. A weekly call-in show for women involved in sex trade started to air in state radio station that was of great help to the women and girls. On July 2, 2003, Uzbek national TV station ran a twenty-minute documentary segment, “Dangerous Trade,” which featured stories of six women trafficked to the United Arab Emirates for the purpose of prostitution and warned the people about the increasing danger of human trafficking for Uzbekistan. The government, with the help of NGOs and the IOM, has also set up regional telephone hotlines in seven Uzbek regions, to provide legal advice to persons considering going abroad for work (who are seen as potential victims of trafficking) and legal assistance to those who have already fallen victims to traffickers. The government, in close cooperation international and local NGOs, work on “programs to place anti-trafficking awareness posters in public buses, passport offices, and consular sections” (Marlene, 2008).

### **Tajikistan and Turkmenistan**

It is one of the poorest countries in Central Asia, but despite that it too has received high approvals from the US Government who has praised the effort of the government for attempting to combat trafficking in persons. If we consider the matters related



with prevention we will see how the activities of the government have been limited with regard to setting up an inter-ministerial committee to coordinate the efforts made by the government in combating trafficking, chaired by the Deputy Head of the President's Office on Women and Children. To date, the inter-ministerial committee has drafted A comprehensive trafficking legislation has been drafted by the inter-ministerial committee which was submitted to the Cabinet for its consideration. The government role has increased in this region as the government of Tajikistan endorsed educational and prevention campaigns which was carried out by the IOM and local NGOs, which included process like distributing brochures at the train stations and airports of the country in order to support education and business related associations for women in the remote rural areas in case of necessity. The government also runs an educational center informing potential migrants about migration and trafficking. An awareness-raising campaign was conducted by the OSCE in one of the northern regions of the country for four months, which consisted of eighteen seminars which was meant for secondary level school teachers, *Mahalla* (small village) leaders, collective farm leaders, migration service staff, doctors, local law enforcement authorities, marriage departments, and representatives of youth organizations. The government of Turkmenistan now requires any Turkmen citizen wishing to leave the country to first obtain an exit visa as a result of which it has become difficult on the part of the traffickers as they face difficulty in taking their victims abroad. But due to the high level corruption it is assumed that the traffickers won't have problem in issuing visa as local officials could be bribed easily. Bribing the government officials though has been alleged by the NGOs, the first of such "preventive" measures is perhaps unique to Turkmenistan. However, if we go further and consider Tajikistan, a country again being shifted below to Tier 2 watch list it expressed regrets about the fact that that despite establishing a working group that focused towards creating a national level action plan to combat trafficking in person, the government has failed to create any such plan (IOM, 2010).

## **Summary**

Human trafficking is a very old concept as it existed from centuries. It is not only one of the most ruthless crimes which exploit millions of vulnerable women, children and men internationally but it leads victims to be mercilessly treated which are against the rights of the humans. The nature of trafficking is very secretive as a result of which it

is very difficult to analyze the scale of the problem. Human trafficking has taken the shape of a global level market with all sorts of illicit activities and has affected almost every country in the world by making profit and generating billions of dollars every year. (Guild, Elspeth, and Paul Minderhoud, 2006)

Trafficking as an activity takes place both nationally and regionally. The disease of human trafficking has spread amongst almost all the countries as the effect of human trafficking is so vast that no country has been left untouched. If the continent Europe is taken into consideration we will see how it remains a destination country for victims from the widest range of destinations as many people from Asia are trafficked, and the region of central Asia are projecting a country which has both the origin and destination of victims of human trafficking. The most common trafficking flow seen in the country is the kind of trafficking done within the region (UNODC, 2008).

The basic right of both men women and children are being killed each day under human trafficking. Despite various kinds of misconceptions takes place regarding the definition of human trafficking it remains one of the severe crimes of today's times both internally and externally. The activities related with human trafficking remains to be a severe threat with the excessive demands of bonded labor with almost no or low risk of detention (USDS, 2015).

There is a need for a combined effort made by various actors who can not only talk about the issue but also create a developmental platform so that discussions can be made with such authorities that can have their expertise on the matter and make their contribution as a key factor in eradicating the plague of trafficking from the world. The most effective way to eradicate the problem of human trafficking is through 3P paradigm. A joint collaboration of various actors including NGOs and other governmental agencies is the need of the hour as they constantly remain vigilant and focused regarding the nature of their work and make certain counter trafficking efforts. National level strategies become more important as their role towards meeting the needs of the people and the local initiative taken are of utmost importance. (Anderson, Malcolm, and Apap, 2002)

We have different opinions as well regarding the approach with which one should look at the crime. It is because of the complex nature of human trafficking that the

best possible way of trafficking is difficult to come up with. From a view point of the penal the approach towards looking into trafficking should be criminal in nature with a focus on prosecution and investigation between both police and the judicial system. From the perspective of the migration approach the focus may shift from stricter border and document control to reduce flow of migration. There must be a victim centric approach that talks about the rights of the women and children as they extend beyond criminal act and violate human rights. However, as trafficking of persons extends beyond a criminal act to a severe violation of human rights, as it is crucial for all actors, at both the local and international level, to adopt such an approach. Local procedures should serve as a foundation for local anti-trafficking measures such as those already established to help children at risk or prevent violence against women (Solla and Fernanda 2009).

## CONCLUSION

The conclusion seeks to examine the proposed hypothesis: (a) Lack of economic avenues is the main cause of Human Trafficking. (b) Central Asian Region after 1991 has very less avenues of sustaining livelihood leading to labor migration.

The discussion and analysis contain in the preceding chapter yield a broader perspective of Human trafficking in Central Asia and it can be understood that human trafficking is a huge problem that is found in Central Asia and has had been discouraged around the region. Throughout Central Asia there has been an endless struggle to abolish slavery that grows tougher each passing day. There are more slaves in the world today than ever before in world history. In present day Central Asia, the problem has taken shape in a new way, known as human trafficking. People of any age and gender, (mostly girls) are trafficked for money and pleasure. Across the globe and Central Asia in particular we will see people women especially young girls are being trafficked basically for pleasure. These victims are subject to all kinds of torture and many people within Central Asia are not even aware of this problem and regarding its occurrence within their nation's borders. It is very sad that the native of Central Asia do not realize the horror of the victims' situation and the condition they are forced to be into as the victims are living their lives in constant fear. People once in the hands of the traffickers have no control over the overall situation and they have to undergo all sorts of physical and emotional abuse like hand beatings, extreme level torture by a gorilla pimp, forceful drugs, bonded labor, or family threats.

As per the study, the reason behind human trafficking in Central Asia is the lack of economic avenues. The people in this region are economically backward and their livelihood is in penury because of which they migrate from the origin country to the countries of destination in search of better opportunities of work and higher standard of living. With more and more migration taking place the traffickers easily target the economically backward section of the society and lure them with dream of providing them handsome amount of money and also with job opportunities abroad. In this process the victims are illegally transported, which break the "law of migration" of the destination countries which hinders them from legal rights leading them to be

more vulnerable in the hands of traffickers. The victims here are not safeguarded by any laws of the destination country. As a result of which victims find themselves in helpless position with no option left but to follow the command of the traffickers.

After 1991, Soviet Union disintegrated which had a negative impact leading to economic breakdown in Central Asia as the entire economy of the region got collapsed. The countries of Central Asia were unable to get any sort of economic assistance from Soviet Union as a result there was an economic crises because of which the people of Central Asia were not able to sustain their livelihood. Due to the economic situation which occurred in Central Asia they were forced to migrate as labour in Europe, Russia and other developed countries in order to seek better avenues of life. They were the least developed economy then. The markets of Central Asia were imperfect. The dissolution of USSR was unexpected and came as a shock to the regions of Central Asia. There were no such economic policies which were framed and the supply and demand network which was based on uncoded transport that got a setback. Such situation gave rise to the emergence of traffickers who wait for such opportunity as they target the vulnerable sections and on seeing them helpless lure them and if needed threaten them and force them to work according to their whims and fancies. The traffickers do so as for them it's like business. As a result the victims get trapped in the hands of traffickers and are forced to work in unhygienic condition which sometimes leads them to death.

It is worth mentioning that sex trafficking is impediment to social exclusion and inequalities that is prevalent in the region of Central Asia. Here, chapter one explains that how the pervasive nature of human trafficking has been taking place in Central Asia leading to exploitation of women and children. Trafficking has emerged as a "vicious circle" which amalgamates high level officers and bureaucrats in "Flesh Trade". It is with the involvement of such big level officers that the nature of Trafficking becomes secretive and hard to identify.

Furthermore, the chapter also focuses on the migration effect as one of the prime elements behind trafficking to Europe, Russia, Turkey and China from Central Asia. The reason behind the trade of human is socio-economic backwardness of the region. Here, the Culture plays a substantial part in the recruitment methods, in the relation

between the victim and the offender. The masses with weak cultural background are easily victimized with the traffickers.

If we consider “Trafficking” in human beings we would see how it has taken the position of the fastest-growing business of organized crime. From men, to women and children all can be seen trafficked within their own countries and across international borders. If we rely on data we will realize how more than one person is trafficked and brought in across a border every minute which is the equivalent to ten jumbo jets every single day. And the trade earns twice as much as the Coca Cola brand. According to estimates, mostly people are trafficked every year for the purposes of sexual exploitation and forced labour according to the estimates. In the first chapter it is visible, that how human Trafficking is on the rise in part due to the dramatic expansion of labour migration in the neoliberal era. Due to globalization and the structural adjustment programs imposed on the developing world in the eighties and early nineties, the resulting development process was very uneven, favoring some parts of the world while impoverishing others, so in the case of Central Asia the development after the disintegration of Russia has been seen economic backwardness leading to spread of human trafficking all around the Central Asian region.

The Unemployment and low living standards continued to drive Uzbekistan as a result of which people migrate to Russia and Baltic state region for want of better standard of living and employment opportunity and fall prey by the hands of traffickers whose work is to lure the Native of Central Asia with dream of providing them with better job opportunities which is similar in the case of both Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan which has been explained in chapter second. In both the countries the migration seems to be as one of the essential trends of human trafficking. It is a result of globalization that has led to the uneven development in Central Asia leading to migration from Central Asia to Russia and European countries in search of better opportunity and higher standard of living as globalization was only limited to Russia and Europe, the Central Asia in this regard remained aloof from development.

Further, chapter two explains that how the Central Asia states were in a situation of vagueness and uncertainty, characterizing the process of transition from the planned to a market economy. This process develops with great challenges, difficulties and social tensions. Stagnation of key industries, huge unemployment, absence of

transparent business practices, lack of transparency in the privatization process of the state property, as well as the weak judicial system had its negative impact on the young Central Asian states formation, criminalization of the society and “shadow economy” development.

Chapter third, on the other hand, talks about Economic Supply and Demand approach which argues that there is a market for human trafficking generated by the increasing demand for low cost labour by businesses and the increase in vulnerability of human beings to exploitation. It illustrates the changing patterns of global movement and how it provides opportunities for traffickers to exploit the migration pool. This chapter discusses the changing global division of labour and the ways in which neoliberal globalization has restricted the global labour force; it considers the consequences of this changing labour force on migrant workers. In addition, it paints a picture of human trafficking that shows the various forms that human trafficking takes, the patterns of geographic distribution, and some demographic information on the victims and perpetrators of human trafficking.

Further, Chapter Four explains the measures taken by the several multilateral agencies and the government of Central Asia as a whole in combating the human trafficking and the role played by the various international agencies like ILO, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNOHCHR and UNODC. Also the role of NGO in Central Asia is pivotal in spreading awareness among the people of this region. The government of Central Asia has introduced various legal norms to stop the menace of trafficking, though it found difficult on the part of the government to stick to its policies and programmes due to lack of adequate resources and funds.

Moreover, human trafficking is no less than a crime that has taken a horrendous shape wherein the traffickers take advantage of people through the illegal and illicit trading of human beings for the purposes of forced labor. The prime motto of traffickers have been to prey on the vulnerable sections of the regions of Central Asia , those who dream for a better living standard, have little or no employment prospects, very unstable, and have a history of sexual abuse. With economic problems growing, human trafficking is rampant in society; it is easier to become a victim. Most of the victims are those who are immigrants without documents due to the lack of legal status, limited opportunities of employment, language barriers, and social isolation

hence easily are seen as "The Victims." Human beings are not pieces of property and their level in the society must not be degraded to such a level that their Human Rights gets hampered especially in the case of innocent and pure child.

Traffickers mainly target that group of women and children who were sexually exploited and abused by the society. Trafficking has grabbed the attention as an international level problem with the sale and purchase of women and children known as a modern day form of slavery. The proposed research reveals that human trafficking endangers the lives of millions of people in Central Asia.

The 'real' issue here is however related to the current effects of trafficking on Central Asian states and the *potential* for the future development of transnational threats from the region, including the growth of links between "trafficking" and "terrorism." In order to counter clandestine activities in Central Asia not much effective strategies have been brought regarding the discourse of the danger and about the threats related to it. This discourse, would have a positive effect as much attention can be drawn internationally which brought much needed focus on the issues and problems related with international crime. However narrow set of traditional security strategies have also been reinforced to combat these varied activities. If constant effort would be made on collecting correct and empirical information about the "real" international security threats in the region, along with the cause underlying with it we can discover a more apt and balanced set of policies that could be good keeping the futuristic aspect. There is a need for proper border management and civilian policing. Border management is important, but its effectiveness in dealing with clandestine activities is much more essential as it will help limit the smuggling from border.

This dissertation analyzes that since Human Trafficking has been seen as vile in heinous crime as it is the game of trade in human lives and people take it as a scourge of the mankind, and a gross abuse of human rights which questions the very ethos and culture of the human world. It should shame us all as human beings and it must be our collective responsibility to come up with new type of agenda to speak for the cause of humans. What comes as a shock here is the volume of trafficking that is taking place in the regions of Central Asia and the less knowledge we have regarding it. It is strange that a problem as monstrous is not spoken about most of the time and despite its widespread nature the natives of the Central Asia are unaware of its existence.



There have been incidents where the government of Central Asia denies that this crime even exists at such an alarming rate. From this one can figure out the lack of sense of empathy for the victims in the region.

Many campaigners are of the firm belief that the legalization of prostitution can be of immense help in combating the high masses of victims enslaved in the world of sex trafficking, but we must also not forget that the supply depends upon the demand so as long as there is a demand, supplies will be provided. It has become a taboo subject that society keeps hiding as a result of which pressure is not put on governments and authorities to help as they are not even informed regarding the illicit trade taking place. Perhaps we may keep a strict check by either legalizing the prostitution or by registering brothels as it will be of some help, but what about the other sectors of the sex industry? This we as rational members of the society should ask within ourselves that are we ready as a society to accept the existence of them and have them legalised? In the past two years, in the countries of Central Asia we will see how pressure on the government has been created by various worldwide organisation to make changes to laws that concerns the rights of victims of human trafficking and new government agencies have been set up to train staff, educate the public and help and support victims of trafficking crimes. Unfortunately due to the lack of funds, the system is constantly failing many victims and perpetrators get a chance to continue further.

The concern of the dissertation is to focus on the migration corridor which has been made between the countries of Central Asia and Russia. Its concern is to focus on the labor that migrates from Central Asian country to other country in search of better opportunities of livelihood as a result of which no stable livelihood prospects remain in Central Asia. According to the report of the World Bank, countries like Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan have been placed first and second among all countries for payments and allowances as a share of GDP, at 52% and 31% respectively. It is because of this trend that shortages on the Russian labour market can be seen as it intensifies competition for labour resources, and increases labour migration from countries of Central Asia. The demographic situation looks radically different in the Central Asian countries that send the most active individual from one nation to that of the other. Labor migrants to Russia look radically different. Despite the economic development which was been accelerated in the region not all the citizens could be employed.

Migration trends among the people can be seen growing and transforming between 2000 and the 2010s. During that time a stereotype had occurred in many of those countries of Central Asia where it used to be considered a matter of success if one goes to Russia as then Russia was considered to be a country which could give employment and bring success in the life of those who go and work there. Fed up with the economic conditions prevalent in Central Asia many young and middle-aged people in Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and Kyrgyzstan prefer going abroad and working there in place of working or continuing their studies at home. Most of the young women and children of poor economic condition get trapped easily by the traffickers as they compete to follow the example of relatives, neighbors, and associates who have earned enough money from working abroad from buying or building their own homes to cars and other essentials. The intervention of new social and demographic groups who have joined the migration further contributes to the increase of migrant laborers.

On one hand, in the countries that export migrant workers, the departure of a significant percentage of the able-bodied population was stimulated by typical “pusher” factors such as Declining production, high unemployment, low salaries, job shortages, increasing poverty, and an idle workforce acted as “Push factors” for the Central Asian countries that export migrant workers that enabled a significant percentage of the able population who used to migrate leaving their own country to the destination country in search of better opportunities. On the other hand we will see that there have been certain factors in Russia who tend to be so attractive economically that it supports on the inflow of more and more labour market. These attractive incentives included used to be higher salaries, diversified economy, better working conditions and a high standard of living. A major migration subsystem is the result of migrants from the Central Asian countries being attracted towards Eurasia with Russia. The shift in the migrants from Central Asia to Russia and other countries is due to the disparity in salaries among countries and the clear illustration of the situation is in this subsystem being provided. The level of Unemployment levels also largely explains the migration trends of both the region. According to the survey report both Kazakhstan and Russia had measured lowest levels of unemployment in the region in the year 2013.

As we know by now that various kinds of agencies and organizations do invaluable work for the cause and try to spread the word as much as possible and help victims of Human trafficking, the continued governments fund cuts compel these kind of charitable organisation to move towards seeking the assistance of the general masses so as to contribute collectively with financial support so that lack of funds must not be the obstacle to the awareness programme being performed. This then causes society to become immune towards the appeal by the group of volunteers as a whole and perhaps this is partly the reason for the public's awareness of Human Trafficking.

In the last few years we have seen new laws and acts that have come into force to help combat human trafficking and protect victims, in the regions of Central Asia, but mere laws are not suffice to combat the problem efficiently as it becomes necessary on the part of the world leaders and organizational agencies to minutely address the pre-trafficking conditions, such as the poor infrastructure and economic opportunities so that pressure must be created upon those who create the conditions of vulnerability. The way forward possibly is to look for such kinds of means which shall not only grab the public attention but also spread the word, by involving certain kind of well-known artists and celebrities to help spread the word, similar to the project of Band/Live Aid in the 1980's.

There is a need to create such types of videos and music at the broader level that should come up with the issues of Human Trafficking in Central Asia. We however have Current bands such as 'MUSE', 'Radiohead' and 'The Killers' which are already involved with projects in conjunction with MTV Exit' and 'Anti Slavery international', that takes up the issues of Trafficking of humans and explains how to tackle Human Slavery.

There is a need today for people to actually understand the root cause behind the modern slavery that exists today; an investigative documentary about sex trafficking must be watched so as to discover the chain and supply of trafficking. For more stories on the different forms of human trafficking around the world CNN's Freedom Project must be checked and studied thoroughly. Not only by mere listening to programmes on human trafficking can we bring awareness but there is a necessity to even organize a fundraiser who can donate to an anti-trafficking organization. We must encourage the local level schools and institutions to partner with students and

include modern slavery in their curricula. As aware parent, educator, or school administrator, we all must be aware of how traffickers target children who is school going.

There is a need to set up a web alert to receive current human trafficking news in order to be well informed and also need to be familiar with the materials that are available from the Department of Health and Human Services. In order to support the cause and help stop trafficking people in Central Asia must work with a local religious community. Away from the social stigma jobs must be provided to the trafficking survivors along with internships, skills training, and other such kind of opportunities must be granted to them so that they must start a new life of their own. The universities of Central Asia must take action on their campuses by joining or establishing a university club so that awareness regarding the issue must be raised and addressed with appropriate actions being initiated throughout the local community. We as students must request that human trafficking be included in university curricula and try to work on the topic concerning human trafficking. With assistance from anti-trafficking organizations, universities can extend low-cost or free services to society. Finally, on the basis of the concluding analysis, the study has found the proposed hypothesis to stand up to be proved.

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