

Lessons from anti-trafficking in NE at TIP Conclave 3



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Syed Miraz Ahmed 7 December 2013 9535 views

The Government of India in the Ministry of Home Affairs, in association with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has initiated a two year project for training of Law Enforcement Officers on human trafficking in four States, namely Maharashtra, Goa, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh.

The **Anti Trafficking-in-Persons Conclave 3::Moving Forward, Session IV:** huddled to explore the **Lessons Anti Human Trafficking Units of Northeast India.**

B. R. Rana, IPS, IGP (CID), Meghalaya speaking on anti human trafficking said, “The law enforcement initiatives and the resources in place to deal with anti human trafficking are pathetically limited. That is why once in a while the Government of India bails us out by providing vehicles to set up Anti Human Trafficking Units. I must say that reinforcing law enforcement initiatives and the measures in dealing with human trafficking problems in the Northeastern part of the country is abysmally poor due to lack of good connectivity.”

Expressing his apprehensions on the Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) project having a model on anti human trafficking, he said CCTNS faces connectivity issues in the Northeast. “The service provided by BSNL is not giving us the desired connectivity. Connectivity takes a serious toll on law enforcement initiatives and measures.” He suggested a vision Document on Human Rights and Anti Human Trafficking Units for the Northeast.

Sharing her case study on networking in human trafficking case interventions, Sonam Yankeela Bhutia, Sub Inspector, AHTU, CID, Crime Branch, Sikkim said, “Rate of human trafficking in Sikkim is comparatively low. Some of the factors leading to lesser crime committed in Sikkim are its cultural ways and the conflict-less society. Further, Sikkim as a society is very small, even though it may be a disadvantage for business but law and order and public networking wise it is advantageous primarily because it very manageable and information can be routed faster resulting in proactive policing.”

The others speakers were Mukesh Sahay, IPS, ADGP, CID, Guwahati, Assam and Dr. Praveen Kuari Singh, Director, MHA. Miranda Ingtipi, APS, ASP, CID, Assam also presented her case study.

The issues discussed by the panelists, P.M. Nair, IPS, Former DG, NDRF, Govind P. Thapa, Additional Inspector, Former General of Police, Nepal and Hasina Kharbhih, Chair of Board, Impulse NGO Network focused on further strengthening the networking by incorporating and launching an Anti Human Trafficking Software. Special emphasis was laid on sharing knowledge on cross-border human trafficking and seeking solutions for the future. The session was moderated by Bijoy Francis, Executive Director, Asian Human Rights Commission & Asian Legal Resource Center, Hong Kong.

It is to be noted that Ministry of Home Affairs has sanctioned a Comprehensive Scheme “Strengthening law enforcement response in India against Trafficking in Persons through Training and Capacity Building, wherein it is proposed to establish 330 Anti Human Trafficking Units (AHTUs) throughout the country and impart training to 10,000 police officers through Training of Trainers (TOTs) component.

For the support extended by law enforcement agencies to the Impulse Model and its network in the Northeast, tokens of recognition were presented to Mukesh Sahay, IPS, ADGP, CID, Guwahati, Assam, B. R. Rana, IPS, IGP (CID), Meghalaya and Miranda Ingtipi, APS, ASP, CID, Assam.

Syed Miraz Ahmed

Writes, edits and researches. In 2013 he was conferred the Rotary International District 3240 Young Achiever Award for his work in the area of environment and digital journalism. In 2006 he was awarded first in the category of Wildlife Photography by the Department of Environment & Forests and Tourism, Government of Assam.

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