Abstract— Human trafficking is an organized crime where people are forced and enticed into exploitation, irrespective of the victims’ movement being involved, for profits and money. It is a violation of human rights where the state needs to have a multi-dimensional approach and strategy to prevent and eliminate trafficking. The paper attempts to analyze the situation of Human Trafficking and its root causes in India, such as high poverty, gender-discrimination, religious and cultural practices, lack of education and socio-economic opportunities, social deprivation, conflicts/natural disasters and violence. It throws a light on legislative gaps in the Indian Trafficking Laws, with special reference to ‘Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act, 1956’, in not addressing trafficking for any other purpose outside sexual trafficking and conflating sex work to sexual trafficking.

The objective of this paper is to analyze human trafficking and its situations, types, root causes, the legislative gaps and suggest preventive and management measures through collaborative, participatory and empowerment approaches.

Key words: Human Trafficking, Root Causes in India, Immoral Trafficking (Prevention) Act, 1956, Collaborative, Participatory, Empowerment Approach

I. INTRODUCTION

Human trafficking, a modern-day slavery, has posed a global threat to the vulnerable children, women, men and transgender, that flagrantly violates the human rights and denies freedom. It is a highly organized crime involving the exploitation of a person through the use of force, coercion or fraud for generating profits and money in business.

Human trafficking affects individuals across the globe, irrespective of their gender, age, ethnicity and socio-economic backgrounds. However, one common factor across all forms of trafficking is the vulnerability of a victim to exploitation. (K.V.Impc, 2000) It is the staunchest human right violation today, which is deepening its exploitative roots in different countries across the globe.

Social, cultural, political or economic practices marginalize and discriminate against social groups and individuals, based on their gender, ethnicity, language, castes, tribe, etc. Due to discrimination, these vulnerable people lack access to the social security, health, education, economic opportunities and legal services. However, they are incapable to protect and secure themselves and their families.

Traffickers take advantage of such vulnerable circumstances by acquiring control over the people through violent means. Thus, a meaningful partnership between the Government, NGO’s and local communities should formulate effective strategies to prevent and combat trafficking in their communities.

II. TRAFFICKERS AND TYPES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

The process of trafficking is largely hidden, and has a complex transnational nature. It is carried out by different types of traffickers, ranging from exploiters to several criminal groups. Money and profit are the only motivation behind this organized and lucrative exploitative business of human trafficking. It is a highly complex process involving many actors – victims, survivors, their families, communities and third parties that recruit, transport, harbour and use the labour of trafficked victims. (Combating Trafficking in Women and Children in South Asia, Country Report of India, 2003)

Traffickers lure people into trafficking by manipulating and exploiting their vulnerabilities. They recruit, transport, harbour, obtain, and exploit victims – often using force, threats, lies, or other psychological coercion. Traffickers promise a high-paying job, a loving relationship, or new and exciting opportunities. In other cases, they may kidnap victims or use physical violence or substance abuse to control them. (polarisproject.org)

Trafficking takes place intra-regional, inter-regional and trans-regional. In an intra-regional trafficking, origin and the destination of the trafficked victim is within the same region. (Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, 2014) Trans-regional trafficking flows are mainly detected in rich countries of the Middle East, Western Europe and North America. These flows often involve victims from the ‘global south’, mainly East and South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. Statistics show the correlation between the affluence (Gross Domestic Product) of the destination country and the share of victims trafficked from other regions. (Global Report on Trafficking in Persons, 2014).

9.1 million Victims of forced labour (44%) moved either internally or internationally, while the majority, 11.8 million (56%), were subjected to forced labour within their place of origin. (ILO Global Estimate of Forced Labour, 2012)

A. Major Forms of Trafficking

1) Forced, Bonded Labour and Involuntary Domestic Servitude
2) Sex Trafficking and Prostitution
3) Child Soldiers
4) Child Sex Tourism
5) Organ Trafficking

1) Forced, Bonded Labour and Involuntary Domestic Servitude

It is a form of slavery where vulnerable men, women and children are forced into providing their labour services through force, coercion, servitude, use of bond or debt or fraud. The traffickers take advantage of the legislative gaps to exploit the workers due to their vulnerable backgrounds. Those people who have been deprived of poverty, unemployment, opportunities, discrimination, and cultural acceptance are easily exploited by the traffickers into forced, bonded and domestic labour through different means.

Domestic workers are trapped in the houses through physical, sexual and emotional means, and these victims are difficult to detect as they stay in the private
houses of the traffickers, which are unregulated by government authorities.

Migrants and Immigrants are particularly susceptible to this exploitation; however, individuals are also forced into labour in their own countries. The victims have to work in factories, agricultural farms, domestic houses, mines, restaurants’ or bars, construction, begging rackets, etc under inhumane conditions, with little to no pay at all, their travel documents are seized and they are treated like slaves.

2) **Sex Trafficking and Prostitution**

Sex trafficking comprises a significant portion of overall trafficking and the majority of transnational modern-day slavery. Victims are forced into performing commercial sex by their traffickers through the use of force, fraud or coercion.

Any minor, under the age of 18, engaged in commercial sex is considered to be a victim of trafficking, regardless of fraud, coercion or force. The sex traffickers target the vulnerable people through threats, violence, false promises, debt bondage and manipulations to exploit them into sex trafficking industry for their own business profit.

Sex trafficking takes place in brothels, hotels or motels, private rooms, strip clubs, business parties, massage parlours, etc. Sex trafficking is a market-driven exploitative business as it has a huge demand in various nations and thus the supply is generated by traffickers.

3) **Child Soldiers**

Child soldiering is a unique and severe manifestation of trafficking. It involves an unlawful recruitment of children less than 18 years, through force, fraud, or coercion to be exploited for their labour or to be abused as sex slaves in conflict areas. Such unlawful practices may be perpetrated by government forces, paramilitary organizations, or rebel groups. (Trafficking in Persons Report, 2008) Male and female child soldiers are used as shields, cooks, servants, messengers, spies, suicide bombers and forced to have sex with the combatants. Many children are abducted to be used as combatants.

Technological advances in war weapons, which are easy to use, have contributed to an increase in child soldiers. The following countries have reported use of child soldiers since 2011: Afghanistan, Colombia, India, Iraq, Israel, Libya, Mali, Pakistan, Thailand, Sudan, Syria, and Yemen. (borgenproject.org)

4) **Child Sex Tourism and Paedophilia (CST)**

CST is an ignominious assault on the dignity of children and a form of violent child abuse. ‘Child sex tourism’ refers to an act perpetrated by those who are travelling or using their status as tourists in order to sexually exploit children. It is considered to be a sub-type of child prostitution with clear links to the tourism industry. (thecode.org)

There are domestic and international tourists, who travel to different regions for sexually exploiting children. There are people who have paedophilia, where their sexual feelings are directed towards children, and to satisfy their urge, they explore CST and exploit the children. Child pornography is frequently involved in these cases.

A major factor that fuels this crime is the demand for sexual contact with children. Due to this demand, the traffickers exploit vulnerable children and create a profitable child sex market. The vulnerable children are forced and coerced into this activity and are frequently drugged for imposing control over them. The children have devastating consequences which include long lasting physical and psychological trauma and are prone to diseases like HIV/AIDS, STD’s etc.

5) **Organ and Tissue Trafficking**

It is a trade of human organs, tissues or other body parts for the purpose of transplantation. There is a global need or demand for healthy body parts for transplantation, far exceeding the numbers available. This trade is carried out in number of ways. Firstly, traffickers force or deceive the victims to give up an organ. Secondly, victims formally or informally agree to sell their organs for money, but are cheated as they are not paid for the organ or paid less than the promised price. Thirdly, when the victims are treated for an ailment, which may or may not exist, and thereafter their organs are removed without the victim's knowledge. These victims are usually dying in poverty, or are migrants and illiterate people. Any organs which can be removed and used are subjected to organ trade.

Globally, there is a huge demand for organ transplants. However, this opportunity has been seized by the organ traffickers, where they have created an illegal market for organ trade through criminal and exploitative business.

B. **Global facts about Human Trafficking**

According to the Global Estimate of Forced Labour Report, 2014, International Labour Organization (ILO), 20.9 million victims are forced labourers; three out of every 1,000 people worldwide are in forced labour today. 18.7 million (90%) exploited in the private economy, by individuals or enterprises.

The figures do not include trafficking for the removal of organs or for forced marriage/adoption unless the latter practices lead to a situation of forced labour or service.
C. Human Trafficking Business

The business of human trafficking earns profit around $150 billion a year. According to the survey of ILO, $99 billion are earned from commercial sexual exploitation, $34 billion from construction, manufacturing, mining and utilities, $9 billion from agriculture, including forestry and fishing and $8 billion dollars are saved annually by private households that employ domestic workers under conditions of forced labour.

In accordance to Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), sexual exploitation can yield a return on investment ranging from 100% to 1,000%, while an enslaved labourer can produce more than 50% profit even in less profitable markets (e.g., agricultural labour in India).

According to State Department Trafficking in Persons (TIP) report 2015, there were only 10,051 prosecutions and 4,443 convictions for trafficking globally in 2014.

III. ANALYSIS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN INDIA AND ITS ROOT CAUSES

India has emerged as a source, destination and transit country for Human Trafficking. (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2015). It is the third largest source of profit for organized crime following arms and drug trafficking, generating billions of dollars globally. The Global Slavery Index 2016 reported that India has the highest absolute numbers of people trapped in slavery with 18.35 million slaves, among its 1.3 billion population.

Over the millions of victims being trafficked in a year, only a total of 5,466 incidents of crimes relating to human trafficking were reported in the country during the year 2014 as compared to 3,940 during the year 2013. (Crime in India, 2014)

Vulnerability and lack of freedom governs the body of these victims. They are used as commodities to provide services, which produce a massive growing profitable business for the traffickers. They are deceived, tortured, threatened and beaten up, drugged, mutilated, raped and killed, if they try to escape this exploitative industry.

A. Domestic Trafficking in India

In India, 90% of the trafficking occurs domestically (inter/intra state) and 10% across national and international borders. (Hameed, Tanner, Türker, & Yang, 2010) Trafficking is carried out in India for purposes of labour, sexual exploitation, forced marriages, cultural practices such as the banned Devdasi system (Dedicating a girl to prostitution, though ostensibly dedicated to serve a goddess), sex tourism and pornography, paedophilia, begging, drug couriers, organ trade, arms smuggling, forced domestic work and so on.

Over 20-65 million people are trafficked in India for forced labour, constituting the major form of trafficking, followed by sex trafficking. (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2013). 90% of the trafficked victims belong to the most disadvantaged group. (Trafficking in Persons Report, 2010) The number of persons trafficked for forced labour in India within the range of 20 to 65 million. (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2013). The primary difficulty lies in distinguishing between migrant labourers, in search of employment by means of trafficking outlined in the UN Trafficking Protocol. (India's Human Trafficking Laws and Policies and UN Trafficking Protocol: Achieving Clarity, 2015)

Traffickers lure children, women, men and transgender living in poverty and deprived situations, to the city with the promise of well-paid work. These victims are forced into labour work in sectors such as construction, steel, and textile industries, wire manufacturing for underground cables, biscuit factories, pickling, floriculture, fish farms, ship breaking, brick kilns, rice mills, agriculture, and embroidery factories. (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2016)

Children are also forced into domestic, agricultural and labour work in factories. They are maimed by the begging traffickers to earn more money and then exploited. Traffickers use false promises of employment or arrange sham marriages in India for the victims, who are deprived of social affinity, and then subject women and children to sex trafficking. (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2016)

Traffickers increasingly use websites, mobile applications, and online money transfers to facilitate commercial sex. Children continue to be subjected to child sex trafficking in religious pilgrimage centres and tourist destinations. (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2016) India’s sex industry includes some 2 million sex workers, 20 percent of which are under age 16 and considered children. (Hameed, Tanner, Türker, & Yang, 2010)

B. Cross Border and Transnational Trafficking

India is a destination and a transit country for the victims being trafficked to and from the bordering nations, Nepal, Bangladesh and Burma, and other countries in the Middle East Asia, Europe, Gulf Countries and other parts of the world. (Hameed, Tanner, Türker, & Yang, 2010) Crossing the border is not a tough job, and money can make the jobs of traffickers easier. With Nepal, there are fourteen legal entry points, but illegal cross-border movement takes place easily. Since India has an open cross-border policy with Nepal, trafficking is difficult to identify. Bangladesh does not have similar access; there are 20 check-posts across 4,156km border of Bangladesh and India. However, this gives rise to several illegal cross-border trafficking movements. (Responses to Human Trafficking in Bangladesh, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, 2011)
Indian migrants, who willingly seek employment in construction, domestic work or other low skilled work in the Middle East or other countries, face forced labour and are forced into sexual services. There is major recruitment fraud that takes place in India, where migrants and immigrants are transported to different regions for work. This ultimately leads to victimized forced labour and sexual exploitation, eventually binding them to the trafficking industry. The prime destinations for both Indian and foreign female trafficking victims are Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi, Gujarat, Hyderabad, while Nepali women are increasingly subjected to sex trafficking in Assam, Nagpur and Pune. (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2016). Burmese Rohingya, Sri Lankan Tamil, and other refugee populations continue to be vulnerable to forced labour in India (Trafficking in Persons Report, India, 2016)

Primary traffickers include crime syndicates, master operators, trafficking mafias, pimps, brothel owners, tourists, travel agencies, employment agents, relatives, neighbours, friends and influential leaders.

IV. ROOT CAUSES OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN INDIA

India is a developing country, and of the 121 crore Indians, 83.3 crore reside in rural areas while 37.7 crore stay in urban areas. (Census India, 2011). A number of factors contribute to Human Trafficking in India. They include poverty, lack of education, castes/ Devdasi system/ Bedia tribes, gender-related differences, conflicts and natural disasters, governance, corruption and high-market demands.

A. Poverty

A major chunk of India still lives in poverty, and most of them are in rural areas. Due to their socio-economic deprivation and lack of resources, many people search for opportunities to work in the cities. There are families where they sell their own children and women to agents for money. Even the families get their girls married off to older men for money and then these girls are forced into sexual services with other men.

The rural people migrate to different regions in search of work and traffickers trap them into various involuntary services through threat, force, fraud, luring them of better work elsewhere, etc.

B. Lack of education

Many villages do not have schools, due to which most of the population remains illiterate and uneducated. This creates an environment ripe for traffickers to make false promises to parents, luring them to send their children and young girls away for a chance at better education, and other ‘good’ opportunities that would otherwise be unattainable in their lifetime.

C. Castes/ Devdasi System/ Bedia Tribes

The study by National Commission for Women found that 62% of the women in commercial sex work belong to the scheduled castes. The most prominent example is of ‘Devdasi’ tradition. It is most prominent in Karnataka, Andra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.

According to this tradition, parents from the scheduled tribes marry their daughters before puberty to a deity or temple where they are then forced to provide sexual services to the upper caste community members.

D. The Bedia Tribe

It is a nomadic tribe who believe that they are born to be sex workers, and train their young girls to become sex workers. The fathers, husbands and sons of the Bedia tribe find customers for their women. They are sold in brothels for providing sexual services.

This kind of a tradition has been flowing since historic times in the Bedia tribe, which is mostly found in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and parts of Uttar Pradesh. The Devdasi tradition and Bedia tribes belong to the lowest caste in India, and are forced into following these traditions even though it has been banned in India under various legislations.

E. Gender-related differences

Marginalization of females is a major contributing factor to trafficking. Gender-based social practices have led parents to be persuaded by traffickers under false pretext of marriage without dowry. (Lannon & Halpin, 2013) Dowry System is a long held traditional system followed in India that make women an economic burden for families in India.

There is a vast difference between sex ratios in Indian states, due to an evil practice of female foeticide. The traffickers traffic young girls from different states to those states where the female sex ratios are low, and force them into marriages with one or more men.

Conflicts and Natural Disasters

The conflicted or disaster affected regions in India comprise of marginalized communities with deprived backgrounds. These areas are prone to infrastructural devastation, law enforcement with weak security.

With an increase in the vulnerable population, these areas become transit points for trafficking. In 1999, after a massive cyclone in Orissa, there was an exuberant increase in trafficking, especially of children, since basic necessities of food and shelter were non-existent in an affected area. (Chadha, 2006) Floods in Bihar, West Bengal, Naxalite Areas in Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, and Maharashtra have contributed to increasing human trafficking. (Chadha, 2006)

Governance

With a backdrop of poor governance and lack of effective implementation of social services to the vulnerable population has led to an increase in trafficking. India’s legal framework is not well equipped to support and tackle trafficking. The legislative gaps are been discusses in the paper below.

Corruption

India stands 76th as the most corrupted country among 195 countries, according to the 2015 Corruption Perceptions Index reported by Transparency International. Corruption has seeped in the entire government system, private industries and into individuals, thus contributing to poverty, human trafficking, democracy debasement, inequality in wealth distribution, social injustice, and the widespread giving and taking of bribes. The desire to make quick money with less effort has led to bribing which is highly conductive to the traffickers to do business in India.
F. High Market Demand

Trafficked labour is demanded in a number of sectors in India, like commercial sex work, construction sites, highway, small motels, brick kilns, domestic work, and small closed communities, all serve homes to trafficking. There is a huge demand for child sex tourism, as there are a number of tourists visiting India.

Many foreigners visit India for medical tourism due to high demands of transplantation. As a result, foreigners try to grab this opportunity to carry out an illegal business of organ trade to run a profitable business. It is argued by P.M Nair, one of the most highly respected trafficking experts in India, that the economic boom and globalization has increased the demand for sexual services and cheap labour, and increased the level of migrant workers, leading to a resultant increase, in the supply of trafficked victims. (Nair & Sen, 2004)

Trafficking poses a serious public health issues. The victims of trafficking are vulnerable to several health issues like HIV/AIDS, STDs etc. The country has to incur huge costs for health and rehabilitation as well as law enforcement.

While trafficking has severe implications on the psycho-social and economic well-being of the victim, it adversely affects the nation as a whole. By denying the victims their basic rights to good health, nutrition, education and economic independence, the country loses a large number of women and children as victims to this crime, who otherwise would have contributed productively to its growth. (India Country Report, 2008)

V. INDIAN POLICIES FOR ANTI-HUMAN TRAFFICKING

India’s current laws and policies do not comply with India’s obligations to adopt measures to prevent human trafficking under the UN Trafficking Protocol. Trafficking is addressed at two levels in the constitution of India- one, at the level of Fundamental Rights, prohibiting trafficking in human beings and forced labour. (Fundamental Rights, Article 23, 1949). Two, at the level of Directive Principles of State Policy, ensuring people are not forced by economic necessity to enter avocations unsuited to their age or strength, childhood and youth are protected against exploitation. (Directive Principle of State Policy, Article 39 (e & f ), 1949)

Fundamental rights are justifiable and can be directly enforced in the court of law, however Directive Principles of State Policy are not justifiable, and cannot be enforced in the court of law, however, plays a major role in shaping the State policies.

A. Analysis of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA)

ITPA has little mention on the preventive aspects of trafficking. It has conflated sex work with trafficking for sexual exploitation, ignoring millions of victims trafficked for other purposes. The act assumes that all sex work is a result of trafficking. It has several shortcomings:

1) It includes the word ‘immoral’, inserting an element of morality, when the policy should be purely legal.

2) The act caters only to women and children, ignoring the male and transgender victims, lacking access in providing protection and shelter to the same.

3) The State Government and not the Central Government has the authority to establish protective homes and corrective institutions for the victims of sex trafficking only, due to which there are no set centralized standards of maintenance.

4) There is no legislative provision mandating legal protection to the survivor / witnesses/victim’s family while testifying in trafficking cases leaving the survivor and their family vulnerable to the traffickers scourge and the exposure of being re-trafficked.

5) There is no mention about the cross-national victims of trafficking. India doesn’t provide any provision that would provide a permanent or temporary resident status for the cross-national victims of trafficking. This ultimately contributes to continued marginalization and potential abuse of undocumented foreign victims.

B. The Indian Penal Code, 1860

There are a number of provisions, which are related to trafficking. Some of these include: Kidnapping, abducting or inducing woman to compel her for marriage, etc (Section 366), Selling minors for purposes of prostitution, etc (Section 372), Buying minors for purposes of prostitution, etc (Section 373), Wrongful restraint (Section 339), Wrongful confinement (Section 340).

C. Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2000 (JJA)

It is the primary law relating to juveniles in conflict with law as well as children in need of care and protection. The Act seeks to provide care/ protection to children by catering to a child’s development needs, adopting a child friendly environment and approach for adjudication of cases related to juveniles/children, keeping the child’s ‘best interest’ in mind and rehabilitation of the child as the goal.

D. Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986

Prohibits employment of children below the age of 14 years in notified hazardous occupations and processes. The Act also regulates the employment of children in nonhazardous occupations and processes. Some of the important prohibited occupations and processes are building and construction work, brick kilns, involuntary domestic servants, tea-shops, road side eateries, etc. The Act also regulates the working conditions of children in other occupations, which are not prohibited under the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986.

E. The Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976

The Act provides for the abolition of bonded labour system with a view to prevent economic and physical exploitation of the weaker sections of the people. The Bonded Labour Act similarly neglects to create human trafficking prevention measures. The Preamble of the Bonded Labour Act states that the Act is intended ‘to provide for the abolition of bonded labour system with a view to preventing the economic and physical exploitation of the weaker
sections of people.’ However, the Act does not address prevention efforts at any other point within the text.

F. The Ujjawala Scheme

A comprehensive scheme for Rehabilitation and Re-Integration of Victims of Trafficking by commercial sexual exploitation was initiated under the Ministry for Women and Child Development with effect from April 2016.

The Ujjawala scheme breaks down its prevention efforts into a five pronged approach of assistance: 1) Formation of community vigilance groups; 2) Formation and functioning of Balika (adolescent girls)/Balak (adolescent children) Sanghas (consortiums); 3) Sensitization workshops/seminars; 4) Awareness generation through mass media including Kalajathas (folk theatre, songs and processions), street plays, puppetry or any other arts forms, preferably traditional; and 5) Development and printing of awareness generation material such as pamphlets, leaflets and posters (in local languages).

VI. PREVENTIVE AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES: COLLABORATIVE, PARTICIPATORY AND EMPOWERMENT APPROACH

Constructing a national plan to combat trafficking is a lengthy and a complex process. It involves various actors at the different levels. The collaborative, participatory and an empowerment approach towards combating trafficking will develop the social upheaval and a sense of defence. These three approaches enable local people to exploit the diverse complexities of their own conditions and to adapt to rapid changes towards development of oneself and one's community.

A. Collaborative Approach

A healthy relation is possible only when the partners share common objectives, and is based on mutual respect, acceptance, autonomy, independence and pluralism. People belonging to various communities can acquire control over their own lives and secure themselves through collaborating the State, NGO's and the Local Communities. Through Collaborative relations, there will be genuine partnerships between the State, NGO's and the Local communities. This will help them to tackle the social problem of trafficking coupled with energetic but constructive debate on areas of disagreement.

B. Participatory Approach

The State should have a participatory approach to incorporate knowledge and opinions of the civil society in planning and management of anti trafficking policies and programmes at their respective levels. This approach requires the State to have confidence that the civil society is capable to analyze the social problem of human trafficking. It is also required to discover the solution in the process of social transformation and combating trafficking.

Various participatory methods and techniques should be undertaken to express, share and stimulate the information through camps, awareness programs, meetings, focused group discussions, semi-structured interviews.

Empowerment Approach

It enables the people to help themselves while the State and NGO’s can create a supportive environment. Empowerment means changing power relations in favour of those who previously had little power over their own lives. Through empowerment approach, the local community will have control over their community wellbeing, and over the ideologies, cultural practices, beliefs and attitude.

To combat human trafficking, it is vital to use these approaches as it requires commitment and co-operation at all levels in India. At policy level, there is a need for widespread understanding of the definition of trafficking which is aligned with the Trafficking Protocol of the UN. This definition must be recognized in the domestic laws of India, which criminalizes both internal and transnational trafficking, addresses trafficking in children, women, men and transgender, and acknowledges all forms of exploitation.

There should be provisions for safe recovery of the victim while providing the victim the necessary legal aid and an effective centralized uniform and accessible compensations plans and maintained protective homes for them. To give meaning to such law, the government officials should understand and effectively implement it, while the NGO’s and the local communities should collaboratively co-operate in preventing trafficking and catering to the victims and their safety and empowerment.

There should be strong campaigns, awareness sessions, anti-trafficking festivals, in-field research on trafficking, training of the former victims of trafficking to make them experts in rescue and rehabilitation of other victims held in tribal, rural and urban areas of India. This will create public awareness about human trafficking and the tactics used by the traffickers to lure the vulnerable people and the ostracised social groups. It is very important that every community starts taking care of their own area first, and when this is done by every community, entire India would eventually be safe from the traffickers.

Underlying vulnerabilities or ‘push’ factors can be issues such as poor employment opportunities and social and economic disadvantage (particularly of women and children), as well as urbanization and migration. Provision of economic co-operatives and improved access to micro-credit for victims of trafficking can be few interventions for economic empowerment of the victims.

India is a very religious and a faith based country, where people believe in the religious leaders and many faith-based organizations. These leaders and organizations have a major role to play in preventing and combating trafficking by educating and raising awareness about the evils of human trafficking. The leaders can spread a message of aborting exploitative cultural, religious and caste practices and support the NGO’s that rehabilitate and repatriate victims. By doing so, they can contribute and promote a message and awareness about compassion and humanity towards the survivors of human trafficking.

The arts and media have a massive role to play in preventing and combating human trafficking. Through different communicative channels like theatre, films, paintings, songs, plays, newspapers, magazines, the creative artists can communicate powerfully with the audience and contribute by raising awareness through communication.
media and spread a message of compassion towards the victims of trafficking. Through therapies, the creative artists can use music, dance, dogs, painting, etc for empowering the victims emotionally from the trauma.

The Corporate sector of India can contribute in preventing trafficking by creating opportunities for livelihoods especially in rural areas, and have business code ethics and human resources supply chain free from trafficking. Furthermore, through their Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives, it can also support the organizations that protect and cater to the needs of the victims.

Trafficking has a complex cross-border nature of crime, thus we need to take co-ordinated, strategic, operative, national and international efforts in combating trafficking. (K.V. Impe, 2000) The policies and interventions should focus on preventing trafficking at all levels, safeguarding the human rights of the trafficked survivors, effective implementation of social services and security to the vulnerable people and victims and implement functional cross-border rehabilitation and repatriation of the survivors.

VII. CONCLUSION

John F. Kerry, Secretary of State, United States of America, rightly said, "Conviction is where the process of change really begins—with the realization that just because a certain abuse has taken place in the past doesn’t mean that we have to tolerate that abuse in the future".

Millions of victims are falling prey to the traffickers who use the vulnerabilities, hope and needs of these deprived people and sell them in the billion dollar business of exploitation. We must understand that poverty and socio-economic deprivation does not justify human trafficking.

Therefore, collaborative, participatory and an empowerment approaches should be undertaken to prevent and combat trafficking. Besides these, meaningful partnerships should be adopted among Government, NGO, communities, private sector, religious leaders, media and artists. The entire fraternity should develop the strategies together to prevent and address the factors that drive trafficking in their communities.

The legislative gaps need to be filled with proper adoption of the UN Trafficking Protocol with functional implementation. It is a fight we must and we can win only if the (Chadha, 2006) problem of trafficking is fought together in a team with integrity, commitment and sustained efforts.

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