18 years of jail terms for girl trafficker

Maiti Nepal has a glorious 17 years of history since its inception in 1993. It has achieved significant success in availing justice to the innocent Nepalese girls and sending the perpetrators to prisons, who trafficked them for commercial sexual exploitation.

The latest in the series of such success was achieved on 1 June, 2010, when the honorable justice of Kathmandu District Court, Madhav prasad Pokhrel sentenced criminals Rajan Pariyar and Purna Pariyar for 18 years and 4 years of rigorous jail terms respectively.

They had trafficked a girl who is their relative to various parts of India- Assam, Kolkota, Delhi, Mumbai and Pune.

The girl was first of all trafficked for kidney trading. One of her kidneys was deceitfully taken out from her body. Ultimately, she was trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation.

Luza (name changed) was married to a Dalit family on her own will. Her brother in law Purna Pariyar and the accomplice Rajan Pariyar trafficked her to India in pretext of taking her to her mother’s home. She had a son who used to cry in the brothel. The brothel owner, reaching to the extremity of her brutality, inserted a hot iron rod into his mouth to quiten him. She managed to run away from the brothel some around June of 2008 AD. She filed an FIR in the police office. On 1 June 2010, she was granted justice by the honorable Katmandu District court.

Maiti Nepal had provided legal, shelter, counseling services to Luza from the very first day of her case.

Anuradha Koirala in CNN Heroes

HIV entangles Radhika!!

Radhika Tamang, 22 year female, rescued from Calcutta was brought to Maiti Nepal on 3rd June, 2010. She has a horrifying story which goes as such -

She was born and brought up in Dharaula VDC, Ward no.9, Parsa. She had a family of 5 members—her grandmother, her parents, elder sister and a brother. She ran away from home at the age of 14 years with a female acquaintance in pretext of finding a lucrative job at the city. This acquaintance cheated her and sold her in a brothel in Calcutta where she was forced into prostitution—unprotected sex with multiple sexual partners, for 8yrs. While in Calcutta, she gave birth to 2 children- first child is a 3yr old male and the second child is a 10month old female. She was rescued 1 month back and referred to Maiti Nepal.

While coming to Maiti Nepal, she was in a miserable state of mind. All she wanted was to go to meet her family. She did not respond well to any questions. Her general examination was done and blood tests were performed. The report of her blood tests showed her to be HIV positive. Her children were also tested for HIV, but the results were negative in children. Then she was sent for CD4 counts and confirmatory tests for HIV.

She did not know that she was HIV positive. Now comes the difficult part of telling her about being HIV positive. Being diagnosed with HIV can create a raft of emotions including anger, denial, depression, anxiety, shock and fear of death. But this was an exclusive case; Radhika had never heard anything about the disease. She did not know how she got the disease and how it is transmitted. So, she was explained about HIV/AIDS in detail— that the disease does not impose an immediate threat to her life, and with proper treatment and timely health care and a strong will she could live for 15-20yrs. She was also explained about the treatment and preventive measures for disease transmission. She was also told that her children havenot got the disease, hearing which she was happy and thankful.

Meanwhile, Maiti Nepal has traced her family who will soon be coming to take her home. Radhika said that she would go home but she will take the advice seriously and go for regular check up and undertake all the preventive measures.

(Name changed to maintain confidentiality)

Combating Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children [CSEC]: Cross-Border Micro Project

A Cross-Border Micro Project Initiative is being taken forward by the YPP [Youth Partnership Project for Child Survivors and Youth at Risk of Commercial Sexual Exploitation] Youth from Nepal and India. The micro project, which is a joint initiative of YPP Youth from India and Nepal focuses on raising awareness on different issues of children such as child sexual abuse, commercial sexual exploitation of children and child labor through road-shows. The road-shows will involve rally, awareness raising songs and drama, announcement by influential leaders and distribution of awareness raising materials. The YPP Team and Youth from Nepal participated in the workshops on cross-border micro project initiative at Siliguri [India] to meet and discuss with the youth from India. A joint proposal was formed by the YPP Youth from Nepal and India. The Nepal Team also identified and provided an orientation to 3 additional young people from the Border areas in Kakarvitta to be involved in the Cross-border Micro Project. The selected young people were also involved in Peer Support Mentorship Training. They were also provided with a short orientation on the updates of the cross-border Micro Project Initiative. A coordination meeting was held with the YPP Youth from India at Siliguri to discuss further on the specific arrangements for the meeting with NGOs, press conference, and awareness raising road-shows that have been planned under the micro project. During May 2010, the YPP Youth had a preparatory meeting involving the new youth members. The activities under the Micro Project will be held July 2010 onwards.
Legal Support: Raute girl files a case of rape !!!

Maiti Nepal received a complaint of rape from a tribal community, called Raute. Raute is one of the indigenous and marginalized community of Nepal. Even in the 21st century, they live a nomadic life thriving on the forest products.

A 16 year old Raute girl, named Bisna Raute was raped by three unidentified Hindi speaking men of slender body built on April 7, 2010 at midnight.

The girl has filed a case against the rapists at Maiti Nepal, Kanchanpur. She recalls the horrowing memories of the dreadful night as such-

“We had a hut in the Kanchanpur district, ward number 9, Branhadev, Ampani jungle of Bhimdutta municipality. No any people other than my family members including my father, mother and elder brother used to live in that area. When we were asleep that night, three unidentified men with weapons in hands and masks in their head entered into our hut and started beating us up mercilessly. They made other members of my family flee from the spot and tore up my clothes. Threatening with dire consequences, they raped me repeatedly and one by one. I yelled with pain but there was nobody to help me. They even looted two axes, some kitchen utensils, a tent donated by the Red cross society, some gold and Rs. 5000.

I strongly want to see the perpetrators be brought to books and penalized under the existing laws."

Raute community is at risk of perpetual existence owing to their secluded mode of life style and far from the state services. The incident of registering case and seeking legal support from the state can be taken as positive indication of their socialization and growing faith in the state system.

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Story of Success

The incident took place about seven years ago. It’s a true incident of sexual abuse on a girl by a man of the age of her grandfather who kept her as a bonded labour. It is an instance of extremity of brutality to an innocent girl by a devilish man.

Kalpana Lama, (name changed) seventh daughter among nine daughters of Ram Bahadur Lama (name changed), a resident of Harisai V.D.C. of Bara district was sent to work at the home of Triratna Chitrakar a resident of Hetauda Municipality ward no. 5. Triratna Chitrakar worked at Birgunj Survey Department and was a friend of Ram Bahadur Lama.

Due to poor economic condition, she came to work at Hetauda on her father's request at early childhood. She was being sexually exploited from the very first day. Unable to tolerate the torture given by tormentor, she ran away after three years. District Police Office found her in 2061 and handed over to Maiti Nepal prevention home, Hetauda for protection. When she entered the office she was in a horrified state. Instantly, we did not ask any questions to her. There were already two tormented girls who were survivors of rape. In course of my job, I had gone for fieldwork and came back late night. When I returned, the other two tormented girls of rape told me ‘Miss, look at the sister, she is also victimized like us.’ They show me the bruises around the breast and I was shocked. I gave her a psychological counselling then she began to tell the story.

"Due to impoverished economic condition, my father sent me at his friend's home to work at the age of nine in terms and conditions of studying but they never sent me to school. I used to work whole day. My father used to come to receive my working salary but I never knew how much it was. From that time, that man started doing bad work." I questioned her again 'why did you never tell anybody? She replied, 'I was very terrified'. After listening to her story, I was so shocked that I really wanted to burn that man alive for the brutality he had shown. Then I, Mana Lama and tormented girl went to the district police office with the letter of Maiti Nepal. After the wider investigation, Triratna Chitrakar was arrested and we filed a case of rape in the leadership of Kalpana Silwal, current Officer of women police cell. Applicant was juvenile so Mana Lama, field supervisor of our home presented herself on the behalf of that girl. Case was filed but after filing the case, lots of threatening started pouring over us and sometimes the kith and kin of perpetrators came to threaten us in our office. They also tried to influence the girl financially but she never obliged to their conditions. We also advocated in favour of that girl. Even the perpetrator's side dared talk to our Director and Chairperson at the central office. Later, Dijiju (Chairperson) asked me and I told everything about the matter. I have not forgotten the words of consolation and inspiration given by Dijiju till now. Those words inspired us to work more honestly. Later tormentor was taken to the custody for investigation. Lawyer Lalita Shrestha advocated from Maiti Nepal.

After that, we sent the girl at the central office of Maiti Nepal for formal education. Later the girl was taken to court. The questions asked in the court were so inhumane and embarrassing. But the girl told everything without any hesitation. Then the District Court, Appellate Court and finally Supreme Court decided 1o years jailed to Triratna and gave order to allocate half property in the name of tormented.

With the initiation of Maiti Nepal, Hetauda, 1 5 dhoor (piece of land) property and 2 hundred thousand rupees cash was provided to the girl from the property of Triratna Chitrakar located at Hatiya V.D.C. We are so glad that the girl got justice ultimately. Actually, Maiti Nepal family is very thankful to the concerned agencies involved in providing justice to the sufferer girl. Also, I express my warm gratitude to the lawyer Lalita Shrestha and my co-worker Mana Lama for their constant support towards this case.
Preventive Activities through Transit Homes

Preventative activities carried out by Transit home holds great importance in Maiti Nepal’s campaign. Activities like interception, rescue, counseling, dealing with cases of missing, rape, domestic violence carried out by transit contribute to the preventative initiatives of the organization.

Transit home Pashupatinagar, Ilam made the following achievements during the month of April 2010:
- Intercepted 17 girls and women belonging to neighbouring districts of them belonging to dalits and janajatis
- Took 1 case of domestic violence

Similarly, Transit Home Bhairahawa conducted following activities during the month of April 2010:
- Intercepted 28 girls and women belonging to various districts. Majority of them are dalits and janajatis
- Rescued 8 trafficking survivors
- Proceeded 1 case of domestic violence
- Deal with 10 missing cases
- Provided information on safe migration to 340 women who were applying for making passport at the chief district office.

During the month of April 2010, Transit home Kakarbhitta took the following initiatives:
- Intercepted 5 girls who hail from janajatis and dalits communities
- Deal with 10 cases of missing
- Proceeded 1 case of domestic violence
- Provided information on safe migration to 93 people

Likewise, Transit Home Biratnagar
- Intercepted 1 girl who hail from janajatis and dalits communities
- Deal with 9 cases of missing
- Provided information on safe migration to 44 people

During the month of April, Transit home Dhangadi took the following initiatives:
- Intercepted 8 girls who hail from janajatis and dalits communities
- Deal with 3 cases of missing
- Proceeded 3 case of domestic violence.
- Provided information on safe migration to 151 people

During the month of April, Transit home Birgunj conducted the following activities:
- Intercepted 31 girls
- Deal with 8 cases of missing.
- Provided information on safe migration to 350 people

During the month of April, Transit home Nepalgunj made the following achievements:
- Intercepted 16 girls who hail from janajatis and dalits communities
- Proceeded 6 cases of domestic violence
- Deal with 20 cases of missing
- Provided information on safe migration to 1283 people

During the month of April, Transit home Mahendranagar accomplished the following:
- Intercepted 13 girls and women belonging to neighbouring districts of them belonging to various ethnic groups.
- Proceeded 4 cases of domestic violence
- Deal with 25 missing cases
- Rescued 1 girl
- Provided information on safe migration to 375 people