

Human Trafficking in Nepal

- The Trafficking in Persons Report (TIP) compiled by the US State Department rates Nepal as Tier 2, the explanation of which is “the government does not fully comply with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking; however, it is making significant efforts to do so.”¹
- Trafficking victims are frequently reluctant to report the crime to the police and the level of reporting remains low.²
- There is a growing trend of trafficking girls and women to the entertainment industry in China, including Tibet and Hong Kong, for sexual exploitation. Furthermore, media report many cases of Nepali women and girls being trafficked to South Africa as dancers and to South Korea through false marriages to South Korean men. Sex trafficking to Japan and the Gulf States is also being mentioned. Information on these emerging trafficking schemes is, however, very scarce.²
- In 1998, The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MoWCSW) identified 26 districts that are particularly prone to trafficking in persons.
The districts identified as trafficking-prone are:
Nuwakot, Dhading, Sindhupalchowk, Kailali, Kavrepalanchowk, Makawanpur, Gorkha, Banke, Sindhuli, Udayapur, Rasuwa, Nawalparasi, Jhapa, Ramechhap, Sarlahi, Mahottari, Dhanusa, Chitwan, Lalitpur, Kaski, Morang, Sunsari, Rupandehi, Parsa, Kathmandu, and Dang.²
- 5,000 – 15,000 women and girls are trafficked annually to India for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation.²
- Between 1,000 and 2,000 children are working in the circuses at any time. 90% of them are girls and 10% are boys.²
- During the decade-long conflict between the Maoists and the Government of Nepal, which ended with the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in 2006, over 10,000 children became victims of human trafficking for military purposes and served as child soldiers in the Maoist army.³
- A total of 9,000 to 9,500 persons were attempted to traffic, and 8,000 to 8,500 persons were trafficked in each of the FYs 2013/14 and 2014/15. There has been considerably far lower number of TIP cases registered in Nepal Police in the FY 2013/14 and FY 2014/15 (185 and 181 cases, respectively).⁴

1. United States Department of State. 2013. Trafficking in Persons Report -Country Narratives -- Countries N through Z. – Nepal. (19 June)

2. Human trafficking assessment tool report for Nepal. 2011. Centre for legal research and resource development. (July)

3. UN News Center. 2010. Sarah Crowe and Marty Logan, UNICEF Helping Former Child Soldiers in Nepal Develop Vital Life Skills. UNICEF Media Center (10 February)

4. NHRC, Trafficking in persons especially women and children in Nepal. National report 2013-15 at ii (2016) [National TIP Report 2016]

- Two studies ordered by the Supreme Court and conducted by the GoN in 2008 uncovered that there were nearly 1,200 massage parlors, dance bars, and cabin restaurants in Kathmandu alone; employing nearly 50,000 workers out of which 80% were women aged 12 to 30. Approximately 50% of them suffer from some form of exploitation, including 9,000-15,000 of them who are underage.⁵
- The new estimates on movement, which were not calculated previously, illustrate the fact that cross-border movement is closely allied with forced sexual exploitation, whereas a greater proportion of victims of non-sexual forced labor are exploited in their home area.⁶
- According to United Nations report, 2 crore 40 lakh are being the victims of human trafficking annually. Among which 80% are the victims of sexual bondage, 17% of forced labor and of the victims 2 among 3 are women. Only 1 out of 100 are rescued from trafficking.⁷
- According to the Annual report prepared by Office of the Attorney General as of Jestha 2071, the table below shows the percentage of trafficked victims by age group:⁸

Age Group	Percentage of trafficked victims
Below 16 years	24%
6-18 years	41%
Above 18	24%

- The table below shows No. of cases when women and children were the victims accused from 2067-2070⁹

No. of cases when women and children were the victims accused						
Year	Children as Victims	as	Children accused	Women as victims	as	Women accused
2069/2070	581		201	2201		1801
2068/2069	392		239	1516		1572
2067/2068	513		261	1717		1530
Total	1486		701	5434		4903

5. G Subedi. 2009. *Emerging concerns and gaps. Pakistan Journal of Women's Studies Studies conducted by committees under the Joint Secretary of the Trafficking in girls and women in Nepal for commercial sexual exploitation:*

6. *Report of International Labor Organization. 2012. Global estimate of forced labor.*

7. *Introducing Situation on Trafficking in Persons (TIP)-National Coordination Meeting with Agencies in Combating TIP Saath-Saath Project, July 26,2012*

8. *Annual report prepared by Office of the Attorney General, Jestha 2071.*

- The table below shows No. of cases when women and children were the victims from 2067-2070⁹

No. of cases when women and children were the victims	
Year	Trafficking
2069/2070	311
2068/2069	288
2067/2068	301
Total	900

According to the Status of the rights of children 2015 (SOROC) of CWIN¹⁰

- 40 % trafficked children were under the age of 18 & 76.99 % of under the age of 16. Youngest children being 8 Years old. In 38 cases, traffickers were employer leaders. Women in 23 cases, relatives in 9 cases, others in 79 cases.
 - 420 total cases of trafficking, 168 cases under 18 years of age and 6 cases under 10 years of age have been reported. 157 cases of trafficking were rescued on the way.
- As reported by the Times News Network, every year, 5,000 to 7,000 women and children of Nepal are trafficked into India for forced prostitution. 20% (i.e. 40,000) of trafficked Nepali women and children for sex trade in India are girls below 16 years of age. Except for sex trade, thousands of Nepali children are trafficked into India to work in carpet factories in Bhadoi and Mirjapur, circus in Firozabad, potato farms, road construction in Shimla, forced beggary in Banaras, domestic child labor in Delhi, Kolkata, Mumbai, etc. The earlier belief that only girls from specific geographical area and community are being trafficked has been proved false. Rather, this crime has expanded to every area and community including boys and men. ¹¹
- Nepal has a strong tradition of migration for work but also a serious trafficking problem. Some estimates suggest as many as 15,000 young women are trafficked every year into brothel work in India. ¹²

9. Data extracted from various annual report prepared by Office of the Attorney General

10. Annual Report on State of the rights of child in Nepal. 2015. Resource and Information Centre, CWIN.

11. Dr. Ram Krishna Timilsina .Cross border human trafficking in nepal: some considerable issues.National Law College. <http://www.nalcnepal.com/index.php/82-articles/105-some-considerable-issues-for-cross-border-human-trafficking.html>

12. Child trafficking fears in Nepal after earthquake. <http://reliefweb.int/report/nepal/child-trafficking-fears-nepal-after-earthquake>. Published on 07 May 2015

- Nepal police along with Women and Children Service Directorate have reported that 184 cases of children under 18 years of age related to human trafficking. 425 children (212 boys and 213 girls) were rescued from sell and human trafficking in fiscal year 2071/72 .¹³
- According to the Gallup World Poll, 229,000 Nepalese were subject to some form of trafficking in 2014 alone, and that same year Nepal was ranked 20th of 167 countries on the Global Slavery Index.¹⁴
- Unicef reports that as many as 7,000 women and girls are trafficked out of Nepal to India every year, and around 200,000 are now working in Indian brothels.¹⁵
- In 81 percent of the 181 cases of human trafficking recorded by police in fiscal year 2014-15, people aged up to 18 years were the victims of the 184 cases reported to police in 2014-15, only 36 were men, according to a report published by (MoWCSW). As many as 212 cases of human trafficking were reported to police in fiscal year 2015-16.¹⁶
- The United Nations Population Fund reports that between 600,000 and 800,000 women, men and children are trafficked across international borders each year. Among them, a majority are girls and women, and more than 50 percent are children.¹⁷

13. State of Right of Child 2072. Central Child Welfare Board. Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare. Government of Nepal. 2015

14. Reducing Vulnerability to Human Trafficking: An Experimental Intervention Using Anti-Trafficking Campaigns to Change Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs, and Practices in Nepal. USAID and Vanderbilt University. March 2016

15. UNICEF reports 7,000 Nepali women and girls trafficked to India every year. UN Gift HUB. <http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/stories/September2014/unicef-reports-7-000-nepali-women-and-girls-trafficked-to-india-every-year.html>. Published on Vatican Radio on 04/09/2014.

16. Cases of human trafficking on the rise: Reports. The Kathmandu Post. <http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-09-14/cases-of-human-trafficking-on-the-rise-reports.html>. Published on 14-09-2016

17. Taken from Nepal. The Kathmandu Post. <http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-01-31/taken-from-nepal.html>. Published on 31-01-2016

References

United States Department of State. 2013. Trafficking in Persons Report -Country Narratives -- Countries N through Z. – Nepal. (19 June)

Human trafficking assessment tool report for Nepal. 2011. Centre for legal research and resource development. (July)

UN News Center.2010. Sarah Crowe and Marty Logan, UNICEF Helping Former Child Soldiers in Nepal Develop Vital Life Skills. UNICEF Media Center (10 February)

NHRC, Trafficking in persons especially women and children in Nepal. National report 2009-10 at ii (2011) [National TIP Report 2011].

G Subedi. Emerging concerns and gaps. 2009. Pakistan Journal of Women's Studies Studies conducted by committees under the Joint Secretary of the Trafficking in girls and women in Nepal for commercial sexual exploitation

Report of International Labour Organization. 2012. Global estimate of forced labor.

Introducing Situation on Trafficking in Persons (TIP)-National Coordination Meeting with Agencies in Combating TIP Saath-Saath Project, July 26,2012

Annual report prepared by Office of the Attorney General, Jestha 2071.

Data extracted from various annual report prepared by Office of the Attorney General

Annual Report on State of the rights of child in Nepal. 2015. Resource and Information Centre, CWIN.

Dr. Ram Krishna Timilsina .Cross border human trafficking in nepal: some considerable issues.National Law College. <http://www.nalcnepal.com/index.php/82-articles/105-some-considerable-issues-for-cross-border-human-trafficking.html>

Child trafficking fears in Nepal after earthquake. <http://reliefweb.int/report/nepal/child-trafficking-fears-nepal-after-earthquake>. Published on 07 May 2015

State of Right of Child 2072.Central Child Welfare Board. Ministry of Women Children and Social Welfare. Government of Nepal. 2015

Reducing Vulnerability to Human Trafficking: An Experimental Intervention Using Anti-Trafficking Campaigns to Change Knowledge, Attitudes, Beliefs, and Practices in Nepal. USAID and Vanderbilt University. March 2016

UNICEF reports 7,000 Nepali women and girls trafficked to India every year. UN Gift HUB. <http://www.ungift.org/knowledgehub/en/stories/September2014/unicef-reports-7-000-nepali-women-and-girls-trafficked-to-india-every-year.html>. Published on Vatican Radio on 04/09/2014.

Cases of human trafficking on the rise: Reports. The Kathmandu Post. <http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-09-14/cases-of-human-trafficking-on-the-rise-reports.html>. Published on 14-09-2016

Taken from Nepal. The Kathmandu Post. <http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2016-01-31/taken-from-nepal.html>. Published on 31-01-2016

