

Tentative Title: The missing link between Migration to Trafficking in West Bengal

The word *Trafficking* means the act of buying or selling usually illegal goods.¹The word *Human trafficking* mean the crime of transporting or controlling people and forcing them to work in the sex trade or other forms of forced labour.² The word has been broadly defined in the United Nation Convention against Transnational Organised Crime (UNODC, 2000), Human Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of people through force, fraud or deception, with the aim of exploiting them for profit. Men, women and children of all ages and from all backgrounds can become victims of this crime, which occurs in every region of the world. The traffickers often use violence or fraudulent employment agencies and fake promises of education and job opportunities to trick and coerce their victims.³

Trafficking, a crime has been prevalent in State of West Bengal for a long time, the government and many civil society groups had funneled along to protect women and children. There are many cases which go unreported. The existing Government policy and laws address the issue after its occurrence. There is a missing link between climate change and migration, which ultimately results in trafficking. In past decade a huge rise in registered incidents of human trafficking is observed. The researchers have conducted surveys on two border districts with Bangladesh where climate change has affected their socio-economic life. The districts of South 24 Parganas and North 24 Parganas are vulnerable to be affected by the climate change in recent years. There is a gap in understanding the correlation between trafficking and climate change. The paper will analyze how climate change has furthered the rise in child trafficking in these areas. The methodology used in this paper is based non doctrinal purposive sampling methods. The researcher will attempt to suggest the suitable means to reduce future incidents of child trafficking.

I. Research Objective

- To understand the connection between migration and trafficking.
- The researcher wants to study the causes that led to the increase in trafficking movement in West Bengal. The study is to ascertain the nature, purpose and reason for the rise of human trafficking in parts of West Bengal.

II. Research Questions

The research questions were arranged by the researcher as to find out the reasons based on the objective of the research.

1. What is the 'push-factor' in the state of affairs that put the State of west Bengal in top notches in Child Trafficking?
2. Are the laws sufficiently deterrent to minimize the dangers of trafficking and other forms of deprivation that are made to the child?

¹ Merriam Webster Dictionary.

² Oxford Learner Dictionary.

³ Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, November 2000. < https://www.unodc.org/res/human-trafficking/2021the-protocol-tip_html/TIP.pdf> accessed on 19 May 2021.

3. Is there any connection between migration and child trafficking in West Bengal?