

# **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AGAINST TRAFFICKING IN GOA:**

## **A CASE STUDY ON NGO 'ANYAY RAHIT ZINDAGI'**

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### DECLARATION BY STUDENT

I hereby declare that the data presented in this Dissertation report entitled, “Women Empowerment against Trafficking in Goa: a case study on Anyay Rahit Zindagi (ngo)” is based on the results of investigations carried out by me in the Master of Arts in Political Science discipline at D.D. Kosambi School of Social Science and Behavioural Studies, Goa University under the Supervision of Dr. Shraddha Naik and the same has not been submitted elsewhere for the award of a degree or diploma by me. Further, I understand that Goa University or its authorities will be not be responsible for the correctness of observations / experimental or other findings given the dissertation.

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**COMPLETION CERTIFICATE**

This is to certify that the dissertation report "Women Empowerment against Trafficking in Goa: a case study on Anyay Rahit Zindagi (ngo)" is a bonafide work carried out by **Ms. Vaishnavi Yashwant Gawde** under my supervision impartial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of the degree of **Master in Arts** in the discipline of Political Science at D.D Kosambi School of Social Science and Behavioral Studies, Goa University.



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**ABBREVIATION USED**

Entity	Abbreviation
Coalition against Trafficking in Women	<b>CATW</b>
Global Alliance against Trafficking in Women	<b>GAATW</b>
Non Governmental Organization	<b>NGO</b>
Anyay Rahit Zindagi	<b>ARZ</b>
Commercial Sexual Exploitation	<b>CSE</b>
National Crime Record Bureau	<b>NCRB</b>
Integrated Anti Human Trafficking Unit	<b>IAHTU</b>
Women's Initiative for Self Help	<b>WISH</b>
Tata Institute of Social Science	<b>TISS</b>

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## **CHAPTER I**

### **Abstract**

Human trafficking, a global crime and modern form of slavery, is the third-largest organized crime against humanity, posing a significant non-traditional security threat. It is a transnational crime violating fundamental human rights, countered by international efforts like the SAARC Convention and the United Nations' Palermo Protocol. INGOs like Shared Hope International and Anti-Slavery International contribute to prevention, victim protection, and the prosecution of traffickers globally. In India human trafficking is considered as major challenging issue. Government of India has implemented various anti-trafficking laws, schemes and policies to address the issue of human trafficking. NGOs like the Society for Helping Entire Lower and Rural People, the Rescue Foundation, Prajwala, and others play a crucial role in addressing human trafficking in India. The victims of human trafficking can be of any age or gender, but women are more targeted. They live in very tough conditions. It is crucial to help those women by providing support so they can control their lives, make decisions independently and participate fully in the social, economic and political spheres.

In the specific case of Goa, tourism has unfortunately acted as a significant driver of human trafficking for sexual exploitation. Goa's reputation as a tourist destination has attracted visitors from various parts of the world, increasing the demand for sexual services. This has led to the trafficking of women and girls into Goa, as well as the exploitation of local girls and women. In response to challenges, NGO plays a crucial role in addressing the issue of human trafficking. In Goa, numerous NGOs dedicated to women's empowerment are crucial actors in combating



human trafficking. ARZ is focused on dismantling root causes and vulnerabilities, but it also plays an active role in addressing the issue of commercial sexual exploitation, breaking the cycle of exploitation and empowering women to lead lives free from such threats.

This research takes a close look at the intricate strategies adopted by Anyay Rahit Zindagi in their mission to empower women and eliminate women trafficking in Goa. This study aims to uncover the organization's achievements, challenges encountered and valuable lessons learned during their journey. By assessing the evolution of Anyay Rahit Zindagi, including its founding principles and key milestones, we seek to understand how the organization has adapted to the specific challenges of combating trafficking in the region. The study also examines the effectiveness of the empowerment programs implemented by the organization, such as education and skill development initiatives, with the goal of measuring their impact on vulnerable women. Furthermore, by delving into collaborative efforts involving various stakeholders, including law enforcement and local communities, the research aims to provide meaningful insights that can contribute to preventing human trafficking and building resilience among populations at risk.

## **1.1 Introduction:**

Human trafficking is a global crime and a modern form of slavery. It has been one of the fastest-growing criminal industries in the world. According to global crime records, human trafficking ranks as the third largest form of organized crime against humanity and has emerged as one of the most prevalent non-traditional security threats (Sabbarwal, 2023) The present international system has developed the idea of security from tradition and non-traditional sources. Traditional security deals with military and state-centered threats, including war, conflicts, territorial

disputes, nuclear proliferation and conventional military threats (Mishra & Sharma, 2022). Non-traditional security deals with global challenges such as terrorism, climate change, cyber-security threats, pandemics, and human trafficking, moving beyond traditional military issues (Mishra & Sharma, 2022).

Human trafficking is a transnational crime. It is a serious crime against a human being and a violation of their fundamental or basic human rights (Sreenath, 2020). Human trafficking can occur at both national and international levels, and international efforts like the SAARC Convention on preventing and combating trafficking in women and children from prostitution and the United Nations' Palermo Protocol, or United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime, have been established to combat and prevent human trafficking (TISS, 2019). In the global battle against human trafficking, international non-governmental organizations also play an important role in preventing human trafficking, such as the Coalition against Trafficking in Women, Shared Hope International, Anti-Slavery International, La Strada International Association, International Justice Mission, Free the Slaves, Vital Voices, Agape International Missions, Renew Foundation, and ECPAT International. These NGOs contribute to prevention, protection of victims, prosecution of traffickers, and international cooperation to address this global issue.

In India, human trafficking is considered a major and challenging issue. It involves the exploitation and coercion of individuals for purposes such as sexual exploitation, forced labor, begging, organ trafficking, drug smuggling, domestic work, pornography, entertainment and other forms of abuses. According to the recent national crime records bureau data, the conviction rate in human trafficking cases across the country continues to be low. In 2022, 2189

cases of human trafficking were filed, involving 6533 victims. In 2021, police filed charge sheets in 84.5 percent of the 2189 cases registered under the anti-human trafficking units (AHTUs). In 2020, police filed charge sheets in 85.2 percent of the 1714 trafficking cases that were registered, but only 10.6 percent of the total cases saw convictions.

In India, the government penalized human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation through various anti-trafficking laws like the Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act, the Bonded Labor Abolition Act, the Child Labor Act, the Goa Children Act, the Protection of Children from Sexual Offenses, the Criminal Law Act, the Indian Penal Code, the Juvenile Justice Act, etc. (TISS, 2019). The central bureau of investigation in the country introduced an anti-trafficking training program. Article 23 of the Constitution of India is a fundamental right that prohibits trafficking in human beings, of forced labor, and Articles 39(e) and 39(f), which are directive principles of state policy directed at ensuring that the health and strength of individuals are not abused and that no one is forced by economic necessity to do work unsuited to their age or strength, and also states that childhood and youth should be protected against exploitation (Rao & Kumar, 2018). There are various NGOs that play a crucial role in addressing the human trafficking issue in India, such as the Society for Helping the Lower and Rural People in AP, the Rescue Foundation in Mumbai, Vihaan in New Delhi, Bangalore, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Patna; Guria Swayam Sevi Sansthan in UP; Prajwala in Hyderabad; Vipla Foundation in Mumbai; My Choices Foundation in Hyderabad and Telangana; Prerana in Bangalore and Karnataka; Development Focus in Jharkhand; and Oasis India located in Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, and Punganur.

Human trafficking can target various groups, including men, women and children, but women are often specifically targeted for exploitation. When women are trafficked, they face various forms of physical abuse, such as sexual assault, beating, gang rape, burning and choking, as well as psychological abuses such as threats, manipulation and blackmail at the hands of traffickers. Customers also abuse them in many ways. They live in very tough conditions, with limited access to basic needs such as food, shelter, and health care. The people who force them to do these things use threats and violence, making it hard for the women to escape. This situation also hurt them mentally, causing a lot of sadness and fear. Sometimes they are trapped in a cycle of owing money, making it even harder to break free. Due to the abuse faced during commercial sexual exploitation, the victim loses hope of any kind of positive change in her life. It's crucial to help these women by stopping the people who exploited them, providing support, and empowering women. The empowerment of women concerns women gaining power and control over their lives, making decisions independently, and participating fully in the social, economic, and political spheres. It involves raising awareness, expanding choices, building self-confidence and increasing access to and control over resources. Empowerment should come from within; women should empower themselves.

In the specific case of Goa, tourism has unfortunately acted as a significant driver of women's trafficking for sexual exploitation. Every year, a large number of tourists come to Goa. They mostly come to Goa for pleasure and fun, and as a result, there is a demand for women and girls for sexual exploitation. This led to the to the trafficking of women and girls in Goa from different parts of India and countries such as Bangladesh, Nepal, Bengal, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Thailand, Russia, Ukraine, and Turkmenistan, as well as the exploitation of local

girls and women (ARZ, 2019). In recent times, it has been found that there has been an increase in the usage of internet platforms by traffickers for commercial sexual activities in Goa (ARZ, 2019). In Goa, various forms of commercial sexual exploitation exist in clubs, massage parlors, flats, hotels, lodges, bars, casinos, etc. (ARZ, 2019). In response to these challenges, NGOs have played a crucial role in addressing the issue of commercial sexual exploitation.

In Goa, numerous NGO's emerged as instrumental actors in addressing this complex and pervasive issue, such as One Stop Sakhi, Scan-Goa, Children Right in Goa, Help Foundation Goa, Goa Human Rights Commission, and the and the Directorate of Women and Child Development, but ARZ plays an active role in addressing the issue of commercial sexual exploitation. This organization focuses on providing comprehensive support. The initiative to empower women against trafficking in Goa represents a collective effort to create a safer, more resilient society. The collaborative efforts of NGO's and their focus on women's empowerment play a pivotal role in preventing and combating human trafficking. As these organizations continue to work tirelessly to create a more just and equitable world, they contribute significantly to breaking the cycle of exploitation and empowering women to lead lives free from trafficking and exploitation.

Arz was set up in 1997 by a group of professionals from the Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai. ARZ initiated its interventions in the red light area of Baina on October 2, 1998 (anyay rahit zindagi, 2016). The organization is registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act (1860), the Bombay Trust Act (1950), and Section 80(G) of the Income Tax Act. It also extends services in the form of liaising to certain districts of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil- Nadu, west Bengal, and Orissa, which have been identified as chief source states, and

neighboring countries of Nepal and Bangladesh as source countries (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). The main objective of ARZ is to stop commercial sexual exploitation of women, to prevent entry by traffickers, to rescue and enable government agencies and sources of states to prevent human trafficking and rehabilitation of victims of commercial sexual exploitation (Ragavan & Kate, 2009).

Arz empowers women through a multifaceted approach that encompasses education, economic opportunities, and community engagement. Through this comprehensive strategy, ARZ strives to uplift women, providing them with the tools and support needed to lead self-determined lives and contribute meaningfully to their communities. Arz also set up many projects, such as Ankur, Prabhat, Wish, Voice, Mukti, Stop Trafficking, Swift Wash, and schemes such as the Victim Compensation Scheme 2012 and the Rehabilitation Scheme for the Victims of Sexual Abuse (Anyay Rahit Zindagi).

Arz has been appointed as the 'nodal NGO' in the integrated anti-human trafficking unit, which was set up by the Goa police for the purpose of providing witnesses, conducting rescue operations along with police, training and counseling rescue persons, assisting in interviews of rescue persons, collaborating with other NGO's, empowering survivors, and ensuring their proper rehabilitation. This has given the organization the authority to work closely with the criminal justice system to combat human trafficking in Goa (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). ARZ has been providing rehabilitation services to the victims of CSE at the government state protective home since 2001 (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). ARZ has been working at the national level and also in Southeast Asia very actively through its web portal in tracing missing persons, service mobilization, rescue of victims, reuniting the found person with the family, linking service

providers, highlighting the issue of human trafficking, and advising the service providers in the government and non-government sectors. (Anyay Rahit Zindagi)

Arz's commendable work has been recognized through awards and acknowledgement. ARZ was awarded the Stree Shakti Purskar (Devi Ahiilya Bai Holkar Award) by his Excellency, the President of India, in a ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi, in March 2015, and also felicitated by the Goa State Commission for Women and the Directorate of Women and Child Development, Government of Goa, on International Women's Day 2007 for its unique initiative Swift Wash (an economic rehabilitation unit). ARZ was awarded the Godfrey Phillips Bravery Award in the social category for the economic rehabilitation initiative for victims of CSE. Anyay Rahit Zindagi recently celebrated its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary, marking a significant milestone in their dedicated work against injustice and exploitation. Over the past 25 years, the organization has worked tirelessly, especially in combating human trafficking. This anniversary is a special moment, showing how dedicated they have been to making a positive impact and bringing positive changes to the lives of those affected by exploitation. It highlights their commitment to building a safer and fairer society, striving to break the chains of injustice and exploitation.

## **1.2 Literature Review:**

**Human trafficking is characterized as a modern form of slavery.**

Sreenath, S. (2020), discusses that human trafficking is a serious human rights violation and heinous crime affecting societies worldwide. Despite measures taken by the government, the trafficking racket is more organized, victimizing millions, especially vulnerable populations. The issue is multifaceted, driven by social, economic, and political factors affecting men, women,

and children. The problem extends beyond the borders, involving neighboring countries, and traditional trafficking locations are shifting to more clandestine areas. In response to the pervasive issue of human trafficking, India has implemented various initiatives and legislative measures focusing on the three P's: prevention, protection, and prosecution. According to the author, there is a need for more monitoring, implementing measures to break the network of traffickers, and strict action against people involved in such crimes. To stop the problems of trafficking, it is necessary to address the poor infrastructure and economic opportunities that create vulnerability in India.

Bhadouriya, A.S., (2019) states that human trafficking is a global issue. It is the trade of human beings for various purposes like forced labor, forced prostitution, sexual slavery, sexual exploitation, and so on. Human trafficking can occur at a national as well as international level. At the international level, its significance has been recognized by the United Nations by implementing various protocols to prevent, suppress, and punish trafficking in persons, especially women and children, which are known as trafficking protocols. In India, human trafficking is a major issue. Trafficking involves the trade and exploitation of men, women, and children. The government of India takes various measures to tackle human trafficking, such as the immoral trafficking prevention act, the bonded labor abolition act, the child labor act, the juvenile act, an anti-trafficking web portal, and an anti-trafficking training program. According to him, there are a complex set of major issues and challenges of human trafficking in India that need to be resolved, such as poverty, globalization, unemployment, commercial demand for sex, gender-biased discrimination, urban policies, and human rights violations. Human trafficking has a harmful effect on civil society. He felt that the issue of human trafficking in India must be



addressed in a comprehensive manner. It requires a multi-faceted strategy to combat the menace of human trafficking.

Sabbarwal, A. (2023) mentions that human trafficking is the third organized crime after the drug and arms trade across the globe. Both men and women were trafficked for forced labor, sexual exploitation, illegal organ trade, etc. Human trafficking violates the rights of the victims. Victims face many problems. For instance, human trafficking can be attributed to a lack of education, political instability, poverty, corruption, a poor legal framework, etc. In India, human trafficking cases have been rising. Despite measures taken by the government, the trafficking racket is more organized. Legislation for combating human trafficking needs further strengthening. Institutions like the Human Rights Commission must also become pro-active, fund research on the issue, and contribute towards formulating effective laws against human trafficking. The rights of women and children guaranteed by the Constitution must be ensured, and every necessary step must be taken to put an end to human trafficking.

Rao and Kumar (2018) argue that trafficking in person is a serious crime and a violation of human rights. Every year, thousands of women and children are trafficked from one place to another. Human trafficking has been identified as the third-largest crime. Women and children are generally trafficked for begging, organ trade, prostitution, etc. Trafficking in person involves three elements: the act, the means, and the purpose. Some of the legislative frameworks on human trafficking include the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act of 1956, the Indian Penal Code, the bonded labor system, child labor, etc. In the fight against trafficking, government organizations, NGOs, civil society, pressure groups, and international bodies all have to play an important role and work in concert.

### **Exploring the impact of women in the shadows of trafficking**

Angelis, M.D. (2016) focuses on lived trafficking experiences and examines and pulls factors related to humans leaving their homes. Employment, poverty, political instability and war, patriarchal oppression, and gender discrimination are the reasons women are involved in human trafficking. These books draw our attention to not only victimization and victimhood but also survival.

ARZ, (2016) in their work, highlights *the* collection of stories depicting the lives of women's in the red light area of Baina, Goa. This book is dedicated to the victims of CSE. This book sheds light on the psychological, social, physical, and financial pressure that the women had to negotiate while in prostitution. This book also narrates that most women continue prostitution not because they wish but due to a lack of alternative livelihood options. The book also records the journey of ARZ and the success story of Swift Wash, which helps many women exit commercial sexual exploitation by joining the alternative livelihood option provided by Swift Wash, a mechanized laundry unit for the economical rehabilitation of women in prostitution. ARZ's efforts were recognized with the 'streeshakti puraskar' award for their outstanding contribution towards providing an economical alternative to victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

### **From Injustice to Empowerment: unraveling Anyay Rahit Zindagi's contributions in their Battle Against Women Trafficking.**

Raghavan and Kate (2009), in their report "Evaluation Report of Anyay Rahit Zindagi, Goa" stated that ARZ is a social work organization working in Goa towards combating human

trafficking and sexual violence. This organization has expanded its scope and range of work to include the prevention, prosecution, protection, and rehabilitation of victims of CSE in the state and even outside. ARZ believes that the victims of commercial sexual exploitation are the most marginalized, exploited, and stigmatized group in society. The victims of CSE need help in combating human trafficking. The young perpetrators who are involved in minor offenses such as extortion from victims, pimping, surviving on the earnings of victims, etc. need to be helped by providing necessary counseling and employment opportunities. This report sheds light on the psychological, social, physical, and financial pressure that the women had to negotiate while in prostitution and records the journey of ARZ, the tale of Swift Wash, a strategy adopted by the organization. According to them, widespread exploitation and abuse of individuals, particularly women and girls, in the context of commercial sexual exploitation persists in a particular location, reflecting the broader issue of human trafficking, gender-based violence, and the urgent need for intervention, protection, and legal address to the problem. The lack of proper initiative by the government to address the issue of human trafficking and the absence of coordination between government agencies is one of the major constraints in addressing the issue of CSE.

Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, 2019 in their report views that Goa has witnessed rapid urbanization in recent times and rural population have moved to the urban areas in each taluka. Goa is one of the fastest-growing economies in India, with mining, tourism, and industries. Tourism, which plays a crucial role in shaping Goa's economy, acts as a major influence in pushing human trafficking activity. Every year, large numbers of women and children are exploitation in Goa from different parts of India and other countries. Victims of sex trafficking are not only of Indian origin but come from around the world. There are different

forms of trafficking, such as labor exploitation, slavery, sexual exploitation, and so on. The victims mostly belong to minority communities. According to KI, from an organization working with survivors of sex trafficking, women are trafficked to Goa on a contract of 15 to 20. The trafficked victims are confined and not allowed to move freely within Goa. According to the report, children in the age group of 8–14 years of age are the most common victims of forced begging. ARZ is a social work NGO that was appointed by the government of Goa to work with the anti-human trafficking unit. ARZ NGO brings various changes to the policies relating to sex trafficking. NGOs also work on the prevention, rescue, and rehabilitation processes. Some of the prominent NGO's also play a crucial role in stopping human trafficking.

ARZ's (2019) report talks about ARZ's involvement in the prevention, protection, and rehabilitation of the victims of commercial sexual exploitation in Goa. These reports highlight how ARZ has been working toward combating human trafficking. An ARZ activity involves the protection, prevention, rehabilitation of victims, and prosecution of traffickers.

ARZ, (2019) in their report "Report of source-destination consultations to combat human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation in Goa" stated that Goa is one of the more prosperous states in India but not free from problems. Goa is a destination state for the trafficking of women and girls for commercial sexual exploitation. In Goa, ARZ has been working toward combating human trafficking. An ARZ activity involves the protection, prevention, rehabilitation of victims, and prosecution of traffickers. ARZ appointed "NODAL NGO" of the anti-human trafficking unit of Goa police. ARZ, in collaboration with the police and the Department of Women and Child Welfare, has been providing economical rehabilitation to victims of CSE. According to the report, there was a great effort to combat human trafficking

in Goa through ‘‘source-destination consultations’’ organized by ARZ. This consultation aimed to facilitate better coordination between the sources and destinations to combat human trafficking. Such consultations are essential for raising awareness, sharing best practices, and building networks to combat human trafficking.

### **1.3 Research Objectives:**

- ❖ To evaluate the measures and impact of Anyay Rahit Zindagi's NGO's against commercial sexual exploitation.
- ❖ To investigate about the awareness of various schemes and policies operated by Arz among the CSE victims.
- ❖ To investigate the strategies, outcomes, challenges, and lessons learned by Arz in its mission to empower women and combat trafficking in Goa.

### **1.4 Research question:**

- ❖ How does human trafficking impact Goa?
- ❖ What are the challenges faced by women who have been trafficked in Goa?
- ❖ How has Anyay Rahit Zindagi evolved over time, and what key factors have influenced its growth, adaptability, and impact in addressing social injustice?
- ❖ What effective support and rehabilitation programs exist for trafficked women in Goa?

### **1.5 Hypotheses:**

The purpose of the purpose of the present research study is to test the following hypothesis:

- ❖ Empowering women in Goa through education, economic opportunities, and community engagement can reduce their vulnerability to trafficking.
- ❖ Collaborative efforts from the government, NGO like Arz, and local communities can counter human trafficking in Goa.

### **1.6 Scope of the study:**

- ❖ Examines the roles and contributions of Arz in anti-human trafficking.
- ❖ To examine whether women in Goa have benefited from Arz and whether they have succeeded in exiting commercial sexual exploitation or finding employment in order to uplift their social and economic status
- ❖ To examine the rehabilitation and support programs available to survivors of CSE in Goa.
- ❖ To identify successful prevention strategies and their impact in Goa.

### **1.7 Research methodology:**

Data for this study is collected from both primary and secondary sources.

- ❖ The primary data is gathered through qualitative methods such as questionnaires and interviews, which provide rich insights into the subject.
- ❖ The study employs quantitative analysis utilizing secondary data from newspapers, books, magazines, journals, reports, and Internet references.

### **1.8 Chapterisation**

#### **Chapter I: Introduction**

This chapter offers a concise overview of human trafficking, with a focus on its impact on victims of commercial sexual exploitation. It introduces the ARZ initiatives, emphasizing their role in empowering women affected by human trafficking, particularly those involved in CSE. This chapter also includes the objective, scope, hypothesis, research method, research problem, and limitation.

## **Chapter II: Harsh Realities of Women Trafficking in Goa**

This chapter provides a comprehensive definition and contextual understanding of women's trafficking in Goa, focusing on the methods used by traffickers, the vulnerabilities of victims, and the overall extent of the problem.

## **Chapter III: Anyay Rahit Zindagi's Battle Against Women Trafficking**

This chapter provides an insight into the origins and foundational principles that led to the establishment of Anyay Rahit Zindagi. It highlights key milestones and achievements in the evolutionary journey of ARZ. It explores the organization's notable structure successes and the positive change it has brought about in the lives of those it aims to empower.

## **Chapter IV: Arz Commitment to Women's Empowerment**

This chapter explains how the ARZ initiative plays a critical role in providing support and empowerment to individuals who have experienced exploitation in the sex trade. The focus is on understanding the specialized efforts geared towards rehabilitation, reintegration, and providing comprehensive support to those affected by exploitation in the sex trade.

## **Chapter VI: Conclusion**

This chapter summarizes the main findings of the study on women's empowerment and anti-trafficking efforts in Goa, focusing on the valuable contributions of Anyay Rahit Zindagi. It provides a conclusion on the organization's impact and offers practical solutions, including best practices, collaboration strategies, and policy recommendations to effectively combat human trafficking and promote women's empowerment in the region.



## **CHAPTER II**

### **Harsh Realities of Women Trafficking in Goa**

Human trafficking is a heinous crime and a modern form of slavery, ranking as the third-largest organized crime against humanity. (Sabbarwal, 2023) It's a rapidly growing criminal industry worldwide and a significant non-traditional security threat. (Mishra & Sharma, 2022) A transactional crime is a severe violation of human rights and a threat to an individual's fundamental rights. (Bhadouriya, 2019) It involves the exploitation and coercion of individuals, often using fraud, force, or manipulation for purposes such as sexual exploitation, smuggling, begging, domestic servitude, forced labor, and other forms of abuse. Victims of human trafficking can be people of any age group, any gender, and from anywhere in the world. However, trafficking among women has emerged as an important social issue in recent times. It is a serious issue, not just in Goa but all over the world.

The United Nations Palermo Protocol defines trafficking in persons as “the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring, or receipt of persons by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation”. (Prakash, 2019)

Article 3 of the Protocol defines trafficking as: "Trafficking in persons" shall mean the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of the threat or use of force or another forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of

power or a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation, exploitation shall include, at a minimum, the exploitation of the prostitution of others or other forms of sexual exploitation, forced labor or services, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude or removal of organs. (Prakash, 2019)

Sociologist Kevin Bales explains human trafficking as follows: Modern-day slavery is the second-largest and fastest-growing illicit activity in the world. Women and girls are disproportionately affected by trafficking, as criminal syndicates exploit women and girls in marginalized socioeconomic conditions, coercing women and girls into sexual slavery or forced labor. When women and girls are trafficked for the purpose of sexual slavery and prostitution, it is called sex trafficking (Prakash, 2019).

Feminist theory is like taking the ideas of feminism—the belief in equality between men and women. It explores how men and women are treated differently in various areas like society, media, politics, and more. The main goal is to understand and talk about why these differences exist and how they can be changed. Feminist theory covers a lot of topics, like how women are sometimes seen as objects or face discrimination, and it tries to challenge these ideas to make the world more equal for everyone. Feminist theories examining human trafficking encompass two primary perspectives. One perspective, championed by groups such as the Coalition against Trafficking in Women (CATW), underscores the role of coercion and sexual dominance. (Bagchi & Sinha, 2016) This perspective, influenced by figures like Kathleen Barry, links both human trafficking and prostitution, emphasizing power imbalances and sexual oppression as key motivators. It contends that addressing gender discrimination and challenging prevailing power

dynamics is crucial to combating human trafficking, particularly in societies where women experience significant subjugation. (Barry, 1984) Conversely, another feminist perspective, exemplified by the Global Alliance against Trafficking in Women (GAATW), approaches prostitution as a legitimate form of labor and migration. Inspired by the second wave of feminism, this viewpoint recognizes the agency of individuals engaged in sex work, framing it as a choice and sometimes a means of escaping poverty. (Hughes, 2000) (Bagchi & Sinha, 2016) By validating sex work, this perspective advocates for the rights of sex workers and aims to move their profession forward. Both feminist viewpoints contribute valuable insights into understanding and addressing the multifaceted challenges posed by human trafficking. (Bagchi & Sinha, 2016)

According to conflict theory shaped by figures like Karl Marx, in society, individuals in positions of power maintain control by fueling conflicts over resources and wealth. This viewpoint suggests that the wealthy sustain their dominance by fostering disputes among different oppressed groups, convincing them that supporting one group's advancement could detrimentally impact another. (Meshelemish & Lynch, 2019) According to this theory, social order is established by imposing rules on less powerful groups. Social workers utilize this perspective to address and combat unfair practices, including the oppression faced by immigrants and women. (Meshelemish & Lynch, 2019) In the realm of human trafficking and human rights, conflict theory sheds light on how power imbalances and inequalities give rise to violations such as sex trafficking or child soldiering, underscoring the impact of social injustice and oppression in perpetuating these problems. (Meshelemish & Lynch, 2019)

## **2.1 Women trafficking in India**

In India, women's trafficking is considered a major challenge. Women are identified as one of the most vulnerable groups susceptible to human trafficking, experiencing abduction, sale and coercion for sexual or commercial exploitation across the globe. This crime is devastating for individuals and highlights one of the worst aspects of the modern world. This crime has expanded in such a way that almost every state in India is affected by this social and criminal menace. The United States placed India on the tier-2 watch list for human trafficking for the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year by the UN as India has failed to combat human trafficking. According to its report, India is recognized as a source, destination, and transit country for men, women, and children trafficked for forced labor, forced prostitution, begging, adoption, drug smuggling, organ transplants, and commercial sexual exploitation. (Pandey & Pandey, 2011) According to some estimates, the estimated annual turnover of human trafficking in India is around 20 billion rupees. Out of the total number of persons affected by human trafficking, 80% are women and 50% are children. (Pandey & Pandey, 2011) Despite many years of independence in India, the benefits of economic development have not reached marginalized sections, leaving millions below the poverty line. This economic vulnerability, coupled with social and religious practices, makes children and women from impoverished backgrounds highly susceptible to human trafficking. (Pandey & Pandey, 2011)

Historically, trafficking was associated with immoral activities like prostitution, but it has evolved to include various forms such as forced labor, slavery and organ removal. (Najar, 2014) Today, one prevalent motive for trafficking women is to sustain the prostitution trade. Traffickers lure vulnerable women with promises of better opportunities, only to subject them to rape and abuse before coercing them into brothels or prostitution networks. This situation often

leaves women trapped in a cycle of exploitation, with limited access to healthcare and increased risks of disease. (Iyer & Radha, 2016) Women's trafficking is fueled by the migration of men to commercial cities for work, creating a demand for commercial sex (Barua, 2018), and sadly, women and girls from poor families are often the most affected, with some parents resorting to selling their daughters to alleviate financial burdens.

Woman trafficking in India encompasses a wide range of scenarios involving victims from neighboring countries like Nepal and Bangladesh who are trafficked for sexual exploitation, while Nepali children are sometimes forced into labor. (Jalan, 2018) Indian women migrants seeking employment in regions like the Middle East and Europe can fall prey to trafficking due to deceptive recruitment practices leading to debt bondage and forced labor. Factors such as poverty, lack of support services, societal stigma, and limited options often trap women in prostitution, perpetuating the cycle of exploitation. (Jalan, 2018) Moreover, certain areas in India, including pilgrimage sites and tourist cities, are vulnerable to sex tourism, further exacerbating the problem. Additionally, women and girls from neighboring countries like Uzbekistan, Ukraine, and Russia are subjected to sex trafficking within India. (San20) Females from northeastern states and Odisha are increasingly forced into servile marriages, particularly in regions with low female-to-male child sex ratios like Haryana and Punjab. (San20) Furthermore, there are instances of girls being exploited through temporary marriages in the Middle East, while sex trafficking operations are evolving, extending into discreet rural areas. Certain districts in states like Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Tamil Nadu are identified as "high supply zones" for women in prostitution, with organized trafficking networks facilitating migration to major cities. (San20)

A study published by the Coalition against Women Trafficking highlighted that there were 2.3 million women in over 1000 red-light areas all over India. Another study revealed a disturbing trend: an increasing number of children are forced into prostitution. (Sharma, N.d) In India, some of the largest red-light areas, such as Sonagachi in Kolkata, G.B. Road in New Delhi, and Kamathipura in Mumbai, highlight the prevalence of prostitution. Sonagachi in Kolkata stands as the second-largest red-light area in Asia. (Sharma S. , N.d) Although the exchange of money for sexual services is legalized in India, certain activities like public solicitation, pimping, kerb crawling, brothel ownership or management, and pandering are considered crimes. The initial law governing prostitution, THE IMMORAL TRAFFIC SUPPRESSION ACT 1956 (SITA), allowed private trading by prostitutes but prohibited public solicitation within 200 yards of a public area, along with managing brothels or pimping. This law was later replaced by THE IMMORAL TRAFFIC PREVENTION ACT 1986 (PITA), aimed at gradually criminalizing aspects of sex work to limit and eventually abolish prostitution. (Sharma, N.d) However, discussions on legalizing prostitution as a profession continue to spark heated debates in Indian society.

In 2016, more than 8,000 cases of human trafficking had been lodged. While 23000, out of which 182 are foreigners, were rescued during the year, as per the National Crime Record Bureau in India, (Barua, 2018) In the previous year, out of 8132 cases reported across the country, there were 1255 more in 2015. Out of 15379 victims, 58% of them are below 18 years of age, according to the NCRB statistics report in 2016. (Barua, 2018) Out of 29 states, West Bengal ranked first in human trafficking in 2016. 3579 cases have been reported, which is 18.5% more than in 2015. (Barua, 2018) Assam ranked second; in 2016, 1.12% of cases of human

trafficking had been reported. Followed by Rajasthan with 1422 cases, Rajasthan with 548 cases, Maharashtra with 517 cases, and Tamil Nadu with 434 cases. Delhi ranked 14<sup>th</sup> in human trafficking. A total of 23117 victims of human trafficking were rescued in 2016. (Barua, 2018) In 2019, the government reported 2,088 trafficking cases under the IPC, compared with 1830 trafficking cases in 2018 and 2854 trafficking cases reported in 2017. (National Crime Records Bureau, 2020) In 2020, the government reported investigating 1714 trafficking cases under the IPC, but only 10.6 percent of the total cases saw convictions. (National Crime Bureau Records, 2022)

In 2021, the government reported an investigation of 2189 trafficking cases under the IPC, compared with 1714 trafficking cases in 2020. (National Crime Bureau Records, 2023) In 2021, the government completed prosecution in 201 trafficking cases, convicted 64 traffickers in 32 cases, and acquitted 520 suspects in 169 cases. (National Crime Bureau Records, 2023) The acquittal rate for trafficking cases was 84%. This is compared with the government completing prosecution in 463 cases, convicting 101 traffickers in 49 cases, and acquitting 715 suspects in 414 cases in 2020, with 89% of cases resulting in acquittal. (National Crime Bureau Records, 2023) Across India, 2,112 cases of human trafficking were registered in 2022, most of them in four states. Telangana 391, Maharashtra 295–793, rescued from the clutches of traffickers, Bihar 260, and Andhra Pradesh 163. (Samondra Sharma, 2023) After Telangana, Maharashtra registered the maximum number of human trafficking cases in 2022. The NCRB reveals that 793 females and males were rescued from prostitution, labor, and forced marriage. (Samondra Sharma, 2023) A deeper analysis revealed that 6693 trafficked people were rescued across the

country: 1816 from Odisha, 805 from Maharashtra, 751 from Bihar, 704 from Telangana, and 461 from Rajasthan. (Samondra Sharma, 2023)

Empowering women is vital in the battle against women's trafficking because it tackles the reasons why women are vulnerable and gives them the strength to fight back. When women are empowered, they have access to education, jobs, and the ability to make their own choices. This reduces the chances of them being tricked or forced into trafficking. Empowered women also know their rights and can stand up to traffickers, making them less likely to become victims. Additionally, empowered women can speak out about trafficking and help prevent it in their communities. Overall, empowering women is key to creating a safer world where they are less likely to be exploited.

The Indian government has taken proactive measures to combat women's trafficking, employing a multifaceted approach. Enactment of anti-trafficking laws like the Immoral Trafficking Prevention Act, the Bonded Labor Abolition Act, the Child Labor Act, the Goa Children Act, protection of children from sexual offenses, the Criminal Law Act, the Indian Penal Code, the Juvenile Justice Act, etc. (TISS, 2019) The central bureau of investigation in the country introduced an anti-trafficking training program. Article 23 of the Constitution of India is a fundamental right that prohibits trafficking in human beings, of forced labor, and articles 39(e) and 39(f), which are directive principles of state policy direct at ensuring that health and strength of individuals are not abused and that no one is forced by economic necessity to do work unsuited to their age or strength and also states that childhood and youth should be protected against exploitation. (Rao & Kumar, 2018)



The Government of India, in partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, launched a two-year project to train law enforcement officers in Maharashtra, Goa, West Bengal, and Andhra Pradesh to combat human trafficking. (Rao & Kumar, 2018). Regular coordination meetings are held with Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTUS) to prioritize efforts and facilitate inter-state cooperation. A mandatory certificate course on anti-human trafficking is offered by Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) in partnership with the Ministry of Home Affairs. (Rao & Kumar, 2018) An Anti-Trafficking Cell has been established by the Ministry of Home Affairs to deal with trafficking-related matters. Financial assistance is provided for state-level conferences, judicial colloquia, and setting up AHTUs. Advisories and standard operating procedures (SOP) are issued to states to improve their effectiveness in tackling human trafficking. (Rao & Kumar, 2018) A web portal on anti-human trafficking facilitates information sharing among stakeholders.

The Indian government has also implemented various preventive measures to address the root causes of trafficking and reduce women's vulnerability. This includes providing education and skill development opportunities for women and girls, promoting gender equality, and improving economic empowerment through schemes like the National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) and the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) campaign. Moreover, the government has strengthened its international cooperation efforts by signing agreements and collaborating with other countries and organizations to combat cross-border trafficking networks effectively. The Indian government has prioritized victim support services by establishing shelters, counseling centers, and rehabilitation programs for trafficking survivors. It has also launched initiatives such as the

Ujawala Scheme, the Integrated Child Protection Scheme and one-stop centers (OSCs) to provide comprehensive support and assistance to victims of trafficking.

The Ministry of Women and Child Development serves as the nodal agency to combat human trafficking in India, and the National Human Rights Commission has been established to address the issue, particularly focusing on women and children. The government of India also conducts awareness campaigns in schools, colleges, universities, and public places to educate the public about the dangers of trafficking and how to recognize and report it. Victim support services, including shelters, counseling, and rehabilitation programs, are provided to survivors to help them rebuild their lives. The Government of India collaborates with various NGOs across different parts of the country to combat human trafficking effectively. These collaborations often involve joint efforts in raising awareness, providing victim support services, implementing rehabilitation programs, and coordinating rescue operations. NGOs play a crucial role in complementing the government's efforts by offering specialized services, leveraging community networks, and providing on-the-ground support to trafficking survivors. By partnering with NGOs, the government can extend its reach, utilize local expertise, and ensure a more holistic approach to addressing trafficking issues in diverse regions of the country, but despite the measures taken by the government, the NGO's trafficking racket is more organized.

## **2.2 Women trafficking issue in Goa**

Goa is a beautiful state in India with its rich flora and fauna. Goa's vibrant nightlife and scenic beauty make it a favorite tourist destination, attracting millions of visitors from around the world. Tourists visit Goa every year, which is beneficial to the economy of the state and the source of

livelihood for many Goans, but another ugly truth is that it has also led to one of the most shameful crimes, which is women trafficking. They mostly come to Goa for pleasure and fun, and as a result, there is a demand for women and girls for sexual exploitation. (Ragavan & Pawar, 2009) This led to the trafficking of women and girls in Goa from different parts of India and even other countries such as Nepal, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Bengal, Odisha, Uzbekistan, Thailand, Russia, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkmenistan. (ARZ, 2019) The crime not only affects those brought into Goa but also local women and girls who become victims of commercial sexual exploitation. Women's trafficking has ruined the lives of many people.

In the 1980s, Baina Beach in Vasco became notorious as a red-light district where prostitution was widespread. Women from nearby slums and states like Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh were trafficked there for sex work. (Ragavan & Pawar, 2009) The situation at Baina Beach was troubling, with many traffickers, pimps, and brothel keepers operating, leading to a high level of sexual activity. Police raids often turned violent, and residents faced abuse. There was a strong network involving traffickers, police, local gangs, and politicians. (Ragavan & Pawar, 2009) Women in Baina endured severe abuse from traffickers and customers, leading to feelings of hopelessness and health risks. The prevalence of prostitution in Baina has profoundly impacted the local society. The community experiences increased crime rates and social instability. (Ragavan & Pawar, 2009) To address these issues, the Goa government decided to demolish the red-light area in Baina to stop illegal activities and improve safety for everyone. In October 2003, the Goa High Court ordered actions to control trafficking and help victims in the Baina red light district. But since December 2003, state actions have caused fear among residents, going against the court's intentions. (ARZ, N.d.) The rehabilitation program fell short, and on June 14,

2004, the government demolished half of the district, leaving 3,000 people homeless and violating human rights. (ARZ, Nd) Kids were scared because of how the police treated them. The state government did not provide any economic rehabilitation to the women in prostitution, and no action was taken against the pimps and brothelkeepers. (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2016) As a result, this allowed the brothelkeeper and pimps to take the girls with them and start the business in another location in Goa. It spread all over Goa. (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2016) Commercial sexual activities in Goa have evolved, expanding from hotels, bars, resorts, farms, and massage parlors to residential areas. (ARZ, 2019) This transformation reflects a notable change in the patterns and locations where such activities take place, potentially impacting the dynamics of the local context and law enforcement strategies in addressing these issues. It has also been found that there has been an increase in the usage of internet platforms by traffickers for commercial sexual activities in Goa. Due to the increase in online CSE, the traffickers have become fearless. (ARZ, 2019)

Goa is not the initial location where women and girls are forced into commercial sexual activities. Girls and women from Uzbekistan are initially trafficked to Delhi, then Maharashtra, and later to Goa. (ARZ, 2019) Whether in India or foreign countries, women involved in commercial sexual activities are usually induced to be controlled outside of Goa, often when they feel they have no alternative or are under the trafficker's control. During the period from 2014 to 2019, the police in Goa rescued 400 girls and women from CSE, with 84% being Indian nationals and the remaining 16% from foreign nations. Among Indian nationals, 30.7% hail from Maharashtra, 22.1% from West Bengal, and 10.4% from Delhi. Among the foreign nationals, the majority (42%) were from Bangladesh. (ARZ, 2019). According to the 2021 National Crime

Records Bureau report, Goa recorded 15 cases of women trafficking with 38 victims. (Souza, 2022) They were all adult women and Indian nationals. Goa has the highest rate of women trafficking cases per lakh population, the NCRB for 2021 revealed. (Souza, 2022) 35 of the 38 women victims were rescued, and the police found that 29 were trafficked for sexual activities while six were trafficked for domestic servitude. (Souza, 2022) The NCRB report shows 10 human trafficking cases. Registered in 2022. In 2023, Goa police, with the help of NGO, busted an international sex racket in the beach of Anjuna and arrested two people from Kenya while rescuing five women aged between 19 and 27 who are also from Kenya. (Shetya, 2023) Recently, the enforcement directorate arrested the person in connection with his alleged participation in a women's trafficking operation in Goa based on a complaint filed by two Nigerian individuals. These individuals are accused of attracting girls from Africa to Goa with the promise of jobs in the hospitality industry. But when girls arrived, they allegedly coerced them into engaging in prostitution against their will. (Sharma A., 2023)

To combat human trafficking The Goa government has established an integrated anti-human trafficking unit. (IAHTU) (ARZ, 2019) This specialized unit works closely with NGOS and government departments to provide support and protection to trafficking victims while cracking down on perpetrators. Through its efforts, the IAHTU aims to ensure the safety and well-being of vulnerable individuals, particularly women and children, and sends a strong message that human trafficking will not be tolerated in Goa. The Goa government has also introduced a unique initiative called the Pink Police Force, specifically aimed at ensuring the safety and well-being of tourists, women, and children in the region. This specialized force is dedicated to addressing the specific needs and concerns of these vulnerable groups, providing them with assistance and

support whenever necessary. The Pink Police Force works tirelessly to create a secure environment for tourists, women, and children, contributing to a safer and more welcoming experience for all visitors to Goa.

Various NGO's working with the department of women and children in Goa have been providing assistance to the police during rescue and volunteering as witnesses. (ARZ, 2019). NGO's also collaborated with the government to provide a range of services to help victims rebuild their lives. This includes counseling to address the trauma of trafficking, employment, training programs for new skills, and educational support. If victims need to return to their hometowns or countries, the government covers the expenses. The Goa government also provides compensation to victims of human trafficking under the "Goa Victim Compensation Scheme 2012. The government has formulated the "Prabhat" scheme for the rehabilitation of victims, offering shelter, education, vocational training, employment, and mentorship. (ARZ, 2019) In 2003, the government formulated the Goa Children's Act. This Act aims to prevent child trafficking, sexual abuse, and exploitation and includes provisions for victim-friendly trials and assistance units. (ARZ, 2019) Under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956, the Goa government operates protective homes and children's homes called "Apna Ghar" for rescued victims. Additionally, registered shelter homes under the Juvenile Justice Act provide short- and long-term shelter. (ARZ, 2019) In addition to all this, Goa has laws in place to protect women and children from trafficking and sexual abuse.

The government and NGOs are also taking proactive steps to raise awareness among the public about the dangers of human trafficking through extensive awareness campaigns. They organize events or campaigns in colleges, universities, libraries, and communities to inform people about

the tactics used by traffickers, the signs of trafficking, and the resources available for victims. By educating the public, the government and NGO's hope is to empower individuals to recognize and report instances of trafficking. By publishing articles in newspapers and books and using media platforms to share success stories, we advocate for support and inspire action against human trafficking. The government and NGOs aim to create a society free from exploitation and injustice. Additionally, they have organized rallies and street plays in Goa, further amplifying their efforts to raise awareness and mobilize community action against human trafficking. These efforts not only raise awareness about the issue but also emphasize the significance of collective action in combating trafficking. By utilizing diverse channels to spread information and involve the public, they seek to mobilize individuals and communities to actively participate in the fight against human trafficking, ultimately striving for a safer and fairer society for everyone.

Furthermore, the government is fostering partnerships with international organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to enhance anti-trafficking efforts globally. These collaborations involve sharing resources, expertise, and best practices to improve victim support services, strengthen law enforcement measures, and implement comprehensive prevention strategies. Through these collective efforts, the government aims to combat human trafficking more effectively and safeguard vulnerable individuals from exploitation.

## **2.3 Various Forms of Women Trafficking**

### **❖ Sex trafficking**

Sex trafficking is a harrowing form of exploitation, primarily targeting women, where force, deception, or coercion is used to compel individuals into engaging in commercial sex acts,

whether they are adults or minors. These acts include prostitution, pornography, or sexual performances exchanged for items of value like money, drugs, shelter, or food. Sadly, sex trafficking thrives due to a significant demand, and victims often endure a vicious cycle of abuse involving physical violence, threats, and psychological manipulation. Despite its prevalence, sex trafficking is often underreported as victims fear retaliation or further harm from traffickers. Nevertheless, concerted efforts are underway to raise community awareness, combat exploitation, and implement legal measures to address this grave issue. Regions like West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, and Orissa continue to be significant source areas in India for trafficking victims into red-light areas across the country. (Bhadouriya, 2019)

#### ❖ **Labor trafficking**

Labor trafficking is the exploitation of individuals for financial gain, achieved through force, fraud, or coercion to compel them into providing labor or services against their will. Victims of labor trafficking are stripped of their freedom to make basic life decisions, including where and when to work or where to live. The Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000 identified labor trafficking as a federal crime, defining it as the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through force, fraud, or coercion, with the intent of subjecting them to involuntary servitude, debt bondage, or slavery. Ensuring fair and safe working conditions for all is imperative, and addressing the underlying causes of labor trafficking is crucial for fostering a society where exploitation is not tolerated. (Bhadouriya, 2019)

#### ❖ **Child trafficking**



Child trafficking is a pressing and pervasive issue that requires immediate action to prevent further harm. It violates the fundamental rights of children and involves their transportation, recruitment, and exploitation for various purposes, including sexual, forced labor, and illegal adoption. Despite ongoing efforts, child trafficking remains a significant challenge in our country, with traffickers preying on the vulnerabilities of children for financial gain or other motives. This exploitation often results in children being forced into hazardous working conditions, denying them access to education, and endangering their physical and mental well-being. Additionally, child sex trafficking exposes innocent children to unspeakable harm and abuse. To effectively combat child trafficking, it's crucial to address its underlying causes and implement comprehensive measures to protect children from exploitation and ensure their safety and well-being (Bhadouriya, 2019).

#### ❖ **Organ trafficking**

Trade in organs is a kind of human trafficking, and it can take place in various forms. There are some cases in which the victims are forced to give up their organs, while in other cases, the victims agree to sell off their organs in exchange for money or goods, but they are not paid at all or paid very little by the trafficker. Organ trafficking is a terrible crime where people are forced or tricked into giving away their organs, like kidneys or livers, which are then sold illegally for transplant surgeries. This often happens to vulnerable individuals facing tough economic situations or being pressured. Organs are forcefully taken from these donors, putting their health at risk and violating their basic human rights. (Jalan, 2018)

The demand for organs in this illegal trade fuels the problem, with those in need of transplants paying large amounts of money to get a quick organ. The lack of proper, legal organ donation systems in some places makes the situation worse, pushing people into the hands of traffickers. This kind of trafficking not only harms the health of the donors but also continues a cycle of exploitation driven by the desire for profit.

### ❖ **Forced marriage trafficking**

Forced marriage trafficking is a distressing form of exploitation where individuals are coerced into marriage against their wishes. Victims may endure manipulation, threats, or physical coercion, compelling them to marry without their consent. This can happen for different reasons, like controlling individuals and using them for financial gain. Those who fall victim to forced marriage trafficking face many difficulties; they might be taken to unfamiliar places and have to deal with tough conditions. Emotionally, it's a tough situation for them because they didn't choose this life; it's forced upon them. (Jalan, 2018) (Bhadouriya, 2019)

### ❖ **Domestic servitude**

Domestic servitude is a form of trafficking in women that is extremely difficult to detect. It involves exploiting people who are made to work as household servants in harsh conditions. It is a type of forced labor whereby the victim is usually expected to work around a person's home every day. Victims are forced into providing domestic services like cleaning, cooking, or taking care of children, sometimes without proper payment. This kind of exploitation happens inside private homes, making it difficult for victims to reach out for assistance or break free from their situation. (Jalan, 2018)

People who do this kind of trafficking target those who are already struggling, taking advantage of their tough situations or lack of legal support. Once they are trapped in this exploitative situation, victims endure not only physical work but also emotional and psychological abuse. It's a really unfair and harmful cycle that takes away basic human rights from these individuals.

#### ❖ **Forced begging**

Forced begging trafficking is a cruel practice where individuals, especially women, are made to beg on the streets against their will. Traffickers take advantage of vulnerable individuals, like those who are already struggling financially. Vulnerable women become targets for traffickers who employ different tricks or threats to force them into begging for money. These victims come from marginalized communities and face severe economic hardships, heightening their susceptibility to these exploitative methods.

## **2.4 Methods employed by traffickers**

#### ❖ **Tricking with fake opportunities (deceptive opportunities)**

Deceptive opportunity is a cruel strategy often used in human trafficking. It involves tricking people by offering them fake chances for a better life. Human traffickers use lies and manipulation to convince victims that accepting these opportunities will lead to positive changes in their lives. However, once women fall for these false promises and agree to the opportunities, they find themselves in situations where they are forced to work against their will or endure various forms of abuse. This method exploits the hopes and dreams of vulnerable individuals,

leading them into harmful situations rather than the improved lives they were promised. (Bhansali, 2022)

For example, imagine a woman getting excited about a job offer overseas, thinking it's her ticket to a better life. However, when she accepts it, she realizes it was all a trick, and she ends up in a terrible situation where she has to work really hard against her will or even face abuse.

#### ❖ **Abduction and coercion (forces and threats)**

Traffickers employ abduction and coercion as methods to trap women in human trafficking situations. Abduction refers to forcefully taking individuals against their will, physically seizing them, and removing their freedom. On the other hand, coercion involves using threats to manipulate people into doing things they wouldn't choose willingly. In the context of women's trafficking, traffickers may resort to physically tackling women or using intimidation and threats to establish control over them. These tactics strip victims of their autonomy, subjecting them to situations they did not choose, and creating an environment of fear and submission. (Jalan, 2018)

For example, a woman may be forcibly kidnapped and transported to a hidden location by traffickers. These perpetrators then employ threatening tactics, warning the woman that harm will come to her or her family if she refuses to comply with their demands. They use force and intimidation methods to control her and coerce her into working or engaging in activities against her will. The traffickers create a climate of fear, leaving the victim with little choice but to submit to their demands.

#### ❖ **Online recruitment (using the internet for trafficking)**

Traffickers exploit the internet and social media as tools to deceive and trap women. They may pose as job providers, creating false promises of good opportunities to lure individuals, especially women. Through online platforms, traffickers establish contact with potential victims and use manipulation to coerce them into situations where they are forced to work or face exploitation. This method highlights the dark side of technology, as traffickers leverage online spaces to prey on the aspirations of vulnerable individuals, ultimately subjecting them to situations they never intended or desired. (ARZ, 2019)

For example, consider a scenario where a woman dreams of a modeling career and encounters someone online through social media who promises her a golden opportunity. Fueled by hope and aspirations, she agrees and makes the decision to travel to a new place in pursuit of her dream. However, upon arriving, she discovers the harsh reality: the promised modeling career was nothing but a lie. Instead of the envisioned path, she finds herself forced into a terrible situation, coerced into activities such as prostitution.

#### ❖ **Trafficking network and local facilitators**

Human trafficking is when traffickers work together with local businesses to exploit women. They team up with places like hotels, brothels, farms, beauty parlors, resorts, restaurants, bars, and transportation hubs. By doing this, they create a complicated network that hides their illegal activities, making it hard for the police to catch them. These collaborations act as a cover, letting traffickers do their harmful work while seeming like regular business. (ARZ, 2019)

#### ❖ **Culture manipulation**

Culture manipulation in women's trafficking is when traffickers use the beliefs and traditions of a community to trick and control victims, especially women. They take advantage of cultural values and expectations, distorting them to deceive women. (Bhadouriya, 2019)

For example, in certain communities, arranged marriages are cultural norms. Traffickers could manipulate this practice by promising women opportunities for a better life through seemingly legitimate marriage arrangements. However, once the women agree, they might find themselves in a situation of forced labor and sexual exploitation. (Bhadouriya, 2019)

#### ❖ **Debt bondage**

The traffickers manipulate the victims by creating a situation where they become indebted. This cycle of debt makes it hard for the women to break free from forced labor or exploitation. Essentially, the traffickers use false promises to put the women in a never-ending loop of owing money, making it a challenging and coercive tactic to keep them under control and exploit them for their own gain. (Ghosh, 2009)

For example, traffickers trick women with financial troubles by offering a loan. Once she accepts, the terms are manipulated, and the debt becomes impossible to repay. To clear the debt, the woman is forced into an exploitation situation.

#### ❖ **Fake relationship exploitation**

Fake relationship exploitation is a tactic used by traffickers where they pretend to be in a romantic relationship with a vulnerable woman to gain her trust. Over time, as the woman becomes emotionally attached, the traffickers reveal their true intentions and may use threats or

force to coerce her into exploitative situations. This manipulation preys on the victim's emotions and attachment, making it more challenging for her to resist or escape from the traffickers' control. (Bhansali, 2022)

## **2.5 Root Causes of Women's Vulnerability to Trafficking**

### **❖ Poverty and unemployment**

Poverty plays a significant role in driving women into trafficking. When people are in poverty, their lives are tough; they struggle to meet basic needs and don't have many chances to make things better. Living in poverty puts people in a tough spot where they really want things to get better. Traffickers use this tough situation to their advantage. They trick women by making fake promises of a better life or good jobs. Because of the tough circumstances, women in poverty might believe these promises and end up in bad situations. (Bhadouriya, 2019) To truly tackle the problem, it's not just about stopping the bad things that happen due to trafficking; we also need to find ways to reduce poverty and give people better chances in life. This helps break the cycle, making it tougher for traffickers to exploit those who are already struggling. So, by focusing on creating better opportunities and fighting against poverty, we can make it harder for traffickers to trap and harm others.

### **❖ Lack of education (lack of awareness)**

The absence of access to quality education puts women at a disadvantage as it restricts their ability to acquire essential skills for securing stable employment. (Bhadouriya, 2019) Without proper education, women may not be aware of the risks associated with trafficking, making them

more vulnerable targets for exploitation. Traffickers often take advantage of this lack of knowledge, deceiving women with false promises of better opportunities such as well-paying jobs or improved lives. This vulnerability makes it easier for traffickers to trap women in situations of forced labor and sexual exploitation. The limited knowledge and skills resulting from a lack of education contribute to the cycle of vulnerability, as women find themselves in circumstances where they are coerced into labor against their will or subjected to various forms of abuse. To combat human trafficking effectively, it is crucial not only to address the immediate consequences but also to focus on providing access to quality education for women. By empowering them with knowledge and skills, we can reduce their vulnerability and disrupt the patterns that traffickers exploit. Education becomes a key tool in preventing trafficking and safeguarding women from falling victim to exploitation.

#### ❖ **Caste-based discrimination**

Caste-based discrimination can be a contributing factor to women's trafficking in some regions. (Sinha, 2019) In certain societies, certain groups face discrimination, making women from these groups more vulnerable to trafficking. Social and economic marginalization limits their access to education, jobs, and support, making them easy targets for exploitation. Traffickers often prey on those who are economically disadvantaged and lack resources or support to resist exploitation. This creates a higher risk of women from marginalized castes being trafficked due to their disadvantaged socio-economic status. Addressing this issue involves tackling caste-based discrimination, promoting social equality, and providing support and opportunities for vulnerable individuals.



### ❖ **Gender inequality**

Gender inequality significantly contributes to the prevalence of women's trafficking, creating conditions where women are particularly vulnerable to exploitation. (Sinha, 2019) In societies marked by strict gender norms, where women face limitations in terms of employment opportunities, educational access, and decision-making power, their overall vulnerability increases. Discriminatory practices that restrict women's rights and opportunities make them easy targets for traffickers who exploit these societal inequalities. In many cases, economic hardship further exacerbates the vulnerability of women in the face of trafficking. Limited economic options due to unequal opportunities and societal norms that confine women to specific roles increase their susceptibility to exploitation. Traffickers take advantage of these circumstances, exploiting the lack of agency and economic independence and using deceptive promises of better opportunities to trap women in situations of forced labor and sexual exploitation. Addressing gender inequality is pivotal in the fight against women's trafficking. Efforts should focus on dismantling discriminatory norms, promoting equal access to education and employment, and empowering women economically. By challenging societal gender disparities, we can create an environment where women are less susceptible to exploitation, thus disrupting the cycle of vulnerability that traffickers exploit.

### ❖ **Lack of social support and legal support**

Insufficient support from communities or governments places women at a higher risk of falling prey to trafficking. (ARZ, 2019) Social support, which includes financial aid, emotional backing, and community assistance, acts as a crucial shield against trafficking. When women lack these

supportive networks, they may feel isolated and desperate, making them more susceptible to accepting seemingly promising offers that, in reality, lead to exploitation. Traffickers exploit this vulnerability by presenting false assurances of better jobs and opportunities, capitalizing on the absence of protective social networks. The absence of strong community or governmental support leaves individuals feeling disconnected and without resources, amplifying their vulnerability to traffickers. Social isolation makes it easier for traffickers to manipulate and deceive, as victims may lack the guidance and protection that supportive communities provide. This emphasizes the importance of building robust support systems within communities and governments to create a protective environment that reduces the risk of individuals falling victim to trafficking.

Efforts to combat trafficking must not only focus on rescuing and assisting victims but also on strengthening social support networks. By fostering communities that offer financial, emotional, and communal backing, we can create a resilient defense against traffickers who seek to exploit individuals facing isolation and desperation.

### ❖ **Economic disruptions**

When tough times hit because of things like financial problems, conflicts, or natural disasters, it makes life harder for everyone in the community. People struggle to find good opportunities, and this makes them more likely to be taken advantage of by traffickers. Traffickers promise things like better jobs or more money, but it's all lies. When people are desperate and don't have many options, they're more likely to believe these lies. During economic crises, people might be dealing with things like not having a job, being really poor, and not knowing what's going to

happen next. Traffickers use this vulnerability to trick people into thinking they're helping, but they're actually just exploiting them. The promise of something better seems like a way out for people who are struggling, but it just traps them in a cycle of exploitation. (Ghosh, 2009)

### ❖ Debt bondage

Debt bondage is when people are forced to work to pay off a debt, and it's a big reason why women get trapped in human trafficking. Traffickers take advantage of people who need money by making them work in terrible conditions to pay off their debts. This kind of modern slavery includes forced work, sexual abuse, and other mistreatment, making it really hard for victims, especially women, to get away. To stop this, we need to spread awareness about how traffickers operate and help those in debt get support to break free. By doing this, we can put an end to this cruel cycle and give victims a chance to escape.

### ❖ Migration

When people move to new places looking for better opportunities, like jobs or a nicer life, it can put women at risk of being tricked by traffickers. The unfamiliar surroundings, complicated laws, and specific dangers women face during this journey make them more likely to be taken advantage of. Traffickers might make fake promises of better living conditions or jobs, leading women into situations where they are forced to work hard or experience exploitation. The lack of proper documentation further increases vulnerability, as migrants may hesitate to seek help or report exploitation, fearing legal repercussions. So, it's important to find ways to help and protect women during migration, making sure they know their rights and can seek help without fear.

## **2.6. The Hidden Suffering of Trafficked Women**

When women are trafficked, they go through terrible physical and mental abuse from the traffickers and the people who pay for their exploitation. They suffer from things like violence, threats, and manipulation. These women endure harsh living conditions, lacking access to basic necessities like food, shelter, and healthcare. The perpetrators use threats and violence to enforce control, creating a hostile environment that makes escape nearly impossible. There are broader health risks for the public associated with trafficking in women, especially regarding the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. (Iyer & Radha, 2016) Customers who pay for exploitation make things worse by treating these women badly. Breaking free from the clutches of exploitation requires comprehensive support and efforts to address the root causes of trafficking. Due to the abuse faced during commercial sexual exploitation, the victim loses hope of any kind of positive change in her life. (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2016)

In response to these challenges, empowering women is crucial to addressing the impact of exploitation, especially in the context of women's trafficking. By taking action to stop those who exploit women, we create an environment that fosters support and facilitates women's autonomy. Empowerment means granting women power and control over their lives, enabling them to make decisions independently and participate fully in social, economic, and political spheres. To empower women, there needs to be a comprehensive approach. This includes raising awareness about their rights and the dangers of exploitation, expanding their choices in various aspects of life, building self-confidence, and ensuring increased access to and control over resources. True empowerment goes beyond external interventions; it involves nurturing a sense of strength and self-determination from within. When women feel empowered, they are better equipped to resist

exploitation and contribute positively to their communities. Efforts to empower women should be continuous and multifaceted. By fostering a culture of empowerment, we not only combat the immediate consequences of exploitation but also work towards creating societies where women are respected, protected, and have the agency to shape their own destinies.

### **CHAPTER III**

#### **Anyay Rahit Zindagi Battle against Women Trafficking**

Despite legal prohibitions against human trafficking in India, the crime remains rampant, resulting in the exploitation of thousands of women and children through forced prostitution annually. To address this pressing issue, numerous non-profit organizations (NGO) across India are actively involved in preventing, rescuing and rehabilitating victims of human trafficking. These include the Society for Helping Entire Lower and Rural People in Andhra Pradesh, Rescue Foundation in Mumbai, Vihaan operating in multiple cities, Guria Swayam Sevi Sansthan in Uttar Pradesh, Prajwala in Hyderabad, Vipra Foundation in Mumbai, My Choices Foundation in Hyderabad and Telangana, Prerana in Bangalore and Karnataka, Development Focus in Jharkhand and Oasis India with branches in Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai and Punganur (Give.do, 2022). These organizations utilize diverse strategies, ranging from conducting rescue missions to providing legal aid and rehabilitation services, all aimed at safeguarding the rights and dignity of survivors and preventing further exploitation. Their unwavering commitment plays a pivotal role in the ongoing battle against human trafficking, leaving a profound and lasting impact on the lives of those affected.

In Goa, several NGOs, including One Stop Sakhi, Scan-Goa, Children's Rights in Goa, Help Foundation Goa, Goa Human Rights Commission and the Directorate of Women and Child Development are actively involved in addressing various social issues (Give India). However, ARZ stands out for its proactive role in combating commercial sexual exploitation. By focusing on providing comprehensive support, ARZ empowers women against trafficking, fostering a

safer and more resilient society. Through collaborative efforts with other NGOs, their collective focus on women's empowerment plays a crucial role in preventing and combating human trafficking. Together, these organizations work tirelessly to break the cycle of exploitation and enable women to live lives free from trafficking and exploitation.

### **3.1 Anyay Rahit Zindagi in Goa**

Anyay Rahit ZIndagi, meaning “Life without Injustice” (Zindagi, 2016). Arz is a social work organization located in Goa. Established in 1997 by a group of professionals from the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) in Mumbai, ARZ was founded with a mission to address issues of injustice, particularly focusing on combating prostitution and human trafficking (Zindagi, 2016). Inspired by the experiences and research conducted by one of its founder members during a national study on prostitution from 1994 to 1997, ARZ was created to provide interventions and support to those affected by these injustices. The organization commenced its interventions in the red-light area of Baina in Goa on October 2nd, 1998, marking the beginning of its efforts to combat exploitation and provide assistance to vulnerable individuals (Zindagi, 2016). With a commitment to promoting a life free from injustice, ARZ has since been actively engaged in various initiatives aimed at empowering survivors, raising awareness, and advocating for systemic change to combat prostitution and human trafficking in Goa.

ARZ, a legally registered organization under Indian laws such as the Indian Societies Registration Act (1860) and the Bombay Trust Act (1950), also holds recognition under Section 80(G) of the Income Tax Act. Going beyond its base in Goa, ARZ extends its services to districts in key states like Karnataka, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and

Odisha, known as significant sources of human trafficking. (Anyay Rahit Zindagi) Additionally, ARZ collaborates with neighboring countries such as Nepal and Bangladesh, which are recognized as source countries for trafficking activities (Anyay Rahit Zindagi).

Arz focuses on helping people who have been forced into a sexual relationship, recognizing that they face a lot of discrimination and hardship. ARZ adopts a multifaceted approach to empower women, focusing on education, economic opportunities, and community engagement (ARZ, 2019). By addressing these aspects comprehensively, ARZ aims to uplift women and equip them with the necessary resources to lead self-determined lives and make meaningful contributions to their communities. Through educational initiatives, women are provided with access to learning opportunities that enhance their skills and knowledge, opening doors to greater opportunities for personal and professional growth. In addition to education, ARZ creates economic avenues for women by facilitating access to employment opportunities and entrepreneurship initiatives. By supporting women in generating income and building sustainable livelihoods, ARZ enables them to achieve financial independence and security. Through training programs and skill-building workshops, women are equipped with the necessary tools to succeed in various sectors, fostering economic empowerment and autonomy. Furthermore, ARZ actively engages with communities to foster a supportive environment for women's empowerment. ARZ works with communities to make sure everyone understands the importance of treating women equally and giving them opportunities to succeed. ARZ creates spaces for women to voice their concerns, access support networks, and participate in decision-making processes that affect their lives. Together, these efforts contribute to the holistic empowerment of women, enabling them to thrive and lead fulfilling lives. ARZ has set up many initiatives, programs, and projects, such as Swift Wash,



Ankur, Voice, Mukti, Stop Trafficking, and the wish to teach women new skills and help them find jobs or start businesses (Anyay Rahit Zindagi).

ARZ has been recognized for its impactful work in combating injustice and exploitation, receiving prestigious awards like the Stree Shakti Purskar and the Godfrey Phillips Bravery Award. Their recent celebration of their 25th anniversary signifies their enduring commitment to combating human trafficking and supporting survivors. Through innovative initiatives like Wish, they strive to create a safer, fairer society, making a positive impact on the lives of those affected by exploitation.

### **3.2 Reasons for Establishment of Anyay Rahit Zindagi**

Arun's journey into social work began with a deep curiosity about why people commit crimes, so he studied social work at TISS in Mumbai. After completing his studies at TISS, Arun Pandey became involved in a national study on human trafficking, where he visited red-light areas across India. He learned a lot from talking to victims, brothel keepers, government officials, and NGO activists, providing invaluable insights into the complex nature of exploitation. It was during this period that Arun Pandey first visited the Baina settlement, where he confronted the harsh realities of commercial sexual exploitation firsthand. In baina, most people were somehow involved in the sex industry, like pimps, customers and those selling sex. Women suffered a lot, facing abuse like assault, violence, and threats from the people exploiting them. Even customers treated them badly. Living conditions were tough, with little food or safety. Fear and sadness filled the air, making it hard for these women to escape. The police were rough too, using force

and violence. Girls from other places were brought there, and it seemed like traffickers, police, local gudas, and local leaders were working together, which was concerning (Pandey, 2024).

Reflecting on his research findings and discussions with colleagues Zarine, Arun Pandey realized that while many organizations focused on supporting victims of crime, there was a gap in addressing the root causes and rehabilitation. He recognized that in cases of commercial sexual exploitation, victims often found themselves trapped in a cycle perpetuated by their own family members, who pushed them into such situations. This realization prompted Arun Pandey to advocate for a holistic approach that addressed the needs of both victims and perpetrators, aiming to break the cycle of exploitation and provide pathways to rehabilitation and reintegration into society (Pandey, 2024).

He chose to concentrate his efforts on combating trafficking in Goa because it was a unique area where trafficking of women occurred both within and outside the region. This dual dynamic made Goa a critical focus point in combating trafficking. Moreover, Goa's bustling tourism industry posed additional risks, as tourists could sometimes unknowingly contribute to the exploitation of vulnerable individuals. By targeting Goa, Arun Pandey aimed to address the root causes of trafficking and provide support to those most affected. Through his work in Goa, Arun sought to not only prevent trafficking at its source but also to support victims who had already fallen victim to exploitation. By focusing on this critical area, he aimed to create lasting change and provide hope for those affected by trafficking in the region.

### **3.3 Objectives of Anyay Rahit Zindagi**

- ❖ To end the commercial sexual exploitation of women (ARZ , 2019)

- ❖ To prevent entry of traffickers and victims in Goa (ARZ , 2019)
- ❖ To rescue, rehabilitate, repatriate and reintegrate victims of human trafficking (ARZ , 2019)
- ❖ To offer economic support to survivors of commercial sexual exploitation, individual involved in trafficking and those at risks of exploitation or trafficking. (ARZ , 2019)
- ❖ To empower government agencies in Goa and source of states to prevent human trafficking, protect victims, rehabilitate survivors and prosecute traffickers. (ARZ , 2019)
- ❖ To prevent human trafficking and ensure that victims are not re- exploited, Arz focuses on providing support and resources to prevent future generations from being sexually exploited for profit. (ARZ , 2019)

### 3.4 Structure of Anyay Rahit Zindagi

President	Mr Arunendra Pandey
Secretary	Dr. Mariette Correa
Treasurer	Cmdr. T.R. Ananthanarayanan (Retd.)
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Vandana Vishwanathan</li> <li>• Dr. Rajini Iyer</li> <li>• Ms. Tallulah D'Silva</li> <li>• Mrs. Harmeet Saini</li> <li>• Mr. Sadanand Desai</li> </ul>

**Table no- 3.1** (Anyay Rahit Zindagi)

Mr Arunendra Pandey Director, Arz Managing Director, Swift Wash			
Ms.Juliana Lohar Coordinator, Arz General Manager, Swift Wash			
<b>Admin and account team</b>	<b>Social worker</b>	<b>Business unit</b>	<b>Driver</b>
	Yelguradappa Harijan	Snijen siquira	Mr. Nanappa Lamani
Meenakshi Nikalje	Annapurna Rajput	Naggesh sagdam	
Minakshi Minaxi	Saili	Mahendar passi	
Shruti Raikar	Bhimawa chanwadi		
	Talha sadekar		
	ashlesha tandel		

**Table no. 3.2**

### **3.5 Challenges Faced By Arz Ngo in Encountering in its Efforts against Women Trafficking In Goa**

- Sometimes people misunderstand human trafficking, especially in places where men hold more power than women known as a patriarchy. This unfair thinking makes it easier for traffickers to exploit women and it becomes a big problem like human trafficking. Stopping this issue is hard because these old-fashioned ideas about men and women make it tough to protect women from being mistreated (Pandey, 2024).
- In societies, unfair beliefs and stereotypes can lead to blaming women for their exploitation instead of recognizing the deeper problems related to gender inequality. Some individuals wrongly think that women willingly get involved in trafficking, not realizing that many are forced into it due to difficult circumstances. Victims are somehow to blame for what happened to them. People call them "Randis." The real problem is that those who exploit others for trafficking or engage in such activities are the ones at fault, not the victims. It's important to shift focus from blaming survivors to holding traffickers and customers accountable for their actions. Changing these ideas and making sure that women are treated equally is really hard. Arz has a tough job changing how people think about those who have been trafficked. Arz keeps telling real stories to show that these victims are not to blame, hoping to make everyone see them with kindness and empathy (Pandey, 2024).
- Stopping women's trafficking is hard because traffickers hide well using sneaky methods. ARZ needs a lot of resources and collaboration with the police to uncover and destroy these secretive groups. It's a tough challenge and without enough support, it becomes even harder for Arz NGO to effectively end these hidden and harmful operations (Pandey, 2024).

- Not everyone knows enough about how trafficking happens or how to spot when someone is being treated unfairly. This makes it hard to stop trafficking and help those who need it.
- When women are trafficked by their own family members, like a mother, brother, sister, father, husband, aunt, or uncle, in exchange for money, it's a really tough situation for ARZ. It makes their job harder because they have to deal with the emotional pain and trust issues caused by exploitation within the family. ARZ needs to be extra careful and understanding to help these survivors, not just by rescuing them but also by addressing the deeper problems in families and society that lead to this kind of trafficking. It's a heartbreaking challenge that requires a lot of care and effort (Pandey, 2024).
- When it comes to stopping women's trafficking, having laws is important, but sometimes they are not put into action the way they should be. This is a big problem because it means that even though there are rules against trafficking, they might not be enforced properly. One reason for this could be that the people who are supposed to make sure the laws are followed might not have enough training. This lack of proper implementation makes it easier for traffickers to keep doing their harmful activities without facing the consequences. Corruption is another issue that makes it hard for laws against women's trafficking to work effectively. When the people in charge of enforcing these laws are involved in corruption, they might turn a blind eye to trafficking or even help traffickers avoid punishment (Pandey, 2024).
- When something really bad happens to women and girls like rape, domestic violence, or discrimination, everyone steps in quickly to help. Leaders, the police and the organizations that fight for people's rights all work together to catch the perpetrators and

support the victims. But when it comes to women's trafficking, where people are forced into awful situations, it seems like not everyone is in a hurry to help, maybe because they don't fully understand how complicated it is. (Pandey, 2024).

### **3.6 ARZ Funding**

Anyay Rahit Zindagi (ARZ) has various sources of income to support its work. They operate their own businesses, such as projects and initiatives, to generate funds. Additionally, ARZ receives financial support from donations by individuals or organizations and grants from government agencies and international bodies like the International Organization for Migration (IOM), Child Rights and You (CRY), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Terres des Hommes-Germany (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009). Moreover, ARZ collaborates with cooperatives that contribute money to further their mission. This helps them stay focused on their goal of fighting unfairness in society and making things better for everyone. With different ways of getting money, ARZ can tackle tough problems and keep working to make the world a nicer place for everyone.

### **3.7 Arz collaboration with government agencies**

Anyay Rahit Zindagi (ARZ) works closely with government agencies at different levels—local, regional and national. Arz collaborated with the police, the Department of Women and Child Development, lawyers and judicial officers in Goa. Arz joins in with government programs or initiatives to give ideas for making rules better and pushes for changes in laws to make things fairer for everyone. By teaming up with government agencies, Arz can make their efforts

stronger and reach more people who need help. Together, they work towards making society fairer and taking care of those who need it most.

Arz Ngo works with the department of women and children in Goa to help trafficking victims rebuild their lives (ARZ, 2019). They offer various services, like counseling to help with the emotional scars, job opportunities and training programs to learn new skills and educational support for a fresh start. Arz also runs awareness programs to prevent trafficking, self-improvement activities and ways for victims to express themselves, aiding in their recovery and empowerment. Moreover, Arz assists in repatriating victims, ensuring their safe return home. They organize transportation, coordinate with authorities in the victim's home country and provide escort services to ensure safety throughout the process. Through these partnerships with the government, Arz aims to provide holistic support to trafficking victims, helping them regain their independence and rebuild their lives.

Arz works closely with lawyers and judicial officers to provide legal aid and assistance to victims of abuse and exploitation (Pandey, 2024). This collaboration aims to advocate for the rights of victims, ensure their access to justice and seek legal action against perpetrators. By partnering with legal experts, ARZ strengthens the legal framework for addressing social issues and ensures that victims receive fair treatment within the legal system. Together, they work to empower victims, hold offenders accountable and uphold justice for those affected by abuse and exploitation.

Arz works closely with victims of trafficking to support their rehabilitation within the protective homes and children's home, "Apna Ghar," operated by the Goa government under the Immoral



Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ARZ, 2019). In these facilities, Arz provides a range of services aimed at aiding victims in their recovery journey. This includes counseling, emotional support, skills training, education, vocational training, and assistance in accessing healthcare services.

Arz partnered with the Integrated Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (IAHTU) to combat human trafficking. This specialized unit collaborates closely with NGO's and government departments to conduct rescue operations, along with police training and counseling of rescue persons, assisting in interviews of rescue persons, and supporting and protecting trafficking victims while cracking down on perpetrators. By focusing on the safety and well-being of vulnerable individuals, especially women and children, the IAHTU sends a clear message that human trafficking will not be tolerated in Goa. Additionally, Arz collaborated with the Goa government's Pink Police Force initiative, which aims to ensure the safety of tourists, women, and children in the region (Pandey, 2024).

Stopping human trafficking is really hard. Trafficking groups work secretly and are very organized, so catching them is tough for the IAHTU. Sometimes, people in charge are involved or don't care about trafficking, which makes it even harder to stop. Plus, trafficking happens across borders, so it's tough to track and stop it. Victims often don't ask for help because they're scared or embarrassed. To stop women from being trafficked, IAHTU does a few things. They keep an eye on areas where trafficking might happen and work with other groups to gather information and stop traffickers. The police train their officers to recognize signs of trafficking and handle cases carefully. Police also teach people about trafficking so they know how to spot it and report it if they see something suspicious. They also watch the Goa borders to catch traffickers trying to move victims illegally.

IAHTU helps Arz with their rescue operation and awareness campaigns to stop crimes against women. They join in organizing events, programs, campaigns, and rallies. They share their knowledge about local crime and work with ARZ to make sure the campaign messages make sense for the community. The IAHTU, along with Arz, team up with neighboring states to fight trafficking by talking to each other and sharing information about traffickers. They work together on operations to catch traffickers who move between states. They also teach officers in neighboring states how to recognize trafficking and what to do about it. By teaming up across borders, they can stop traffickers and keep people safe from being exploited. They also hand out flyers and posters from ARZ and teach people things like self-defense. By teaming up, the police and ARZ can teach everyone how to stay safe and prevent crimes against women. IAHTU also measures if ARZ's anti-trafficking campaign is working by looking at a few things. They check if the number of reported trafficking cases is going down or not. They also see if more victims are getting help and if the traffickers are being caught more often. Community feedback is important too. If they hear that people feel safer or know more about trafficking, then they know the campaign is making a difference. By looking at these things, the police can tell if the Arz campaign is successful in fighting trafficking. IAHTU also helps victims of commercial sexual exploitation during the legal process by being there for them every step of the way. They explain what's happening in the legal system in simple terms. They also help them navigate through the process, like attending court hearings with them and making sure they feel safe.

IAHTU also works with the media to spread information about women's trafficking. They might give interviews or provide information for news stories about trafficking to help people understand what it is and how to recognize it. They also use social media to share important

messages and tips to stay safe. By working with the media, they can reach a lot of people and raise awareness about the issue, which can help prevent trafficking and protect potential victims. The current laws against human trafficking, especially for women, are helpful, but they could be better.

### **3.8 Arz assistance to survivors in navigating the legal system**

Arz helps survivors of human trafficking deal with the complicated legal system. They start by giving survivors lots of support and guidance, making sure they understand their legal rights and choices. Arz explains how the legal process works, helps survivors find a lawyer and assists with paperwork (Pandey, 2024). By giving this support, Arz helps survivors take part in legal proceedings and make good decisions about what to do next. . Arz helps survivors collect and sort important documents and evidence for their legal cases (Pandey, 2024). This includes things like police reports, medical records and statements from witnesses. They make sure survivors have all the right paperwork to make their case stronger in court. By doing this, Arz supports survivors in building a solid foundation for their legal proceedings. Besides, Arz is there to offer emotional support and speak up for survivors during legal stuff. They know it's tough for survivors, so they provide a caring presence during court hearings and meetings with the police. Arz makes sure survivors feel listened to and supported, which can help reduce the stress and worry that comes with dealing with the law because of trafficking. Moreover, Arz fights hard to make sure survivors' rights are respected in the legal system. They team up with lawyers, police and people who make the rules to push for better protections for survivors and tougher punishments for traffickers. Arz also talks about the legal problems survivors face and tries to change things so that survivors can get more help and support when they need it. Through all

this, Arz wants to make the legal system fairer and more helpful for survivors of human trafficking.

Arz continues to help survivors, even after their legal matters are over. They assist survivors in finding more help if they need it, dealing with any ongoing legal issues and facing any challenges that come up after their legal cases. Arz also runs campaigns to teach people about legal rights and the support available to survivors of trafficking. They want survivors and others to understand how the legal system works and where they can get help if they need it. Additionally, Arz brings survivors together who have been through similar legal experiences. They create groups where survivors can talk, support each other and feel like they're not alone. These groups help survivors feel connected and strong as they move forward after their legal battles.

Arz also assists victims in obtaining essential documents like Aadhaar cards, bank passbooks and voter ID cards. They guide victims through the process of acquiring these documents, ensuring they have the necessary paperwork and support to apply (Pandey, 2024). By helping victims obtain these documents, Arz empowers them to access essential services, participate in elections and engage in financial transactions, facilitating their integration into society and recovery from trafficking. Arz also assists trafficking victims in accessing compensation from government schemes.

### **3.9 ARZ engagement with local communities to raise awareness**

Anyay Rahit Zindagi takes a grassroots approach to combating human trafficking in Goa by actively engaging with local communities. Through different programs, their goal is to raise

awareness and educate community members about the true nature of trafficking. Arz holds discussions and workshops in colleges, universities, and community centers. They cover important topics like how to recognize signs of trafficking, understanding how traffickers operate and the safe ways to report any concerning activity. Arz teams up with local businesses and groups to raise awareness. They share posters and brochures and train employees to spot and handle possible trafficking situations. By working together, they build a network of people who can keep an eye out for trafficking in their communities.

Arz partners with the police and local officials to fight trafficking better. They organize training sessions for officers, emergency responders and social workers to handle trafficking cases and help survivors. By bringing together community members and law enforcement, Arz makes sure everyone works together to tackle trafficking in the area. Arz actively engages with marginalized and vulnerable populations who may be at greater risk of trafficking. They provide resources, support and education tailored to the specific needs of these communities, empowering them to protect themselves and seek assistance if needed.

Arz teams up with youth groups to get young people involved in fighting against trafficking. Arz arranges various events, including rallies, marches and street plays specifically designed to educate and empower young individuals about the dangers of trafficking (Pandey, 2024). By reaching out to the youth organization, Arz aims to inspire a new generation of advocates who can make a difference in their communities. These gatherings unite individuals, offering them an opportunity to exchange insights, share experiences and take a stand against trafficking. Through these events community members come together, fostering a supportive environment where they can learn more about the issue and collectively combat it. ARZ's interventions didn't stop there.

They organized meetings between police officers and youth to address misunderstandings, leading to a shift in perceptions and increased cooperation. Through awareness campaigns, they successfully tackled the practice of dedicating devadasi girls and significantly reduced the trafficking of women and girls in the area. As a result, self-respect among the youth increased, leading to a decline in domestic violence, improved educational opportunities and reduced alcohol consumption. ARZ's impact transformed the community, bringing hope and dignity to its residents (Pandey, 2024).

Arz uses social media to engage with a larger audience, sharing tips on preventing trafficking, identifying warning signs and accessing help. They post images and real stories to help people understand the issue and encourage them to take steps to address it. Arz develops informational websites and online resources dedicated to educating the public about trafficking. These platforms offer accessible information, including warning signs, prevention tips, resources for victims and ways to get involved in anti-trafficking efforts. By creating online resources, Arz ensures that people can easily access vital information about trafficking from anywhere with an internet connection. These efforts aim to raise awareness, empower individuals to recognize and report trafficking, and provide support to those affected by this crime.

In Baina, Arz partners with the community to educate children and women about trafficking in ways suitable for their age group. They develop lesson plans and engaging activities to teach students what trafficking is and how they can take action against it (Pandey, 2024). Through these efforts, Arz aims to empower children and women with the knowledge and skills to recognize trafficking and protect themselves and others from exploitation. Arz establishes community-based rehabilitation programs specifically tailored to support survivors of trafficking.

These programs provide a range of essential services, such as counseling, therapy, job training, housing assistance and access to healthcare. By offering comprehensive support within the community, survivors can receive the necessary care and resources to heal from their trauma and reintegrate into society with dignity and independence. These rehabilitation programs play a crucial role in empowering survivors to overcome their past experiences and build a brighter future for them.

### **3.10 Arz engagement with media to raise awareness about human trafficking**

Arz works closely with the media to spread awareness about human trafficking. They use newspapers, TV and social media to inform people about the realities of trafficking and how it affects individuals and communities. By teaming up with the media, Arz spreads their message to more people and helps them understand the issue better, raising awareness and knowledge about trafficking in society. Arz uses storytelling to share the personal stories behind trafficking, focusing on the experiences of survivors and the obstacles they encounter. Through media campaigns, interviews and documentaries, Arz shares compelling narratives that shed light on the complexities of trafficking and the need for collective action to combat it. By humanizing the issue, Arz fosters empathy and solidarity among the public, inspiring individuals to take a stand against trafficking. Arz teams up with journalists and media to share accurate information, bust myths and offer help for those affected by trafficking. By staying connected with the media, they keep the issue in the spotlight, making sure support is there for victims. Arz is a leading voice against trafficking, always working to raise awareness and make a positive impact.

### **3.11 Statistical Analysis (2014–2019) By Arz**

A statistical analysis conducted on the trafficking of women and children for commercial sexual exploitation in Goa between 2014 and 2019 revealed significant insights. Among the 400 girls and women rescued during this period, a majority (353 individuals) acknowledged being victims of commercial sexual exploitation. The remaining individuals denied involvement in such activities. Of the victims, 298 were Indian nationals, originating from various states such as Maharashtra, West Bengal, Delhi, Goa, and Uttar Pradesh. Additionally, the analysis identified 55 victims as foreign nationals, including individuals from countries like Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, Nepal, Russia, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Kyrgyzstan, and Turkey (ARZ, 2019).

The report reveals significant trends regarding the trafficking of girls and women into Goa. It indicates that 66% of the trafficked individuals originated from urban areas, while 34% came from rural regions. Notably, 36% of trafficking cases occurred online, while 64% were conducted offline. Commercial sexual activities predominantly occurred in hotels and lodges (77.79%), followed by flats and bungalows (9.8%), and massage parlors (12.4%). Importantly, the report highlights that in most cases, the individuals who coerced or lured the victims into commercial sexual activity were known to them, often friends, colleagues, or male partners. Furthermore, the highest numbers of rescues were conducted under the jurisdiction of the crime branch and Calangute police, followed by Anjuna and Panjim. These insights provide valuable information for law enforcement and anti-trafficking organizations to target interventions effectively and protect vulnerable individuals (ARZ, 2019).

The report indicates that a very small percentage of girls rescued and released from protective homes were re-trafficked in Goa. The majority of the rescued victims belong to the age group of 25 to 35, followed by 21 to 25 and 18 to 21. Lack of formal education and vocational skills



emerged as significant factors contributing to vulnerability to commercial sexual exploitation. Financial crises at home and coercion were identified as the primary reasons for victims becoming vulnerable to trafficking. Importantly, the findings underscored that many rescued victims lacked support to manage household expenses, highlighting the risk of re-trafficking in the absence of adequate assistance. This emphasizes the critical need to provide comprehensive support services to address the underlying factors driving vulnerability to trafficking and prevent re-exploitation. (ARZ, 2019)

## **CHAPTER IV**

### **Arz Commitment to Women Empowerment**

Arz is a social work organization in Goa deeply committed to combating trafficking for sexual abuse and commercial exploitation. Their efforts extend to supporting victims of commercial sexual exploitation and holding perpetrators accountable through projects like Ankur, Prabhat, Stop Trafficking, Mukti, Voice and Wish. Arz offers comprehensive assistance to victims, empowering them and advocating for policies that prevent trafficking and safeguard vulnerable individuals.

#### **4.1 Mukti**

Mukti is an anti-trafficking initiative operating in Baina and other parts of Goa, collaborating with existing systems to enhance the effectiveness of anti-trafficking efforts. Their comprehensive services cover rehabilitation, rescue operations, repatriation support, aftercare

assistance, victim protection, healthcare provision and the prosecution of traffickers. With a primary focus on areas with high trafficking rates, such as Margao, Colva, Bicholim and Panjim (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). Mukti targets vulnerable regions to address the multifaceted challenges of trafficking comprehensively.

#### ❖ **Rescue**

Mukti plays a crucial role in rescuing individuals who have been trafficked or are vulnerable to exploitation. Collaborating closely with law enforcement, community members and stakeholders, Mukti identifies and safely removes victims from harmful situations. Their rescue operations are meticulously planned to prioritize the safety and well-being of the victims. Following a rescue, Mukti provides immediate support, including medical care at Government Medical College Bambolim and the Institute of Psychiatry and Human Behavior Bambolim, as well as temporary shelter and emotional assistance at Apna Ghar and the Protective Home in Mercês. This involves providing guidance, counseling and exploring various rehabilitation options while also connecting them with specialized rehabilitation organizations. The focus is on empowering survivors to regain control over their lives by identifying safe environments for rehabilitation, addressing trauma and mental health issues, and supporting decisions regarding living arrangements, education, or employment. After-care goes beyond immediate support to ensure long-term sustainability, often emphasizing community reintegration to rebuild social networks and foster a sense of belonging. Ultimately, after-care serves as a critical tool in empowering survivors to reclaim their lives and break free from the cycle of exploitation (Sadkar, 2024).

#### ❖ **Repatriation**

In situations where no relatives have claimed custody of the victim or if it's deemed unsafe for them to be released independently, measures are taken to ensure their safe return to their native place or country, if linked with India. This involves escorting them to the border of the country or foreign nationals and handing them over to their embassy in Delhi (Pandey, 2024). All expenses for travel, food and accommodation during repatriation are covered by the Department of Women and Child Development, Goa. The escort team comprises two lady police constables, a matron from the State Protective Home and a counselor from Arz, with the matron leading the team to ensure a victim-friendly repatriation process (ARZ, 2019). The counselor provides a briefing to receiving authorities and assists with family reunions, facilitating acceptance and support from family members for the victim. This structured repatriation system, developed by Arz in collaboration with the Women and Child Welfare Department and Goa Police, underscores a commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of victims while facilitating their reintegration into their communities for long-term recovery (ARZ, 2019).

### ❖ **Prosecution**

Arz is unwavering in its dedication to securing justice for victims of commercial sexual exploitation and abuse, recognizing the urgent need for legal accountability in addressing such crimes. They actively pursue cases related to exploitation, rape, child labor and domestic violence, collaborating closely with public prosecutors to ensure thorough investigation and follow-up (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). Arz diligently prepares witnesses for court appearances and provides essential support to affected individuals, including assistance with domestic violence case filings (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). By offering comprehensive assistance throughout legal proceedings and prioritizing the overall well-being of survivors through medical and

psychological support, Arz not only seeks legal remedies but also empowers survivors on their path to healing and recovery.

### ❖ **Training**

Arz conducts sensitization and awareness programs targeting the challenges faced by trafficking victims and those at risk of sexual exploitation. These programs engage college students and organizations across Goa by providing reading materials like pamphlets to deepen understanding (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). Additionally, Arz organizes meetings and training sessions with government and police officials to address issues like organized trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation in Goa, emphasizing the importance of psychosocial rehabilitation for victims and educating participants on relevant laws such as the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act and Domestic Violence Act (Pandey, 2024). Through interactive sessions, events, engaging campaigns, and impactful street plays, Arz aims to educate communities, empower individuals to identify trafficking signs, and encourage action to prevent and combat this issue effectively (Pandey, 2024). By engaging diverse participants and collaborating with government and law enforcement agencies, Arz strives to foster a coordinated response to this critical issue, ultimately working towards the protection and empowerment of vulnerable individuals in the community.

### **Intervention at the national level and the source state**

Arz has been actively involved in combating human trafficking in Goa across source states and at a national level through a series of interventions and training programs. Notably, in collaboration with the Tata Institute of Social Sciences Mumbai, Arz organized a national

leadership training program for law enforcement agencies and service providers in 2016 and 2017 (ARZ, 2019). They also facilitated a national consultation in Goa to address the Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection, and Rehabilitation) Bill 2018 and issues surrounding women in prostitution. Furthermore, Arz conducted police training programs in Nagaland focusing on human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and initiated the "Me to Victims of Sex Trafficking" campaign in Delhi (ARZ, 2019). Additionally, Arz organized various training programs across states like Karnataka, West Bengal, Sikkim and Maharashtra to empower service providers, law enforcement agencies and other stakeholders in combating human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse. These concerted efforts underscore Arz's dedication to addressing trafficking comprehensively and building capacities to effectively combat this critical issue (ARZ, 2019).

### **Intervention in Goa**

Arz has been actively involved in various interventions in Goa aimed at combating human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. In partnership with the Goa State Legal Services Authority and the Goa State Women's Commission, Arz has coordinated multiple programs focused on combating human trafficking. These collaborative initiatives have included training programs for police officers focused on combating human trafficking, exploitation and child sexual abuse (Pandey, 2024). These sessions aimed to enhance law enforcement's understanding of the complexities surrounding these crimes and equip them with the necessary skills to identify, investigate and address such cases effectively. Through interactive workshops and practical exercises, officers were trained to recognize the signs of trafficking and exploitation,

handle victims sensitively, gather evidence and collaborate with other agencies to ensure comprehensive support and justice for survivors.

They also organize talks at colleges and universities to educate students about the realities of trafficking (Pandey, 2024). Through these efforts, Arz and its partners aim to empower young people with the knowledge and awareness to actively address and prevent trafficking in their communities. They also hosted events to introduce books about human trafficking. These gatherings aimed to share literature that brings attention to this important issue in a straightforward and understandable manner. They collaborated with the Goa Police to release posters aimed at preventing human trafficking in the region (ARZ, 2019). Arz further organized street play, rallies, flash mob performances in part of Goa to raise awareness about human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse. They also launched the "Me Too Victims of Sex Trafficking" campaign in Goa (Pandey, 2024). Additionally, Arz conducted training programs for service providers and caregivers in Goa on child sexual abuse and trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation.

Through their integrated approach, Mukti aims to combat trafficking effectively and empower survivors while striving to create safer communities and a more resilient society in Goa.

## **4.2 Ankur**

Ankur, an initiative led by Arz, is dedicated to safeguarding children from harmful situations like sexual abuse and commercial exploitation. The program targets children in Baina and other parts of Goa to help them avoid getting into trouble (Pandey, 2024). The ongoing efforts to engage children in the community and support their behavior and education have had a powerful impact.

Through consistent guidance and encouragement, children are learning to make better decisions and treat themselves and others with respect. This shift in mindset is shaping a generation that values kindness and integrity, laying the foundation for a brighter future. Overall, this continuous work is not just improving the lives of individual children but also creating a community where mutual respect and positivity thrive.

Arz employs a variety of methods to assist children, families and schools.

#### ❖ **Counseling sessions and awareness sessions**

Arz conducts individual and group counseling sessions to help children and families address their specific challenges. These sessions provide a safe space for children to express themselves and for families to improve communication and resolve conflicts. (Pandey, 2024) By offering practical guidance and emotional support, Arz empowers individuals to overcome obstacles and build stronger, more resilient relationships within the community.

Arz organizes awareness sessions for children and families, focusing on vital topics like child rights, child labor, and child prostitution (Pandey, 2024). These sessions help them understand these topics better, so they can make smart choices and keep themselves safe. By learning about these issues, Arz hopes to protect kids and create a better world for them to grow up in.

#### ❖ **Empowering parents to mobilize and assist in school admission**

Arz actively encourages and assists parents in getting their children enrolled in nearby schools, making sure that every child has access to education (Pandey, 2024). By reaching out to parents and providing support, Arz aims to remove barriers to school enrollment and ensure that no child

is left behind. Through this effort, Arz not only promotes education but also empowers families to take steps towards a brighter future for their children.

Arz helps families with the paperwork needed for school admissions, like affidavits, birth certificates, and ensuring children can enter school smoothly (Pandey, 2024). This support removes barriers to education, particularly for families facing challenges, promoting equal access to schooling for all children.

#### ❖ **Provide educational materials.**

Arz gives school stuff like bags, notebooks, uniforms, and pencils to children who really need them (Pandey, 2024). This helps these kids learn better and do well in school, even if their families don't have much money. It's all about making sure every child has what they need to learn and succeed, no matter what.

#### ❖ **Follow up with schools and parents.**

Arz keeps in regular touch with both schools and parents to monitor children's attendance and progress. This helps ensure consistent school attendance, fostering an environment where children have the support they need to succeed academically (Sequiera, 2024).

#### ❖ **Admission to boarding schools**

Arz supports children affected by trafficking and abuse by offering boarding facilities away from their homes, where they can concentrate better on their studies. Through collaboration with parents and boarding school authorities, Arz encourages families to enroll their children in these



schools and organizes visits to familiarize them with the environment. With parental consent, children are admitted to boarding schools and Arz ensures that parents visit monthly to maintain familial bonds (Sequiera, 2024). Additionally, Arz closely monitors the children's progress and well-being, providing necessary educational materials and covering expenses like boarding fees, school fees and exam fees, as well as ensuring access to toiletries. This comprehensive support system aims to create a stable and nurturing environment for these vulnerable children to succeed academically and emotionally. With Arz's support, about 55–60 students get a chance to attend school in a safer environment than their homes, where they can learn and grow without worrying about their safety (Pandey, 2024) (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009).

#### **4.3 Women's Initiative for Self-Help (WISH)**

Over the course of nine years, Arz dedicated their efforts to combating human trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation (CSE). They identified a critical obstacle: the lack of alternative job opportunities,impeding their ability to safeguard vulnerable individuals, prevent re-trafficking of rescued victims and assist victims and perpetrators of CSE in finding new paths forward. To address this, Arz engaged with individuals in the CSE market, both victims and perpetrators,to understand their desired job opportunities, financial needs and skills. They conducted extensive research into potential businesses and determined that a laundry business in Goa could be viable (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009). After deciding on the laundry business, Arz immersed them in learning about its operations,including machinery and finances. They recognized their strengths in understanding the needs of individuals affected by sex work but also identified areas where they needed assistance,such as setting up the business, making a plan, and training staff. Fortunately, they found a supportive machine supplier and received free

training from hotels like Marriott and Taj, equipping them with the necessary skills to run the business effectively (Anyay Rahit Zindagi 2009).

On September 1, 2006, Arz set up Swift Wash, a mechanized laundry unit for the economic rehabilitation of women in prostitution. Swift Wash is a non-shelter-based economic alternative program that provides employment and social work services to women in prostitution as well as other participants in the commercial sexual exploitation market like brother keepers and pimps (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009). Recognizing the broader need to assist vulnerable individuals across Goa, Arz sought support from government and non-governmental agencies (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009). They collaborated with magistrates and juvenile justice authorities to refer individuals to Swift Wash for employment opportunities, receiving positive responses and referrals. Non-governmental organizations also expressed enthusiasm for Arz's initiative, highlighting the community's collective efforts to combat CSE and empower survivors (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009).

After the closure of Swift Wash, a laundry unit managed by victims of sex trafficking in Sancoale for nearly 15 years due to the pandemic, a new initiative in Vasco is stepping up to help these victims, led by 'Anyay Rahit Zindagi (ARZ). This effort involves setting up a paper product production unit under the Women's Initiative for Self-Help (WISH). This unit will produce items like tissue papers, toilet rolls, and paper bags, aiming to empower victims of sexual violence in Goa economically (Pandey, 2024). Under the WISH initiative, ARZ has expanded its services to include embroidery and stitching work. Victims are trained in these skills and are now proficient in making various items such as bags, wallets, file covers, valos, and pouches. Additionally, ARZ has introduced screen-printing activities and provided training

to girls in this field. For those interested in placing bulk orders for screen printing, ARZ is now directly accessible (Pandey, 2024).

WISH has brought about significant positive changes in the lives of victims of commercial sexual exploitation. At first, they felt discouraged and unsupported, but now they're resilient and respected in their communities (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009). They've become independent, making their own decisions and earning their own money. They've also spoken up against exploitation and encouraged their partners to contribute more to family responsibilities (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009). They are focusing on important things like marriage and family planning and they've improved their relationships with their children. Now they respect them and consider their advice seriously, and some of them even help them in their household work. Additionally, they started adopting birth control measures (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009). Overall, they've become more professional and responsible, both at work and in their personal lives.

Their approach isn't just about teaching skills. It's about giving survivors a chance to stand on their own two feet. By giving them opportunities to learn new skills and earn money, ARZ is breaking the cycle of abuse and dependence. This helps the survivors not just now but in the long run too. It gives them the chance to build a better life for themselves with dignity and strength.

### **The wish partners and private partners**

Hospitality	Taj Group of Hotels, Taj Airways Services, Fort Aguada Beach Resort and Vanguinim Valley Beach Resort International Center Goa,
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	Youth Hostel, Caritas Holiday Home, International Centre Restaurant, and Taj Sats.
Health Care	Salgaocar Medical Research Centre and VIVUS
Pharmaceuticals	Sanofi Aventis Pharma, Blue Cross Laboratories, Indoco Remedies Ltd., Wallace Pharmaceuticals, Indipharma, Duraline and Corlim Marine Exports Pvt. Ltd., Salgaonkar Medical Research Center, and Goodwin Biotechnologies Ltd.
Personal care	SNIP beauty parlors
Educational institution	Institute of Marine Engineering, BITS Pilani
Others	Corlim Marine Exports Pvt.Ltd., Subrai Motors, Blue star, Tube star, Transocean

**Table 4.1 Source:-** (Anyay Rahit Zindagi, 2009)

### **Work force strength (2023-2024)**

Number of victims working in Arz	17 women 1 man	
Work they do	Stitching	5 victims
	Paperwork and laundry work	13 victims
Age	18-25 years	
Salary	10,000 to 12000	

**Table No. 4.2****4.4 Voice**

Voice, managed by Arz, serves as a pivotal center for research, documentation and media production focused on anti-trafficking efforts. It was established to understand the reasons behind the widespread commercial sexual exploitation, especially in areas like Baina and its extension to other parts of Goa (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). The primary goal is to grasp these root causes thoroughly before implementing intervention programs. Arz is actively engaged in documenting instances of commercial sexual exploitation across Goa to raise awareness among various stakeholders (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). Staff members receive training to develop impactful audio-visual materials, including documentaries and short films highlighting human trafficking for sexual abuse and exploitation. Through these visual narratives, Arz aims to educate and sensitize communities, government agencies and other relevant groups about the severity of human trafficking in the region (Anyay Rahit Zindagi).

**4.5: Stop Trafficking**

Arz, an organization combating human trafficking in India since 1997, has developed Stop Trafficking, a website aimed at assisting victims (Anyay Rahit Zindagi). Created by a team of professionals from both the technology and development sectors, this platform connects various stakeholders, including government bodies, NGOs, and victims. The goal is to enhance collaboration and coordination among these groups to effectively combat human trafficking using modern technology. The website plays a crucial role in finding missing people, reuniting them with their families, connecting service providers, coordinating services, rescuing victims,

raising awareness about human trafficking and advising both government and non-government sectors. (Pandey, 2024).

#### **4.6 Schemes for Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation**

##### **❖ PRABHAT Scheme**

The introduction of the Prabhat initiative by the Goa government marks a significant advancement in addressing the critical needs of victims of commercial sexual exploitation in the region. This initiative underscores the government's commitment to offering comprehensive support and rehabilitation services to those who have endured such exploitation, with provisions ranging from shelter and education to vocational training, employment opportunities, business grants and mentorship (ARZ, 2019). Arz team works in protective homes with rescued victims and contributes to their rehabilitation by offering specialized care, counseling, support and services tailored to their individual needs (Sadekar, 2024). Through their dedication and expertise, these team members play a vital role in creating a safe and supportive environment where victims can heal, learn and rebuild their lives free from exploitation. Overall, the Prabhat scheme represents a ray of hope for victims of commercial sexual exploitation in Goa, offering them a path towards a brighter and more empowered future.

##### **❖ Goa Victim Compensation Scheme 2012**

The Goa Victims Compensation Scheme 2012 is a legal guideline established to offer financial assistance and support to individuals who have been victims of various crimes, including trafficking and sexual exploitation, within the state of Goa, India. This scheme aims to address

the immediate and long-term needs of victims by providing compensation to help them recover from the physical, emotional and financial impacts of their victimization (ARZ, 2019). It serves as recognition of the hardships endured by victims and aims to aid them in their journey towards recovery and rehabilitation. . It outlines the criteria for eligibility, the application process and the amount of compensation that can be received based on the severity of the crime and the extent of the victim's injuries or losses. This scheme aims to help victims rebuild their lives by easing their financial burden and supporting their recovery journey.

#### ❖ **NALSA Scheme**

The "NALSA (Victims of Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation) Scheme, 2015" is a comprehensive initiative aimed at providing legal assistance to victims of trafficking, especially women, throughout their journey of exploitation. Its core objective is to address the complex issues faced by trafficking victims, covering aspects such as prevention, rescue and rehabilitation. By offering customized legal services, the scheme seeks to ensure that these individuals have access to justice and legal protection. (Pandey, 2024)

## **CONCLUSION**

The study began with the idea that empowering women in Goa through education, economic opportunities and community engagement can reduce their vulnerability to trafficking. Additionally Collaborative efforts from the government, NGO's, and local communities can counter human trafficking in Goa. Chapters 3 and 4 of the study provided evidence supporting these ideas. This shows that when women have access to education and economic opportunities, they are less vulnerable to trafficking. Moreover, when different groups work together, such as government agencies, NGOs and community members, they can better prevent trafficking and support victims. These findings highlight the importance of empowering women and fostering collaboration to address trafficking effectively in Goa.

This evidence underscores Arz's active involvement in combating women's trafficking in Goa. By pooling resources, raising awareness, and implementing strategic measures, ARZ has made remarkable progress in shielding vulnerable women and girls from exploitation. Through its



holistic approach, ARZ not only addresses the immediate challenges posed by trafficking but also strives to create a community where women are empowered to assert their rights and lead dignified lives, fostering a safer and more resilient society.

Human trafficking is a severe violation of human rights involving the exploitation of individuals through coercion or deception for purposes like forced labor or sexual exploitation. In India, it is a serious issue, with many women and girls being affected. Even though the government has laws to stop it, trafficking is still happening because of things like poverty, unemployment, and social-economic problems. Women from poor backgrounds are especially at risk because they might not have many options and can easily be taken advantage of. The criminals behind these networks are well-organized and skilled at staying hidden, operating in different areas without getting caught. This makes it really tough for law enforcement to break up these networks and hold the people responsible accountable. And on top of that, sometimes the people who are supposed to stop trafficking are actually part of it, making things even harder.

Despite the Constitution of India promising equality for all, regardless of race, religion, language, sex, or culture, many women, especially those from marginalized communities, still face vulnerability and risks to their dignity and human rights. The Constitution's Preamble pledges justice, liberty, equality and fraternity to all citizens. Additionally, India has laws to protect women's interests. However, despite these provisions, many women continue to face challenges and threats to their well-being and rights. The media plays a crucial role in safeguarding women's rights by raising awareness about issues like exploitation and inequality. They shed light on cases where women are mistreated and highlight the laws and policies in place to protect them. However, there's a downside too. Some reporters delve into sensitive

topics like sexual exploitation, which can inadvertently contribute to further harm. For instance, paying for stories can compromise evidence, allowing perpetrators to evade justice. So, while the media can be a force for good, it's important to navigate these complexities responsibly.

Human trafficking remains rampant in India, particularly in Goa. There are numerous NGO's working against trafficking. NGOS are crucial in safeguarding women's rights, playing vital roles in raising awareness and preventing violations against women. They gather information, conduct research and engage directly with women's issues at the grassroots level. Beyond this, they mobilize public opinion, advocate for women's protection with the government and seek justice through the legal system for marginalized communities who lack access to it. However, NGOs face numerous challenges in their efforts. In Goa, ARZ plays a crucial role in combating exploitation. ARZ stands out for its proactive approach to addressing commercial sexual exploitation and empowering women against trafficking. Arz's initiatives for women's empowerment in Goa stand as a ray of hope in the fight against human trafficking and sexual exploitation. Through projects like Mukti, Ankur, Prabhat, Voice, stop Stop Trafficking, and WISH, they provide comprehensive support to survivors, from rescue operations to rehabilitation and economic empowerment. Mukti's focus on rescue operations and rehabilitation ensures the safety and well-being of victims while empowering them to rebuild their lives. Initiatives like Ankur extend support to vulnerable children, offering counseling, awareness sessions and educational assistance to prevent future instances of exploitation. Furthermore, Arz's Women's Initiative for Self-Help (WISH) plays a crucial role in providing economic alternatives to survivors, enabling them to gain financial independence and break free from the cycle of abuse. By offering employment opportunities and skills training through projects like Swift Wash and

the production unit for paper products, WISH empowers survivors to rebuild their lives with dignity and strength. Additionally, Arz's advocacy efforts at both the national and local levels, coupled with their collaboration with government agencies and NGOS, underscore their commitment to addressing trafficking comprehensively and creating a supportive environment for survivors to heal and thrive. Arz is doing a great job of helping vulnerable people in the community. They are working hard to figure out why exploitation happens and to give lots of support to those who need it. They are also speaking up to change the rules so that exploitation happens less often. Their dedication shows how much they care about making life better for women and stopping exploitation from happening again and again.

To further strengthen their initiatives for women empowerment, Arz could focus on expanding their outreach programs to reach more vulnerable communities, collaborate with corporate partners to provide sustainable employment opportunities for survivors, advocate for policy reforms to strengthen laws related to trafficking and exploitation, then provide additional training and resources to law enforcement agencies to improve their ability to combat trafficking effectively. Awareness campaigns and educational programs targeted at schools and high school students across all parts of Goa are imperative in combating women trafficking. Implementing targeted initiatives in schools can bridge this knowledge gap and empower students with the tools to protect themselves and their peers. These programs can include interactive workshops, seminars and age-appropriate educational materials that cover the risks and signs of trafficking, emphasizing the importance of personal safety, consent and healthy relationships. Integrating these topics into the school curriculum can ensure a consistent and standardized approach to trafficking prevention education. Moreover, involving parents and the wider community in these

awareness campaigns can create a holistic support system. Building a culture of openness and communication within schools and communities can contribute to a vigilant environment where everyone plays a role in safeguarding against trafficking. By implementing these strategies, ARZ can continue to make significant strides towards creating a safer and more resilient society for vulnerable individuals while empowering women and ending the cycle of exploitation.

To address the misunderstanding of human trafficking, especially in patriarchal societies where men hold more power, education and awareness are the keys. We need to teach people about the realities of trafficking and how gender inequality contributes to it. This means challenging outdated beliefs about men and women and promoting equality. Additionally, empowering women to assert their rights and providing support services can help protect them from exploitation. By changing these old-fashioned ideas and promoting gender equality, we can make it harder for traffickers to exploit women and create a safer environment for everyone. To address the problem of unfairly blaming women for their exploitation, we need to teach people that it's not their fault. We must show that many women are forced into trafficking because of tough situations, not because they want to. Instead of blaming victims, we should focus on holding the real culprits—the traffickers and customers—accountable for their actions. This means changing our ideas about women and treating them equally. It's not easy, but it's important for making sure everyone is treated fairly and with respect.

Stopping women's trafficking is tough because traffickers are good at hiding. Organizations like ARZ need lots of help from the police and enough resources to find and stop these secret groups. Without enough support, it's even harder for ARZ to do its job. To help, ARZ needs more resources and to work together with the police to find traffickers. We can also tell people about

trafficking so they can help stop it. With more support, ARZ can do a better job of stopping trafficking and keeping women safe. Many people don't know enough about trafficking or how to spot when someone is being treated unfairly. To help, we need to teach them about the signs of trafficking and where to get help. This could mean having talks in schools or communities and putting up posters with information. We can also have hotlines where people can call if they see something suspicious. By teaching people and giving them ways to help, we can make a difference in stopping trafficking.

Making sure laws against women's trafficking are followed properly is really important. But sometimes, they're not enforced the way they should be. This can happen because the people who are supposed to enforce the laws might not know enough about trafficking or because of corruption. To fix this, Arz needs to train law enforcement better and put measures in place to stop corruption. Arz also needs better teamwork between different groups to catch traffickers and make sure they're punished. When women and girls face terrible things like rape, domestic violence, or discrimination, everyone jumps in to help right away. Leaders, police, and organizations that stand up for people's rights all come together to catch the bad guys and help the victims. But when it comes to women's trafficking, where people are forced into really bad situations, it seems like not everyone is as quick to help. Maybe it's because they don't realize how complicated it is. To change this, we need to raise awareness about trafficking and show people why it's so important to help. We also need better training for law enforcement and support for organizations that fight trafficking. By doing these things, we can make sure everyone understands the seriousness of trafficking and works together to stop it.

Ensuring education for all women is crucial, but economic challenges often force families to prioritize immediate income over schooling, leading to issues like child labor and prostitution. Strengthening laws alone isn't sufficient; we need dedicated individuals in the justice system that prioritize women's rights and welfare. Adapting procedures to consider children's needs is vital for fostering a society that values women's rights and invests in children's futures. Ultimately, building a better tomorrow hinges on empowering women through education and creating an environment that safeguards women's rights.

It's crucial to strengthen the integrated anti-human trafficking unit (ARZ, 2019) due to Goa being a major destination for trafficking and requiring protective efforts in gathering information, conducting surveillance, rescuing victims and collaborating with authorities in various states and countries to dismantle the organized trafficking network. In Goa, various forms of commercial sexual exploitation exist in clubs, massage parlors, flats, hotels, lodges, farms, bars, casinos, etc. To combat women's trafficking, we urgently need straightforward rules for massage parlors, farms, discos, bars and clubs. This will help stop illegal activities and make it easier for the police to take action. It's crucial for authorities to take a decision or action against the places that support commercial sexual activities. This includes closing down these places or canceling the licenses. Taking action against places involved in commercial sexual exploitation is vital for public safety and community well-being. These establishments often contribute to crime, violence and social instability. Law enforcement efforts to address these hubs help maintain public order, disrupt criminal activities, and send a strong message about prioritizing the safety and well-being of the community.

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## **Appendix**

### **QUESTIONNAIRE FOR NGO's**

1. Name of the NGO?
2. What is your NGO's mission in combating women trafficking in Goa?
3. What inspired the establishment of your organization and its specific focus on trafficking?
4. What are some challenges your NGO encounters in its efforts against women trafficking in Goa?
5. What key programs and initiatives does your NGO undertake to prevent women trafficking?
6. How does your organization measure the impact of its programs on preventing women trafficking?
7. How does your NGO secure funding for its programs and initiatives?
8. What challenges victims faced from CSE and how ARZ assist them in overcoming them?
9. How does your NGO collaborate with other organizations and government agencies?

10. Is there a specific focus on education and vocational or skill based training for the children of victims of CSE?
11. How does the ARZ overcome barriers to education for children of victims of commercial sexual exploitation?
12. Are there specific initiatives or scholarships in place to enhance educational opportunities for the children of victims of CSE?
13. How does your organization engage with local communities to raise awareness about women trafficking?
14. How does your NGO assist survivors in navigating the legal system?
15. How does your NGO engage with media to raise awareness about trafficking issues?
16. How does your organization provide livelihood opportunities for women affected by trafficking?
17. Are there specific vocational training programs or income-generating activities offered to empower survivors economically?
18. Which schemes and policies does your organization implement to support the survival of women trafficking survivors?
19. Is their victims received assistance in obtaining necessary identification documents (Aadhar Card, Bank Passbook, election card) for accessing support services or employment opportunities by ARZ?
20. What prevention strategies do you think would be most effective in reducing the incidence of women trafficking?
21. In your opinion, what additional programs or resources could be implemented enhance support for survivors in their journey of empowerment?

22. What are your NGO's future aspirations in combating women trafficking?

### **QUESTIONNAIRE FOR POLICE**

1. Your Position
2. How did you involved with ARZ?
3. How does police respond to immediate crises related to women trafficking in Goa?
4. In 2023, what was the number of registered cases related to women trafficking in Goa?
5. How does the police find and help group of people who might be more likely to be trafficked, especially women?
6. Are there special police teams for dealing with women trafficking cases in Goa?
7. What was the primary function and role of the “Nodal ngo” or “anti-trafficking cell” in addressing and combating women trafficking within the framework of ARZ?
8. What are main challenges police encounter in combating women trafficking?
9. How does police make sure people feel safe reporting women trafficking cases?
10. What services are provided to women trafficking victims during and after investigation?

11. How does police collaborate with ARZ ngo to address crimes against women?
12. What protective steps does police take to prevent women trafficking?
13. How does the police force contribute to implementing safety measures for women in public spaces and communities with the help of ARZ?
14. In what ways does the police force contribute to community awareness campaign led by ARZ to prevent crimes against women?
15. How does police measure the success of ARZ's anti-trafficking campaign and what is the community feedback?
16. How does police collaborate with media to raise awareness about women trafficking?
17. How does the police force provide support to survivors of crimes against women during legal process?
18. How does the police in collaboration with ARZ, work with neighboring states to address trafficking?
19. How effective are current laws in combating human trafficking, especially of women?

**Arun Pandey (Director Of Anyay Rahit Zindagi, NGO)**



**Arz received Stree Shakti Award from President in 2015**





**Awareness campaign**



Source - (ARZ , 2019)

**Women Initiative for Self Help (WISH)**





## Victim's Empowerment through Stitching Work









## Anti Human Trafficking Unit, Panjim

