

# Stop Trafficking!

## Anti Human Trafficking Newsletter



Awareness

Advocacy

Action

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This issue highlights excerpts from the 2014 TIP Report, with emphasis on how victims are helped to become survivors.

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## 2014 Trafficking in Persons Report

*“Among global challenges, and one absolutely inextricably linked to the broader effort to spread the rule of law and face the crisis of failed and failing states, we find perhaps no greater assault on basic freedom than the evil of human trafficking.”*

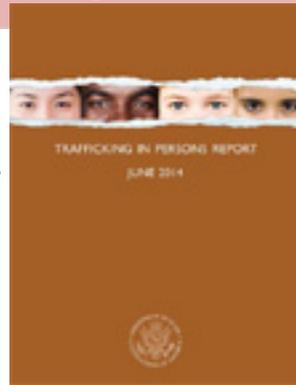
*“Survivors know better than anyone the steps we need to take to identify those enslaved and bring to justice those responsible.”*



*“We each have a responsibility to make this horrific and all-too-common crime a lot less common. And our work with victims is the key that will*

*open the door to real change—not just on behalf of the more than 44,000 survivors who have been identified in the past year, but also for the more than 20 million victims of trafficking who have not.”*

John Kerry, U.S. Secretary of State



*“This year’s theme—The Journey from Victim to Survivor—is very personal to me. It brings to mind many of the people I came to know and admire during the years I spent as a civil rights prosecutor.”*

*“I remember how frightened “Phuong” looked entering the*

*empty courtroom a few days before the trial. To ease the trauma of testifying, she and her fellow survivors took turns sitting in the witness stand, the jury box, and even—with the permission of the court—the judge’s chair. She sat at the counsel’s table, questioning one of the agents as if she were the prosecutor. As the hour went by and she became comfortable in the courtroom, her nervousness turned to laughter and then to determination. A week later, leaving the stand after a long cross-examination, she remarked about the defendant: “He looks so small.” The balance of power had finally shifted. A decade later, he remains in federal prison and his victims are living their lives in America. I was honored to attend the 10th*

*anniversary celebrating their liberation from the garment factory; we danced and sang and told stories and laughed with the children. Phuong and her friends were no longer victims, they were survivors.”*

Luis CdeBaca, Ambassador-at-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons

**“For those who have endured the exploitation of modern slavery, even the most effective justice system and the most innovative efforts to prevent future trafficking will not reverse the abuse and trauma that millions of trafficking victims have endured.”**

(TIP, pg. 7)





## Awareness

# The Plight of Victims

## Peru

Oscar, age 16, left home to work in Peru's gold mining area. His cousin had told him stories of being paid in chunks of gold. Upon arrival, the mine owner said Oscar had to work 90 days to repay the fee his cousin received for recruiting him. Since the owner controlled the river traffic, there were no options for escape. Oscar realized he had been sold into slavery.

Oscar soon contracted malaria and was left to die in a hut. The other workers cared for him, feeding him with their own meager rations. Too weak to work in the mines, Oscar was forced to work in the kitchens. When 90 days were completed, Oscar packed his bags to leave, but the boss told him he had only been credited for working 30 days. To be credited with 90 days' he had to work for eight more months.

Upon his return from the Amazon, Oscar was hospitalized for yellow fever. To repay the doctors, he had to borrow money from his family. Oscar believed the only way to repay that debt was to return to work in the mines again. (TIP, pg. 26)

## Philippines to Saudi Arabia

Marie left her home in the Philippines for a job as a domestic worker in Saudi Arabia. Promise of a fair wage and safe workplace made the sacrifice of leaving her family seem worth it. In reality, Marie spent her time in Saudi Arabia being sold from employer to employer—11 in all. In the last home where she worked, she was beaten severely. After her stay in the hospital, she was sent home to the Philippines. She was never paid for her months of work. (TIP, pg. 28)

## Pakistan to United Arab Emirates

Mariam and her 16-year-old daughter Fatima were promised jobs at a beauty salon in the United Arab Emirates. On their flight from Pakistan, a friendly man gave Mariam his number in case she needed help. A friend of the person who paid for their flights and promised them jobs met Mariam and Fatima at the airport. The woman took their passports, brought them to a house, and forced the mother and daughter to engage in prostitution to pay for their plane tickets.

Mariam watched her daughter cry each time a client left her room. When she had a chance, Mariam called the man from her flight and confided in him. He encouraged her to contact the police. Convincing their captor they had to go to the market, the two found a taxi and went to the police. During the investigation, the police uncovered other victims, also lured with promises of jobs in a beauty salon. (TIP, pg. 29)

## Burma – Thailand

Trusting his recruiters, Myo believed he was leaving his home in Burma to work in a pineapple factory in Thailand. Instead, once in Thailand, he was sold to a boat captain for approximately \$430. He was held on the boat for 10 months, forced to work, and beaten regularly. On the rare occasion that the boat docked at port, the officers bribed local police to allow them to keep the fishermen on the boat rather than risk having them escape on shore.

Myo did finally escape and sought refuge in a temple. He continues to struggle with deafness, having had his head and ear smashed into a block of ice on the fishing boat. (TIP, pg. 34)

## Philippines to Australia

With dreams of successful boxing careers, Czar and three of his friends fell prey to three Australians who helped them procure temporary sports visas and paid for their travel from the Philippines to Sydney. Upon arriving in Australia, the men were in debt to their captors, who confiscated their passports and forced them into unpaid domestic labor as "houseboys." Rather than making their way in the boxing industry, they were forced to live in a non-insulated garage with mere table scraps for meals.

After three months, Czar finally entered a boxing match, and won the equivalent of \$3,500, which his captor took. Shortly thereafter, Czar ran away and escaped. One of his friends also escaped, and went to the police. An investigation was opened into their captors on counts of exploitation and human trafficking. (TIP, pg. 37)

## India

At age 15 Ajay was abducted from a city playground and sold to a rich sugarcane farmer, far from home. Ajay endured backbreaking work cleaning livestock pens and processing sugarcane. After losing a finger while cutting cane, he was still forced to work with little food or sleep. Escape seemed inconceivable to him and the other children on the farm.

But when the owner sent him on an errand he seized the chance to escape. A year after his disappearance his family celebrated his return after his long journey home. Though the family asked police to investigate what had happened, many children continue to be held in forced labor on sugarcane farms and elsewhere. (TIP, pg. 43)



## Awareness

### 3 Environmental Degradation & Human Trafficking

Certain industries face particularly high environmental risks, including agriculture, fishing and aquaculture, logging, and mining. Workers in these sectors also face risks; the use of forced labor has been documented along the supply chains of many commercial sectors. Exploitation of both people and natural resources appears even more likely when the yield is obtained or produced in illegal, unregulated, or environmentally harmful ways and in areas where monitoring and legal enforcement are weak.

Governments, private industry, and civil society have an opportunity to push for greater protections for the environment and for workers, including those victimized by human trafficking. Additional research is needed to learn the relationship between environmental degradation and human trafficking in these and other industries. It is also essential to strengthen partnerships to better understand this intersection and tackle both forms of exploitation, individually and together.

#### Agriculture (Crops and Livestock)

Unsustainable agricultural practices around the world are a major cause of environmental degradation. Agriculture is considered by the International Labor Organization to be one of the most hazardous employment sectors. Particular risks to workers include exposure to harsh chemicals and diseases, work in extreme weather conditions, and operation of dangerous machinery without proper training. Moreover, many agricultural workers are vulnerable to human trafficking due to their exclusion from coverage by local labor laws, pressure on growers to reduce costs, insufficient internal monitoring and audits of labor policies, and lack of government oversight.

- Throughout **Africa**, children and adults are forced to work on farms and plantations harvesting cotton, tea, coffee, cocoa, fruits, vegetables, rubber, rice, tobacco, and sugar. There are documented examples of children forced to herd cattle in **Lesotho**, **Mozambique**, and **Namibia**, and camels in **Chad**.
- In **Europe**, men from **Brazil**, **Bulgaria**, **China**, and **India** are subjected to forced labor on horticulture sites and fruit farms in **Belgium**. Men and women are exploited in the agricultural sectors in **Croatia**, **Georgia**, the **Netherlands**, **Spain**, and the **United Kingdom**.
- In **Latin America**, adults and children are forced to harvest tomatoes in **Mexico**, gather fruits and grains in **Argentina**, and herd livestock in **Brazil**.
- In the **Middle East**, traffickers exploit foreign migrant men in the agricultural sectors of **Israel** and **Jordan**. **Lebanese** traffickers reportedly force **Syrian** refugees, including children, to harvest farm fruits and vegetables.
- In the **U.S.** victims of labor trafficking have been found among the nation's migrant and seasonal farmworkers, including adults and children who harvest crops and raise animals.

#### Fishing and Aquaculture

Forced labor on fishing vessels along with illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing threatens food security and the preservation of marine resources. Testimonies from survivors of forced labor on fishing vessels have revealed that many of the vessels on which they suffered exploitation used banned fishing gear, fished in prohibited areas, failed to report or misreported catches, operated with fake licenses, and docked in unauthorized ports—all illegal fishing practices that contribute to resource depletion and species endangerment. A growing body of evidence has documented forced labor on inland, coastal, and deep sea fishing vessels, as well as in shrimp farming and seafood processing.

- In **Europe**, **Belize**-flagged fishing vessels operating in the Barents Sea north of **Norway** have used forced labor, as have vessels employing **Ukrainian** men in the Sea of Okhotsk.
- In the **Caribbean**, foreign-flagged fishing vessels have used forced labor in the waters of **Jamaica** and **Trinidad and Tobago**.
- Along the coastline of **sub-Saharan Africa**, forced labor has become more apparent on **European** and **Asian** fishing vessels seeking to catch fish in poorly regulated waters. Traffickers have exploited victims in the territorial waters of **Mauritius**, **South Africa**, and **Senegal**, as well as aboard small lake-based boats in **Ghana** and **Kenya**.
- In **Asia**, men from **Cambodia**, **Burma**, the **Philippines**, **Indonesia**, **Vietnam**, **China**, **India**, and

**Bangladesh** are subjected to forced labor on foreign-flagged (largely **Taiwanese**, **Korean**, and **Hong Kong**) vessels operating in territorial waters of countries in **Southeast Asia**, **the Pacific region**, and **New Zealand**.



TIP, pg. 53

Environment cont. on pg. 4



## Awareness

### Environment *cont. from pg. 3* Logging

One out of five people in the world relies directly upon forests for food, income, building materials, and medicine. Yet laws to protect forests are often weak and poorly monitored. Illegal logging has led to forest degradation, deforestation,



corruption at the highest levels in governments, and human rights abuses against entire communities, including indigenous populations. Human trafficking is included in this list of abuses.

*TIP, pg. 54* While some

governments and civil society organizations have voiced strong opposition to illegal logging and made pledges to protect this valuable resource, the international community has given comparably little attention to the workers cutting down the trees, transporting the logs, or working in the intermediate processing centers. At the same time, the serious problem of workers in logging camps sexually exploiting trafficking victims has garnered insufficient attention.

There is a dearth of documented information on working conditions of loggers and the way the logging industry increases the risk of human trafficking in nearby communities.

- In **Asia**, victims have been subjected to labor trafficking in the logging industry. For example, **Solomon Islands** authorities reported a **Malaysian** logging company subjected **Malay-**

- **sians** to trafficking-related abuse in 2012. **Burmese** military-linked logging operations have used villagers for forced labor. **North Koreans** are forced to work in the **Russian** logging industry under bilateral agreements. Migrant workers in logging camps in **Pacific Island** nations have forced children into marriage and the sex trade.
- In **Brazil**, privately owned logging companies have subjected **Brazilian** men to forced labor.
- The Government of **Belarus** has imposed forced labor on **Belarusian** nationals in its logging industry.

### Mining

Mining—particularly artisanal and small-scale mining—often has a negative impact on the environment, including through deforestation and pollution due to widespread use of mercury. The *UN Environment Program* estimates that the mining sector is responsible for 37% of global mercury emissions, which harm ecosystems and have serious health impacts on humans and animals.

In addition to degrading the environment, mining often occurs in remote or rural areas with limited government presence, leaving individuals in mining communities in Latin America, Africa, and Asia more vulnerable to forced labor and sex trafficking.

- In the eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, a significant number of **Congolese** men and boys working as artisanal miners are exploited in debt bondage by business people and supply dealers from whom they



*Environment cont. on pg. 5*

## Global Law Enforcement Data

Year	Prosecutions	Convictions	Victims Identified	New or Amended Legislation
2006	5,808	3,160		21
2007	5,682 (490)	3,427 (326)		28
2008	5,212 (312)	2,983 (104)	30,961	26
2009	5,606 (432)	4,166 (335)	49,105	33
2010	6,017 (607)	3,619 (237)	33,113	17
2011	7,909 (456)	3,969 (278)	42,291 (15,205)	15
2012	7,705 (1,153)	4,746 (518)	46,570 (17,368)	21
2013	9,460 (1,199)	5,776 (470)	44,758 (10,603)	58

The above statistics are estimates only, given the lack of uniformity in national reporting structures (*TIP*, pg. 45). The numbers in parentheses are those of labor trafficking prosecutions, convictions, and victims identified. For regional data, go to:

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2014/226649.htm>



## Awareness

### Human Trafficking and the Demand for Organs

#### Environment *cont. from pg. 4*

acquire cash advances, tools, food, and other provisions at inflated prices and to whom they must sell mined minerals at prices below the market value. The miners are forced to continue working to pay off constantly accumulating debts that are virtually impossible to repay.

- In **Angola**, some **Congolese** migrants seeking employment in diamond-mining districts are exploited in forced labor in the mines or forced prostitution in mining communities.
- A gold rush in southeastern **Senegal** has created serious health and environmental challenges for affected communities due to the use of mercury and cyanide in mining operations. The rapid influx of workers has also contributed to the forced labor and sex trafficking of children and women in mining areas.
- In **Guyana**, traffickers are attracted to the country's interior gold mining communities where there is limited government presence. Here, they exploit **Guyanese** girls in the sex trade in mining camps.
- In **Peru**, forced labor in the gold mining industry remains a particular problem. In 2013, a report titled, *Risk Analysis of Indicators of Forced Labor and Human Trafficking in Illegal Gold Mining in Peru*, catalogued the result of interviews with nearly 100 mine workers and individuals involved in related industries (such as cooks, mechanics, and people in prostitution). It traces how gold tainted by human trafficking ends up in products available in the global marketplace, from watches to smart phones. (TIP, pg. 52-55)

More than 114,000 organ transplants are reportedly performed every year around the world. These operations satisfy less than an estimated 10% of the global need for organs such as kidneys, livers, hearts, lungs, and pancreases. One third of these operations include kidneys and livers from living donors. The shortage of human organs, coupled with the desperation experienced by patients in need of transplants, has created an illicit market for organs.

Governments, the medical community, and international organizations, such as the World Health Organization, are addressing the illicit sale and purchase of organs through the adoption of regulations, laws, codes of conduct, awareness campaigns, and mechanisms to improve traceability of organs, as well as to protect the health and safety of all participants. Many countries have also criminalized the buying and selling of human organs.

Unscrupulous individuals seeking to profit from this shortage, however, prey on disadvantaged persons, frequently adult male laborers from less-developed countries.

These living donors are often paid a fraction of what they were promised, are not able to return to work due to poor health outcomes resulting from their surgeries, and have little hope of being compensated for their damages. This practice is exploitative and unethical, and often illegal under local law. Sometimes it also involves trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal.

What makes an illegal organ trade a human trafficking crime? The sale and purchase of organs themselves, while a crime in many countries, does not *per se* constitute human trafficking. Trafficking requires the recruitment, transport, or harboring of a person for organ removal through coercive means, including the “*abuse of a posi-*

*tion of vulnerability.*” Cases in which organs are donated from deceased donors who have died of natural causes do not involve human trafficking.

Some advocates have taken the position that when economically disadvantaged donors enter into agreements for organ removal in exchange for money, they invariably become trafficking victims because there is “*an abuse of a position of vulnerability.*” Abuse of a position of vulnerability is one of the “*means*” under the Palermo Protocol definition of trafficking in persons.

Thus, if a person who is in a position of vulnerability is recruited by another who abuses that position by falsely promising payment and health care benefits in exchange for a kidney, the recruiter may well have engaged in trafficking in persons for the purpose of organ removal. The UN's Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) states in its Guidance Note on “*abuse of a position of vulnerability*” as a means of trafficking in persons that the abuse of vulnerability occurs when “*an individual's personal, situational, or circumstantial vulnerability is intentionally used or otherwise taken advantage of such that the person believes that submitting to the will of the abuser is the only real and acceptable option available to him or her, and that belief is reasonable in light of the victim's situation.*” (TIP, pg. 32)



Two Indian women showing scars from removal of their kidneys.



Advocacy

# TIP Report Tier Placement

Tier 1 Countries whose governments fully comply with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act's (TVPA) minimum standards.  
 Legend: (n) new country in ranking as of 2014; (+/-) indicates the number of tiers a country moved up (+)/down (-) since 2013; (s) special case; (‡) countries which continue to violate the Child Soldier Protection Act (CSPA); (x) countries that are not parties to the UN Palermo Protocol.

Armenia	Denmark	Israel	New Zealand	Spain
Australia	Finland	Italy	Nicaragua	Sweden
Austria	France	Korea, South (x)	Norway	Switzerland (+)
Belgium	Germany	Luxembourg	Poland	Taiwan
Canada	Iceland	Macedonia	Slovak Republic	United Kingdom
Chile (+)	Ireland	Netherlands	Slovenia	USA
Czech Republic (x)				

Tier 2 Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards.

Afghanistan (+ x)	Congo, Rep. of (x)	Hong Kong	Mauritius	St. Maarten
Albania (+)	Costa Rica	Hungary	Mexico	Senegal
Argentina	Cote d'Ivoire	India	Micronesia (+)	Serbia
Aruba	Croatia	Indonesia	Moldova	Seychelles (+)
Azerbaijan	Curacao	Iraq	Mongolia	Sierra Leone (x)
The Bahamas	Dominican Rep.	Japan (x)	Montenegro	Singapore (x)
Bangladesh (x)	Ecuador	Jordan	Mozambique	South Africa
Barbados (+ x)	Egypt	Kazakhstan	Nepal (x)	Swaziland (n)
Benin	El Salvador	Kiribati	Niger	Tajikistan
Bhutan (x)	Estonia	Kosovo	Nigeria	Trinidad & Tobago (+)
Brazil	Ethiopia	Kyrgyz Republic	Oman	Togo
Brunei (x)	Fiji (x)	Latvia	Palau (x)	Tonga (x)
Bulgaria	Gabon	Liberia (+)	Paraguay	Turkey
Burkina Faso	Georgia	Lithuania	Peru	Uganda (x)
Cape Verde	Ghana	Macau	Philippines	United Arab Emirates
Cameroon	Greece	Maldives (+ x)	Portugal	Vietnam
Chad (+)	Guatemala	Malawi	Romania	Zambia
Colombia (-)	Honduras (+)	Malta	St. Lucia (+)	

TIP Placement cont. on pg. 7

## Journey from Victim to Survivor

Meeting the immediate needs of victims of human trafficking after their identification is critical. These individuals have often endured horrific physical, psychological, and/or sexual abuse at the hands of their traffickers and others. But victim services that focus on providing support only until individuals are physically well enough to be sent on their way—or put in line for deportation—are insufficient. Those who have been enslaved have

endured more than physical harm. They have been robbed of their freedom, including the freedom to make choices about their own lives. Medical care and a few nights in a shelter do not make a victim whole again. Even as the physical wounds are salved and begin healing, a major element of the recovery process is helping victims regain their agency, their dignity, and the confidence to make choices about how to move forward with their lives.

Those working with victims must respect their choices and freedom, including the right to refuse services. This respect must guide all efforts to provide support. If victims want to walk away as soon as they have escaped modern slavery, that decision should be in their control. What governments can control, however, is the range of services and support available to victims so that they have a menu of

Survivor cont. on pg. 9



Advocacy

2014 TIP Report Heroes

Annually the U.S. State Dept. honors individuals around the world who have devoted their lives to the fight against human trafficking. They are lawmakers, police officers, and concerned citizens recognized for their tireless efforts to protect victims, punish offenders, and raise awareness of ongoing criminal practices in their countries and abroad despite resistance, opposition, and threats to their lives.

**Bhanuja Sharan Lal, India**

Lal is director of the Manav Sansad-han Evam Mahila Vikas Sansthan (MSEMVS), with more than 75 frontline anti-trafficking workers in northern India. MSEMVS has enabled communities to progressively dismantle entrenched systems of modern slavery at brick kilns, farms, and quarries. They transformed



hundreds of communities into 'no-go' zones for traffickers, making modern slavery virtually nonexistent in more than 130 villages.

Led by Mr. Lal, MSEMVS helps trafficking victims establish *Community Vigilance Committees*, a process through which groups of survivors achieve freedom by exercising collective power through district-level networks and pressuring police to enforce anti-trafficking laws. MSEMVS assists in freeing approximately 65 men, women, and children every month, and provides survivors with follow-up

reintegration support. MSEMVS has also launched and manages a shelter that provides rights-based help and recovery to sex trafficking survivors.

Additionally, Mr. Lal has focused intensely on eradicating child labor. Currently, 14 village-based schools enable more than 500 child trafficking survivors to catch up on their education, so they can successfully enter public schools within three years. These schools, which open and close as necessary, enable large numbers of children to come out of slavery and receive an education. (TIP, pg. 46)

TIP Placement *cont. from pg. 6*

Heroes *cont. pg. 8*

Tier 2 Watch List Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the TVPA's minimum standards, but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards and:

- a) The absolute number of victims of severe forms of trafficking is very significant or is significantly increasing;
- b) There is a failure to provide evidence of increasing efforts to combat severe forms of trafficking in persons from the previous year; or
- c) The determination that a country is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with minimum standards was based on commitments by the country to take additional future steps over the next year.

Angola (x)	Burundi	Jamaica (-)	Namibia	Sri Lanka (x)
Antigua & Barbuda (-)	Cambodia	Kenya	Pakistan (- x)	Sudan (+ ‡ x)
Bahrain	China (PRC) (+)	Laos (-)	Panama (-)	Suriname
Belarus	Comoros (x)	Lebanon	Qatar (-)	Tanzania
Belize (-)	Cyprus (-)	Lesotho	Rwanda (‡)	Timor-Leste (-)
Bolivia (-)	Djibouti	Madagascar	St. Vincent & The Grenadines (-)	Tunisia
Bosnia & Herzegovina (-)	Guinea (n)	Mali	Solomon Islands (x)	Turkmenistan
Botswana (-)	Guyana	Marshall Islands (x)	South Sudan (x)	Ukraine
Burma (‡)	Haiti	Morocco		Uruguay

Tier 3 Countries whose governments do not fully comply with the minimum standards, nor make significant efforts to do so.

Algeria	Equatorial Guinea	Korea, North (x)	Papua New Guinea (x)	Uzbekistan
Central African Repub.(‡)	Eritrea (x)	Kuwait	Russia	Venezuela (-)
Congo, Dem.Rep. of (‡)	The Gambia (-)	Libya	Saudi Arabia	Yemen (‡ x)
Cuba	Guinea-Bissau	Malaysia (-)	Syria (‡)	Zimbabwe
	Iran (x)	Mauritania	Thailand (-)	Somalia (s ‡ x)



## Advocacy

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### Heroes *cont. from pg. 7*

#### Tek Narayan Kunwar, Nepal



Kunwar, a Lalitpur District Judge, has been at the forefront of efforts in Nepal to counter human trafficking by fully implementing the Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Act, while championing the rights of victims. Judge Kunwar's victim-centered approach has provided a much needed ray of hope in the ongoing legal struggle against trafficking. During his previous tenure in District Court Makwanpur, he pioneered a "Fast Track Court System" to decrease the length of time survivors must wait to appear. He allows survivors to choose a court date (previously, they would receive little notice), and ensures that hearings proceed continually until a case is decided.

Judge Kunwar also takes a victim-centered approach to sentencing. In May 2013, recognizing the need for immediate compensation, he took the unprecedented step of ordering the government of Nepal to pay the equivalent of approximately \$3,000 to a trafficking survivor. He also established new jurisprudence to impose appropriately severe penalties for this egregious crime.

The Judicial Council of Nepal, a national government agency, named Judge Kunwar the Best Performing Judge of 2013 for his aggressive approach to combating human trafficking. He has published extensively on human rights and international law, judicial independence, and gender equality and law.

#### Jhinna Pinchi, Peru

Survivor Jhinna Pinchi was the first trafficking victim in Peru to face her traffickers in court. Since her escape in 2009, she has taken extraordinary risks. She has faced threats of death and violence, surmounted repeated social and legal obstacles, and challenged the status quo.



In 2007, Ms. Pinchi was trafficked from her home in the Peruvian Amazon and exploited in the commercial sex trade at a strip club in northern Peru. For over two years, she was denied her basic rights. She was drugged, attacked, and exploited. Finally, she escaped and began her long struggle for justice.

Ms. Pinchi encountered countless hurdles in bringing her traffickers to court, including the suspicious deaths of two key witnesses. It took four years, but she never gave up. In December 2013, a Peruvian court convicted three of her abusers for trafficking in persons, and sentenced two of them to 15 and 12 years' imprisonment, respectively. The lead defendant remains at large.

Ms. Pinchi has become a sought-after speaker and advocate, and her remarkable story has been developed into a documentary to raise awareness about human trafficking.

#### Charmaine Gandhi-Andrews, Trinidad and Tobago

As the first-ever Director of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago's Counter-Trafficking Unit at the Ministry of National Security, Charmaine Gandhi-Andrews



fundamentally changed the way the government responds to the problem of human trafficking. Ms. Gandhi-Andrews was for several years a leading and outspoken advocate for trafficking in persons legislation, which the government ultimately implemented in January 2013. Largely due to her tireless efforts, Trinidad and Tobago has an infrastructure in place to recognize, identify, and support victims. In her first year she led over 20 investigations into suspected trafficking cases, resulting in charges filed against 12 alleged traffickers—including government officials—and uncovered a dangerous network of criminal gangs facilitating human trafficking in the Caribbean region.

In 2013, the Counter-Trafficking Unit hosted over 20 presentations and workshops designed to educate law enforcement, non-governmental organizations, the legal community, and students about human trafficking. This outreach broke down barriers by connecting and sensitizing resource providers, who have since opened their doors and wallets to support trafficking victims. In a short few years, Ms. Gandhi-Andrews, now the Deputy Chief Immigration Officer, has become the public face of anti-trafficking efforts in Trinidad and Tobago, shaping a national dialogue that embraces proactive efforts to combat trafficking in persons.

#### In Memoriam, Irene Fernandez, Malaysia

In early 2014, the anti-trafficking community suffered the enormous loss of Irene Fernandez, the co-founder and director of Tenaganita, a legal and advocacy organization committed to defending the rights of migrant workers, refugees, and trafficking victims in Malaysia. Fernandez fought tirelessly to expose and correct injustices faced by vulnerable groups in the country, persevering in the face of threats and pressure. Her trailblazing efforts provided migrant worker trafficking victims with much needed legal assistance and advocacy. For this valuable work, Fernandez was recognized as a TIP Report Hero in the 2006 TIP Report.





## Action

### Survivor *cont. from pg. 6*

options from which to choose.

One of the most important needs of recently-liberated trafficking victims is a place to stay that is safe, yet that also respects their freedom and autonomy.

Ideally, a shelter is a place where a trafficked person is free to stay, leave, and return again if he or she feels the need. Such facilities need to be safe and secure. Certain procedures and policies can be put in place to guarantee security, such as restrictions on who is allowed to enter a facility or even know the address.

An effective shelter promotes, rather than hinders, a victim's freedom of movement. And where independent living is in the best interest of the trafficked person, the use of the shelter as more of a drop-in center may be most appropriate.

As trafficked persons become more independent, they often need support in finding housing, job training, education, and employment. Best practices are to not place conditions on access to such support by requiring victims to participate in a criminal investigation, or to live in a particular shelter, or to follow a prescribed course for recovery. Assistance options are most effective if they are flexible and adaptive, reflecting the difficulty in predicting what a victim may need as he or she takes steps toward becoming a survivor. In any case, well-designed, long-term assistance does not involve telling a victim what he or she must do with his or her life, but rather entails providing the help requested so each individual reaches personal goals.

**Toll-Free 24/7 Hotline**  
**National Human Trafficking**  
**Resource Center**  
**1.888.3737.888**  
 or text **HELP** or **INFO** to  
**BeFree (233733).**

### Promising Practices in Eradicating Human Trafficking

#### Mobile Technologies in Uganda:

International Organization for Migration (IOM) caseworkers use smart phones to build a centralized database of trends in the trafficking of children from rural to urban areas. This guides the IOM anti-trafficking strategy.

#### “TechCamps” in Phnom Penh and Tlaxcala:

“TechCamp” Cambodia focused on using technology to address challenges in Southeast Asia, such as providing hotline information to labor migrants and reducing social stigma for sex trafficking survivors. “TechCamp” Mexico focused on developing low-cost, easily-implemented solutions, including interactive soap operas to increase public awareness about trafficking.

#### Technology to Identify and Serve Victims:

New technology being used by the National Human Trafficking Resource Center (NHTRC) hotline now includes the development of a system for individuals to connect discreetly with NHTRC through text messages in addition to a toll-free hotline.

#### Identifying Irregular Financial Transactions:

The U.S. Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN), in dialogue with other U.S. agencies, banks, private industry, NGOs, academia, and law enforcement, sought to identify financial red flags and provide guidance to financial institutions on how to detect and properly report suspected human trafficking. FinCEN's goal is to supplement and aid law enforcement investigations by supporting the effective detection and reporting of human trafficking financing through Suspicious Activity Reports. (TIP, pg. 22)

#### Informative Web Sites: (Each contains information related to human trafficking)

##### **TIP Report 2014**

<http://www.state.gov/j/tip/rls/tiprpt/2014/index.htm>

##### **18-Minute Video on Slave Labor**

A six-month multimedia investigation by U.K.'s *The Guardian* has, for the first time, traced how some of the world's supermarkets -- Tesco, Aldi, Walmart and Morrisons -- are using suppliers relying on slave labor to put cheap prawns on their shelves. Go to: <http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/video/2014/jun/10/slavery-supermarket-supply-trail-prawns-video>

#### Other Topics of Special Interest

- The vulnerability of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals to human trafficking, TIP pg. 10
- The use of forced criminality: victims hidden behind a crime, TIP pg. 14
- Marginalized communities: Romani victims of trafficking, TIP pg. 19
- Human trafficking and major sporting events, TIP pg. 20
- Off-duty law enforcement officers providing security in high-risk establishments, TIP pg. 25
- Prevent reactivating trauma in sex trafficking testimony, TIP pg. 27
- Media best practices and journalistic responsibility, TIP pg. 30
- Victims' consent, TIP pg. 35
- Vulnerability of indigenous persons, TIP pg. 36
- Child soldiers, TIP pg. 38

**Stop Trafficking!** is dedicated exclusively to fostering an exchange of information among religious congregations, their friends and collaborating organizations, working to eliminate all forms of trafficking of human beings.

Use the following web address to access past issues of *Stop Trafficking!* <http://www.stopenslavement.org/archives.htm>

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