

Nepali Female Migration and Trafficking

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ABSTRACT Trafficking, the selling of women and children for monetary profit, most often leading to bonded prostitution has been the burning issue in South East Asia. It is very difficult to explain with reliable data that trafficking of women and children takes place along the path of undocumented migration. This paper is devoted to highlight on the documented and undocumented Nepali female migration to West Bengal. It is revealed that though documented female Nepali migration shows a declining trend undocumented migration for sex work is gradually increasing. Poverty, historical oppression, organised net work, profit accrued to traffickers, demand for fair skinned, delicate featured girls and open border between India and Nepal contributed to trafficking and illegal female Nepali migration to West Bengal. Anti-trafficking programmes at the macro level should be linked with intensive anti-poverty programmes at the local/national level. The elimination of trafficking and illegal migration along the path of open border require a strong social movement and a fight against exploitation, injustice and crime created in the under world net work and drive against misuse of Indo-Nepal open border which has been passport to hell.