

Report on

National Forum for Survivor of Rape and Sexual Abuse, Trafficking and Violence



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Introduction

In 2015, the Indian National Crime Record Bureau recorded an alarming figure of violence against women. A total of 3,27,394 crimes against women were reported in 2015, including 34,556 rapes and 2113 cases of gang rape. 28359 of the total victims of rape were girls under 18 years of age. In addition, 4437 cases of attempt to Commit Rape, 59,277 cases of kidnapping and abduction of girls and women have also been registered. A total of 8,800 cases were registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act during 2015.

Before cases even get as far as the police station, survivors face tremendous pressure from their families, abusive partner to remain silent. Intimidation and isolation prevent victims from accessing the support required to navigate the legal system. These women face “secondary victimization”—social stigma, and dehumanizing experiences with medical, police, and judicial processes heighten their trauma. Victims those are approaching the police are likely to experience insensitivity, corruption, shoddy investigation and delayed action. In addition, lack of punishment (impunity) for perpetrators of violence and law enforcement and judicial actors are significant obstacles.

In spite of the protective laws to prevent and address violence against women, crime against girls and women continue to persist. Below is the list of protective laws.

- These include the Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860: Rape (Sec. 376), Kidnapping & Abduction for different purposes (Sec. 363-373), Torture, both mental and physical (Sec. 498-A), Molestation (Sec. 354) and Sexual Harassment (Sec. 509),
- The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005, The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013,
- The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act 2013, The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989,
- National Commission for Women Act 1990,
- The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act 2012, Medico-legal care for survivors/victims of Sexual Violence 2014,

- National Policy for the Empowerment of the Women 2001, Action Plan to Strengthen the Police and Administration to Combat Sexual Crimes against Women 2013,
- UJJAWALA: A Comprehensive Scheme for Prevention of Trafficking and Rescue, Rehabilitation and Re-Integration of Victims of Trafficking for Commercial Sexual Exploitation 2007.

Protective laws and welfare schemes explicitly emphasizes the need for a systematic, procedural intervention to prevent violence against girls and women to support to survivors of rape and sexual abuse. In spite of such strong protective laws violence is rampant among Indian states including Madhya Pradesh.

Jan Sahas being a survivor focused organization envisage an idea to form a platform; lead and functioned by the survivor of rape and sexual offences. This has been organically evolved through Garima Abhiyaan's intervention in elimination of manual scavenging.

Presentation on current situation and context to the National Forum by Ashif Shaikh- Jan Sahas

Ashif Shaikh talked about the current situation of violence committed on girls and women. Out of total crime committed on girls and women, 70% of victim/survivor's age is below 18. He further stated that total crime reported by NCRB in the year 2015 is 3,09,549 where as it is very important to note that cases which are not reported by the authority. Looking at the grave situation of violence and crime perpetuated on the girls and women, he explained the emergence need of platform where survivor can come together to address and prevent the case of rape and sexual offences committed on girls and women as this sort of platform is first of its kind in India which aims to bring survivor across the states to a single platform. He also briefed about a



meeting of family members of minor survivors and their courage. This incident triggered the idea of building Survivor's forum.

The forum will aim to access justice to survivor with preventive and responsive care. He also mentioned concerned stakeholder participation for accessing justice and major role they played in order to avail justice. Moreover, as per the guideline of Usha Mehara and Justice Verma Committee, One Stop Centre suppose to be set up in all district across the states, but there has been miniscule progress, and wherever it got started effective execution of such centre is at stake.

Guest Speaker on 23th August 2017

Ms. Shantha Sinha, Former Chairperson, National Commission for Protection of Child Rights

She talked about child marriage and perpetual trauma that girls had to undergo once get married in early age. She had to face all form of violence in every sphere of life. Since the birth of girl children she had to by default engaged in most of households' chores at very early age. Once get married, if not delivered baby, all family member made her responsible, if she delivers a baby girls, then also she had to face all tantrum of her in laws. Since from her birth, the environment that our society had created for girls was made sure to lag her behind in every possible development in terms of health, education and nutrition and overall well beings of her. She had to go through this in her daily life.

Moreover, she opined that child marriage is Solemnized Invasion of girl since it has approval from society, law and even god. IPC 375 sanctified consensual sexual intercourse with girls below 18 year, whereas it is considered rape in POCSO act. Moreover, Child marriage is voidable only after girls go for devoidability.

In order to achieve society where girls and boys have equal stake, girls must be linked to schools on immediate basis. Enrollment of them in school will



automatically help in diminishing the ill-practices committed on them.

Ms. Shuhma Sahu, Member, National Commission for Women, Government of India

She talked about the ill practices such as gender discrimination, patriarchy and dowry etc. being the root of cause of violation. Another concern raised by her was about sensitivity of society towards the issues of violence and sexual abuse committed on girls and women. She shared case story of acid attack survivor



and attempt to rape to substantiate her opinion on how society at large needs to break the silence in order to access justice. The notion of patriarchy has been deep rooted in our society becoming one of the root causes of violence perpetuated on them and this needs to be break.

Most importantly she raised her concern over educating “Good Touch and Bad Touch” to their children in early age to prevent the child sexual abuse. It is in this context, she opined that how it is emerging need for survivor/victim to come together and built forum dedicated to cater the issues of related to police, medical, counseling and judiciary etc.

Bhawri Devi Leader of Survivors and Activist from Rajasthan

Bhanwari Devi survivor and a leading activist strikingly points out the rooted cause for the VAW. She talked about apathy of court and judiciary system towards victims and survivor of rape and sexual abuse. She mentioned that how hostile behavior police shows towards person seeking support from them. As observed, she informed that sometime judiciary as system shown insensitivity in trial



process. The caste system is one of the major reasons behind it and also shared her experience of delayed judgment.

Gopal Husband of Urmila bai

Gopal husband of survivor promptly stated family is the only immediate support system survivors have. He rightly pointed out that “it is not my wife fault instead it is the accused who needs to be punished and not victim”. He shared his experience how the accused pressurized them for the case withdrawal and went too far by thrashing the Gopal. The incident left his leg fractured. The accused pushed them to the stage where one would lose all their patience. He stood firm against all the odds and faced bravely.



Raghvendra Sharma, Member, State Commission for Protection of Child Right, Madhya Pradesh

Raghvendra Sharma raised some of the important points to address crime and violence committed on girls such as collaboration of different stakeholder, role of family and parenting training. While talking about collaboration between different stakeholders, he explained that what role government official, health practitioner, police, judiciary and civil society organization had to play to reduce the crime against children. Referring to the data of NCRB on crime committed on children, he stated that 92.6% sexual abuse committed by family member. By stating the fact, he conveyed the important role family and parenting have to play for overarching development of society. He further added that society will function with co-operation.



Subhash Mendhapurkar- Engagement of family member specially Man and boys- Sutra

Subhash Mendhapurkar talked about man and boys engagement in the violence. He started off his discussion with the definition of violence. He explained that violence is committed to show the power over other. Dalit, Women and Minority being the most marginalized and vulnerable in socio, economic and political term and hence they are being targeted. He touched upon issue of early child marriage and cases of girls- all the case received positive judgment but when it comes to women, conviction is low.

Testimonies from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra

Ms. Vasudhara (Name Changed), Leader of Survivors and Activist, Madhya Pradesh presented by Gopal Singh

A 30 year married women was raped by her neighbor on 9th May 2011. Post-midnight she ran for her life to the police station to lodge an FIR against the accused, but police official delayed in registering the complaint.

Vasudhara (name changed), a house wife residing in a village in Madhya Pradesh, Scheduled caste (Chamar caste) lodged a complaint of rape on 9th May 2011 at a nearby police station in her native district. She claimed at around 3.15 AM when she was alone in her home, a man barged into her room from the backdoor entry of the house and raped her. The person later was identified as her neighbor.

Vasudhara hailing from a poor family, whose husband (Hari- name changed) is a mason worker and is the sole breadwinning member of the house, went to attend the wedding of his nephew in Sehore District on 9th May 2011, her son and relatives also went to attend the wedding. As she was alone in her house for her own security she locked the front door and the backdoor was used to access her home and kept a sickle next to her pillow.

Around 3 AM while she was asleep, the accused entered her house and forced himself upon her said "*Chup chap leti reh nahi to maar dalunga*" (You better not scream otherwise I will

kill you). Thus, the accused threatened her to death if she dared to scream. She did not slip into complacent zone of tolerating it. During the assault, she reached to the sickle, kept near her pillow and attacked with it. Accused snatched away the sickle and retaliated back, which lead to cut on her finger and injury on her head; she ran for life and headed towards the police station, expecting that she would be heard. The CRPC section 154 mentions that instant proceeding of the FIR should take place despite of that the dutiful policemen did not comply with the law and ignoring her conditions, casually asked her to wait until the Sub Inspector arrives. She waited there till the morning, and then her report was filed.

The heinous crime that has been committed by the accused was reported by Vasudhara the same day itself. She probably was aware that her reporting might lead to trouble in her family but that did not stop her from reporting and also stood firm on her decision of not compromising with them. The accused and the family had given the proposal to compromise and also in addition threatened them to death and showed the power of an upper caste residing in a village. The fate of a Scheduled caste confirms with the societal hierarchy and as seen in numerous cases, same thing happened with Vasudhara, as the scheduled caste family went against all the odds of the societal hierarchy the accused snatched away the right of the family to earn on 21-01-2012 by beating up her husband and fracturing his leg. Hari Husband of Vasudhara is not in a condition to go to work and earn.

Vasudhara has filed the caste on 09-05-2011 and the accused was charged with 457, 356,323,506, IPC 376, SC/ST Act 3(2)5, 3(1)12. No action has been taken against the accused for two years, as stated above in the span of 2 years the accused attacked Vasudhara's family. There has been defeat in the case as there is a general reporting from the doctor that 'she is "Habitual" which according to our experience here means that she is sexually active and ready to elope with anyone'. This clearly shows the jaded judicial judgement that exists in such cases where the victim who is eagerly waiting for justice is defeated because it was so easy to say that she is "habitual". While a family waits for justice, continuous attack on the victim persists they left their residence and started living in rent while she is still waiting for justice. Currently the case is on appeal in High Court Indore, the

only support that she has received was the support of her husband when her life is in jeopardy.

Jyoti (name changed) survivor from Rajasthan

On 9th April 2016, Jyoti (name changed) went missing from her own house; she was abducted by accused from her own house. An adolescent girl who has been missing for days, the family still waits to trace her daughter, but there is no co-operation from the police to look for a 15-year-old girl, though the odds are known.

On 09th April 2016, there was a gathering in one of the resident (belonging to Jagdish). Jagdish family and his extended family were staying at his residence for a couple of days. Among his extended family, the accused and his son had been staying at his place for around 15 days.

On 09th April 2016 everybody went off to sleep on the terrace, among these relatives, Jagdish's own daughter Jyoti, 15, was also sleeping. The very next morning around 7 am, they noticed that Jyoti and the accusers later identified as members of extended family went missing from the house. The survivor's father looked for his daughter everywhere possible but there has been no trace of her.

A FIR has been lodged on 12th April 2016, stating a missing report of their daughter and charges of 363, 366 under IPC have been filed against the accused. It seemed that this is a clear case of abduction that has happened under the roof of Jagdish residence. Neither relatives nor the villagers have any clue of Jyoti and the accused after 10th April 2016.

This abduction that has happened under their roof can lead to any kind of mishappening with Jyoti knowing that she is a minor girl. The perils of the case are extremely high but there is no cooperation from the police. The report has only been lodged to show it on the papers. Denial of not taking action has been pondered over by the police men with convenient excuses. The outreach of the case has just not been addressed to the village but it has been addressed to other official authorities, still there has been no answer from any of the officials. It has been days but to take a step on this process still awaits and there is no

trace of Durga, who is just a 15-year-old child. A speedy process is expected in such a case but it is denial that is being served.

Radha (name changed) survivor from Madhya Pradesh

Radha, 16, was assaulted, raped and video shoot by the accused who later identified as the friends of her brother. The family was so determined that they actively became part of the trial till conviction.

The incident of rape of occurred on 15th January 2016 in a village under in Dewas district of Madhya Pradesh. The child survivor, age 14 at the time of incidence, was alone in her home in the evening. Two teenage boys from her neighborhood, who belong to the same caste as her, ascended the walls of her home and entered through an open window. She was restrained by them. One of them raped her while other video shoot on mobile camera. They threatened her to upload on Whats App, a social media application, to kill her and left her in her devastated condition. However, the girl chose to inform her parents and brother when they returned home. The accused later identified as her brother's friends.

The family immediately informed the Police about the incident; police initially refused to registered the complaint. Her grandfather reiterated and asked police official to charge section as per the crime committed. Police officer initially warned under the pretext of revealing her identity but he stood firm against it and told to register it without any hesitation. Next day media cover the news and he got to know from news that the required charges were not charged against the accused. He went to police station again next day and informed that if you have not registered under the required charges he would go to delhi for it as he was an ex-army office. Police even tried to manipulate the evidence at their end but failed. The police added the POSCO with already charged 376 section of Indian Penal Code and gathered all necessary testimonials and medical evidences. The very next day print media reported the detail of the case with real name of the accused with her father's name. This helped in the judicial procedures. After few days, the accused were arrested and also received bail as they were 'first time offenders' and minor (below 18 years of age). Their trial first occurred at the Juvenile Justice Board in Dewas but later, citing the amended law, it was referred to the Session Court.

It was informed by the Juvenile Justice Board that the boys have been found to be mentally mature as well as above the age of 16 years at the time of committing the crime. The crime also qualifies to be 'heinous' (punishment of imprisonment of seven years or more) under section 33 of the amended Juvenile Justice Act. After hearing the testimonials and examining evidence the boys were found guilty by Justice Surbhi Mishra and declared 10 years of punishment each. They were handed over to the Police to be taken to 'Care homes'. After 5 years, they will be transferred to "adult correctional facilities".

Jan Sahas team provided legal support to the survivor's family to testify in court. Mother who was witness in the case was initially reluctant to testify in court as she was shattered by the incident. She re-collect herself and testify in the court which led to conviction in their hand.

Urmila (name changed) survivor from Maharashtra

Urmila (name changed) was enticed to visit the Rajashtan and sold to man who forcefully married her and exploited her.

Urmila, daughter of Shayam lal, married to Dinesh Pawar. They were living their life happily. She has two babies. Their life was going normal but eventually her husband started his tantrum. He started coming home drinking alcohol and trashing her wife. She was tired and approached the caste Panchayat for the resolution. Through the caste panchayat, they got the divorce and one child was given in her husband and one in her custody.

She shifted back to her maternal home where she met Mangala. Mangala proposed her to come along with her to Rajashtan. Kiran denied as she was not having money with her. Mangal told that she will take care of the expenses. Under the enticement of visiting Rajashtan, Mangala, Gorakha Mahajan, Mohan Singh and Dinesh Mali took her to Jaslmer, Rajashtan and sold her to Hira Mali. Kiran resisted but the accused threaten to kill her. He

also broke her mobile. The accused took her to the temple and forcefully married her. He started abusing her physically and sexually.

She suffered enough and decided to run away from the accused and she successfully eloped. On 24th April 2017, she went to file an FIR against the accused at Songir Police station in Maharashtra. Under IPC sections 363, 366, 37, 344, 323, 34 and 3(1)2 section of SC/ST prevention of atrocity act was charged against the accused. The accused file cross FIR in Jaslmer, Rajashthan and charged section 420, 406, 495 and 496 of IPC.

After two days, Lady Constable from Jaslmer police station came and took her to the Rajashthan. Her father didn't have money to even visit to her there.

Jan Sahas came to know about the case and collected the detail information about the case. It was come to know that Police presented her before the court and she was transferred to Jodhpur jail.

On 14th June 2017, Jan Sahs team visited the Jodhpur jail. Team prepared all the documents for the bail and submitted to concern authority and submitted on 15th June 2017. It was also come out during the visit that she was pregnant. On 21st June 2017, court granted her bail. Jan Sahas has been following the case.

Felicitatation of Government officials, Service providers

Following government officials, police, officials from health department, lawyers, member from child welfare committees, Anti Trafficking Units and Non-governmental organization were felicitated:

- Kalpana Mishra, Special Juvenile Police Unit
- Shelja Bhadoriya, Women Cell
- Santosh Pandey, Special Juvenile Police Unit
- Laxmi Sethia, Deputy Superintendent of Police
- Mangla Ben- Anganwadi Sahayika
- Kirti Singh- One Stop Centre

- Ranu Varola, Anganwadi worker
- O.P Shukla, Health Advisor
- Adv. Mohan Panchal, Lawyers' Forum
- Adv. Krishnpal, Lawyers' Forum
- Adv. Gurav Parmar, Lawyers' Forum, Rajasthan,
- Adv. Railee Vashavar, Lawyers' Forum
- Prem Lata ji, Teacher



Perspective: 1

After lunch session was dedicated thematically for accessing justice, medical examination and implementation of POCSO act by speakers who have been rigorously working on the issues for quite long time.

Vijay Raghawan- Criminal Justice System and Access to justice, Tata institute of Social Sciences

Prof. Vijay Raghawan started his speech with the question what are the reasons for violence on women. He stated the following reasons for violence against women- First the patriarchy system, where women are treated inferior to men. Second, men are not ready to accept the fact that women have started asserting their rights for equality and are coming forth to articulate their voices. Women asking for their share poses threat the power and privilege of men, which they have been enjoying since time immemorial and third, they want to teach lesson to women.



He also highlighted the Contradiction in our society- At one hand there has been improvement in the condition of (though not to the desired level). In the last three decades women had more access to education, job opportunities and spaces for articulating their voices at the same time there has been increase in violence against women, rather increase in heinous crime against women. He also raised his concern whether such crimes were not committed earlier or such heinous crime occurred but were not reported. If such crimes have evolved recently, then are we as society becoming more barbarous and degenerated.

He ended his speech with the statement that there is need for change in the structure of the society. "Patriarchy will have to change in order to bring equality and equality in our society".

Jayshree Bajoria- Interpreting Forensic Examination of Survivors, Human Right Watch

Jayshree Bajoria from Human Rights shared her expertise on interpreting forensic examination of



the survivors and relevance of current laws in sexual violence, She shared few cases in which two finger test still exist despite of Supreme court banning the practice of two finger test. Doctors are not in a position to comment for no reason to the survivor; they should strictly adhere to their responsibility towards the survivor.

Sensitization of the issues and lack of responsibility persists within the doctors. The TFT test not scientific test, but a lot of importance is given to TFT in courts; judgments are addressed on TFT test. While specifying on two finger test she focuses on the demographic difficulties rural women have to face on a daily basis, in such cases Doctors hardly consider such background into consideration. Most of the states, hospitals, doctors, and judiciary do not follow the 2014 guidelines. In context to this she says such injustice system discourages the survivors to fight for their case, as before they could start they are pondered with obstacles in their way to justice. In India the medical evidence is concerned as the most important tool to give judgment whereas the concerns regarding the well being (physical and mental)of the victim is neglected. Also the statement of the witness should be considered as the most important tool to access justice.

Ms. V. Fathima- ADECOM Network, Pondicherry

Ms. Fathima shared her pioneer work on domestic violence and how they have develop the strategy to empower them by providing skilled based training to the victim of domestic violence.



Survivor Network

Subhangi- Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI), Lucknow



Subhangi said that violence on women is violation of Human Rights. In order to ensure violence free life and dignified life for women; conducive environment must be created for

overarching development. She also informed of using helpline-100 when in crisis. Access to police, medical services and judiciary is one of the biggest challenges that girls and women face. She urged girls and women to develop their understanding on the legal procedures. She also stated that collaboration of Individuals, NGOs and government functionaries are the support system for girls and women to access justice. She explained to stigma attached to the survivors of sexual abuse and why it is necessary to change negative towards the survivor of sexual violence.

Ms. Pompi Banerjee-Sanjog, West Bengal

She expressed her concerns regarding the challenges in Human Trafficking issues. Trafficking is done under the pretext of job and is sold in flesh trade. Nexus of traffickers with the powerful people poses a major challenge in the rescue operation. Also there is low conviction rate of



traffickers .Only two traffickers out of hundred gets convicted. She also described the challenges when the victim comes back to the community. Victims who are rescued or managed to escape from the clutches of the traffickers are not welcomed by the community. They are being stigmatized and receive no support from the family and the community .She also mentioned that rehabilitation of victims is not defined in case of rape and trafficking in any act. One more challenge is the victims turning hostile and compromising with the perpetrator. As soon as the Section 164 statement is signed by the victim, the case gets dismissed and the victim will be deprived of any compensation.

She also spoke about the Condition of women trafficked to red light areas. She gave the reference of the study on mental health done in 2014 .According to the survey ,eighty three women/Girls out of f hundred suffers from depression. Women/Girls residing in these areas lack health services (Physical and Mental) and lack any kind of support.

Testimonies from West Bengal and Bihar

Rehnuma- Survivor from West Bengal

Rehnuma (name changed) when she was studying in 7th standard. One of her relative who used to come to her home sold her to Mumbai. She was rescued after quite some time. She gathered all courage to continue her study in spite of stigmatized by her fellow school mates.

She stayed her for long. One person came to her and consoles her. She told him everything. He offered to come along with him if she wants herself to be free. Thinking about the past that her acquaintance does, she was initially reluctant to go with him. In spite of her constant denial to come along with him, he kept coming to her. She finally agreed to go along with him. Meanwhile, her parent registered a missing girl complaint in the police station. She shared contact detail of her family with him.

Since She was missing, my father registered a complaint and with the help of Sanjog. When she returned to her home, fellow villagers started questioning her character. Fellow mates at schools humiliated her. When she went to police station, they were not ready to register her complaint. She met great challenge in accessing police service. With all that frustration, she attempted commit to suicide. With the help of Sanjog she got a path to relive her life.

With much difficulty she could lodged FIR and also lost the case in court, the accused got acquitted as Public Prosecutor has linked with the accused. But she did not lose heart & hope and filled an appeal in High Court, Kolkata and the case is under trial. She did not give up her education continued her study. Recently she is perusing Bachelor of Arts.

Jaya- Survivor from Bihar

Jaya (name changed) hard working women was abused on the caste line and harassed by the accused on the public road.

Jaya Kumari, age 32, resident of Gaya district Bihar, She was returning home after her completing her office at around 6.00 PM. Amidst the road, the accused named Mahesh (name changed) and Vinay Yadav (name changed) crossed her path and started abusing her on the caste line. They even harassed her on her way to home.

She finally reached her home and complaint about the same incident to her parent. By the time she went in for the bath, the accused reached her home and started shouting her name. They grabbed out her from the bathroom and tried to take her. By her screaming, neighbors ran towards her house. Looking at neighbors approaching the house, the accused eloped.

Nirbhaya Abhiyyan initiated by Jan Sahas came to know about the case and immediately did a fact finding of the case on 29th July 2017. FIR was registered after the Jan Sahas intervened in the case. Sections 447, 354, 504, and 34 under IPC were charged. Jyoti submitted complaint through Women helpline number and also sent a letter to Human Right Commission along with FIR enclosed.

Jan Sahas team has supported legal and counseling support to her and is in contact with her for the further proceeding in the case.

Key concerned raised by Community in Group Discussions on 24th August 2017

Since there are various stakeholders involved in the process like the police, the doctors, the judiciary, counseling and the family, it is necessary to address all the concerns revolving around these while a survivor seeks access to justice and proper rehabilitation against sexual violence/ rape/ trafficking.

To address these concerns, the survivors coming from several regions and states of India- Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra, Rajasthan; were divided into four larger groups depending on the cluster formation based on their locations in order to get to the deeper concerns that are faced by the survivors and their families while accessing justice and rehabilitation.

The Police

The concerns regarding the police were majorly centering the issue of delay and/or denial of registering the F. I. R. by the side of the policemen. Apart from this, a reckless behavior was experienced by the survivors that involved not recording relevant and appropriate

sections to the cases, making them weaker for the survivors and stronger for the accused. Some even felt that dial 100 is not being used appropriately and that it has not been approachable.

Considerable number of survivors, especially from the marginalized sections of the society, reported that they have experienced policemen taking bribe from the victims regarding their cases and using highly inappropriate and abusive language while dealing with the survivors. It was felt that the policemen display insensitive behavior towards the victims which in turn victimizes them further. The policemen were said to have been taking money from the financially influential accused and direct the evidences in their favor which, a lot of times, turns into false counter cases filed against the victim. In several cases, it has been seen that the police forces the victim to compromise in the case or write false statements on behalf of the victim while the victim is clueless about it if she does not know how to read or write. This has led to the arrest and harassment of many victims by the police and the accused.

The Judiciary

Due to the little or no knowledge about laws and legislation, the victims feel a sense of helplessness with inability to do much about their cases. The victims have no knowledge of the procedure of the cases and at times do not know what challan is and aren't provided with a copy of the charge sheet. This gives a space to misinformation in their cases and statements. The constant fear of losing their cases becomes much worse with the poor rate of conviction in the cases of rape, sexual violence and trafficking along with corruption that runs along at all the stages and facets of the judicial system. The extremely long delay in the decision breaks the faith of the victim family in the fight for justice while the accuser walks free. The public prosecutor barely takes any interest in the cases unless is paid a heavy amount by the victim. In a lot of cases, the public prosecutors have said to have taken money from the accused to turn the cases against their own clients (the victims).

“The people working in the court have made tragedies of our lives, a medium to earn money”

The survivors experienced that the lawyers, during the trials, ask atrocious questions about incidents like rape that are absolutely insensitive and irrelevant. It's not just an attack on a woman's dignity but also an attempt to make her relive the same traumatic experience, when she is forced to describe a horrendous incident like rape in front of not just the people that she knows but also the people that she does not. Most of the times the purpose to ask such question is to break a woman's pride and getting her to lose the confidence and willpower to answer the questions prudently, that in turn, weakens the case in her favor and loses the credibility in the case.

Apart from this, a significant number of survivors have reported the fear of the accuser after during the case and the lack of safety measures taken by the court for the protection of the victim and her family. Many victim and their family members have faced violence and atrocities against them and have bore serious injuries and some of the victims have even lost their lives. Protection of the victim and her family against the accused is a grave concern and should be acted upon by the court.

Medical and Health

In cases of sexual violence and rapes, the victim has to go through medical examination and in Indian legal system scenario; the burden of proof lies with the victim, which means that the victim has to prove her innocence rather than the accused. The infamous and insensitive practice of two finger test has been discontinued on papers but the ground reality says otherwise. Many survivors reported going through the ill practice of two finger test during their medical examination. The police and the medical staff are said to be working very closely on these cases and sharing details with each other, this stigmatizes the women who are passed judgment upon by the police and the doctor before the judge along with violating the right to privacy. This also results in ill treatment of the victim by the doctor as well as the police. The doctor then, just as the police, often uses abusive language for the victim.

Another concern raised by the victim was how even though the law asks a female medical examiner to examine a victim of sexual violence; this is hardly valid in implementation. Several victims have said to have been examined by a male doctor which is outright wrong.

Due to medical examination, again being a slow process, most of the evidences are lost, thus reducing the chances of the verdict being in favor of the victim.

Although the first responsibility of the doctor in cases of rapes and sexual violence is not to examine the evidences, but to first ensure that health of the victim is at a safe position but it is hardly seen that the medical examiners make the health of the survivor as a priority rather than just collecting evidences. Also, the victim does not get any copy of the medical report.

Counseling

None of the survivors experienced the service of counseling which is again a grave concern, considering the trauma that a victim goes through in and after the incident. Even the process for the access to justice can be hopeless for the victims and with no counseling, the chances of depression and PTSD increase on a very high rate.

Family

Most of the survivors admit that family and their “honor” can be one of the major reasons of why the cases go unreported. The victims either get taunted, insulted or laughed upon or get boycotted by the whole society after this incident which results in isolation of the victim and her family. Most of the girls who are victims of rape experience being forcibly married off by their family with a heavy amount of money given to the boy who marries her. Other girls experience not being married at all. The jaati panchayat do not support the victim family and harass them time to time.

Perspective: 2

Mr. Ashif, Director of Jan Sahas addressed the session with the follow up of 23rd August session and introduced the session of 24th August. He gave a recap of the previous day session. He said that it was appreciable of the government for putting efforts to strengthen their support in the civil society organization who are involved in helping the marginalized community.

Recap of last session: Sexual violence and trafficking civil society organization and government works together. Civil society organization plays positive role. In this survivor is left out and Jan Sahas felt that survivor needs to come forward and spell out their rights and form a forum and develop a strategy to strengthen the forum.

Promotional release of Jan Sahas Helpline Number- 180030002852

Jan Sahas helpline number is a national toll free number working 24*7 for violence against women and adolescent girl based in Dewas Madhya Pradesh. The helpline is functioning in five different languages; Hindi, English, Gujarati, Marathi and Bengali. The helpline operates to prevent, addressed and intervene in the cases of sexual against girls and women in India. The helpline aims to cater the cases of violence and sexual abuse in India and provides assistance to the survivors regarding to counseling, medical support, Legal aid, Information of the concerned state actors in India. Callers' identity is kept confidential in order to prevent retaliatory action against the caller.



Government Response- Mr. J.N Kansotiya- Principle Secretary, Women and Child Development Department, Madhya Pradesh

Mr. J.N. Kansotiya, the Principal Secretary, Women and Child Development Department, Government of Madhya Pradesh, elaborated on the importance and need to have a



forum for the survivors. He imparted knowledge of how a forum can act as a support system to all the survivors with their fight to access justice and proper rehabilitation. He also mentioned how this forum can strengthen the unity of a network which would make the fight for justice easier for women with the help of each other. Processes like filing an F. I. R. or a medical examination would be made more accessible and prudent through this forum as the shared experiences of the women will act as strength for each other. From the group discussion, one of the points raised by the community was not being able to get the FIR registered on the incident in the police station. He pointed out that there have been innumerable incidents where police hasn't filed the F. I. R. especially when it's easier to assume that the victim doesn't have a support or is not socially influential enough. He put this point forth and motivated the people by saying that there is a need to organize ourselves to fight for our rights and that the police will have to register the FIR when there's considerable support backing a victim. He advised the community to pressurize the government officials if their cases are not registered in the police station. He also said that media plays an important role to create pressure on the government officials.

He also spoke about various schemes that cater to the survivors of sexual abuse, trafficking and rape and the necessity to link the survivors to these schemes so that they can take the benefits that the government has especially allotted for them.

- 1. One Stop Centre (Rape and sexual abuse Yojana):** He also talked about One Stop Crisis Centres and that 18 OSC Centres have been established in 18 different districts of Madhya Pradesh where services of legal counseling and psychological counseling is provided to the victims of abuse. Apart from that, the victims are provided with the support in legal procedures during their court trial.
- 2.** He urged the girls to take benefits of **Jabali Yojana** which is especially created for girls from the families that practice caste based prostitution. He informed the survivors about the Ashram in Mandasaur that covers food, lodging and education of girls coming from these families so as to break the chain of violence against women and girls and put an end to this ill practice.

3. **Chief Minister Empowerment Schemes:** Mukhya Mantri Sashktikaran Yojana is especially for the survivors. This scheme provides livelihood opportunity to the victims.
4. **Sakhi Behen Yojana:** MP government has tried to improve the representation of women in the police force by providing police training to young girls for three months to further prepare them for police services.

He further mentioned how the issues of people living in rural areas are quite different than the ones in urban areas, he also mentioned how even the nature of crime committed against them and the incidents that take place are also different to a great extent. He mentioned how girls born in the families face utmost discrimination right from the start and this circle of violence continues as there's no end to it.

Challenges to Implement of POCSO act 2012- Ms Archana Sahay, Director, Aarambh, Bhopal



Ms. **Archana Sahaya**, the Director of Aarambh, Bhopal, came forth to address the survivors on the issue of rights of girls, their protection and advocacy. She elaborated on the importance to cater the need of mental wellbeing for the survivors of violence just as much as addressing the legal and health necessities. She pointed out how the physical and legal necessities in cases of violence are visible but the psychological wellbeing gets left behind somewhere and the survivors never get past the phase due to not being able to receive a proper counseling to cope and recover from the traumatic experience and hence, counseling should be given as much importance as the other necessities.

She also spoke about how after the incidents of sexual violence, the society continues to victimize the survivors further. She spoke about how the society perceives incidents like these as the end of the world and that there would be no other way for the victims to live a life away from the stigmatization. She spoke about how this perception in itself is flawed

and that it makes it harder for a victim to come out of the stigmatization and access a dignified life.

She went further to inform the survivors that although there has been a need and legal permission to set up a Special court for children, it is still not achieved by the government and the cases are still being addressed in the general courts. She mentions that there is a dire need to create ways to impart knowledge and awareness on the laws and sections of the penal code so that every citizen know and can ensure his/her rights.

Legal, Counseling and Psychological Support - Audrey D'mello, Majlis, Mumbai



Audrey D'mello, from Majlis, appreciated the initiative of bringing survivors of rape, sexual abuse and trafficking from nationwide on a single platform and act as a support system to each through the journey to a dignified and just life. She mentioned how important it is for all the stakeholders like family, society, government mechanism etc to support them with this fight and contribute to their journey from a victim to survivor.

She spoke about the importance and necessity of breaking the silence in cases of sexual violence and not just for the victim but for the family as well as the society since it is not an individual's responsibility but a responsibility that is shared by each and every individual of the society. She addressed the issue of violence and how it exists within the four walls of a family and perpetuated further by them.

She talked about the significance of proper and all-round rehabilitation of the victims which should be initiated immediately after the crime and how rehabilitation cannot be looked at in isolation and is a amalgamation of legal aid, counseling (victim and family), financial aid, livelihood and many other kinds of support. Only then, is a victim truly rehabilitated. She went further to say that all the enactments and acts have a definite definition for "rehabilitation" for all the marginalized sections of the society but the women and girls who have suffered sexual violence. There is no definite definition for rehabilitation for them which is again a dire need of the moment right now.

Ms. Manju Gardiya- Jan Jagruti Kendra, Chhattisgarh



Manju Gardiya from Jan Jagruti, Chattisgarh shared the concern over the high rate of human trafficking, especially in the Brick kiln industries which has been going on a large number since several years and is still seen in isolation with no significant measures taken against it. She also addressed the issue of Sexual Harassment at

Workplace and mentioned how women working in both formal and informal sector face harassment while they're at work which affects the mobility of women and violates their right to move around and freedom of mobility.

Apart from the challenges that the victims face while lodging an FIR in the police station, she highlighted the challenges faced during the rescue of the victims from the traffickers. She shared one of the cases that Jan Jagruti worked in about a woman working in brick kiln and how the case experiences hardship and struggle for the liberation of the victim against the influence of financially powerful owner of the kiln.

Trafficking and Survivors- Mr. Roop Sen, Change Mantra, Kolkata

Mr. Roop Sen from Change Mantra, Kolkata spoke about the network catering to help the survivors emerge as leaders which should be the key aim of the forum. He put Bhawri Devi as an example who has emerged as a leader through her fight as a survivor of Rape and sexual violence and is still continuing to fight for the rights of women and girls who have faced sexual violence upon them.

He also raised the concern of the struggle of survivors not being able to take a shape of a movement in the history and but with the conviction that the survivors have come together on this platform for the first time in Indian history, this movement



seems to be very likely of creating an impact in the larger picture. He expresses his concern over the voices of survivors being lost in the process of accessing justice due to the low rate of conviction and high chances of losing the trial which acts as a demotivation to the other survivors fighting the same battle. He brought forward the requirement of a reform in advocacy in the government policy and enactments which involves the above concerns of the survivors.

Dr. N.R Syag, Center for Citizenship

Dr. R. N. Syag, Centre for Citizenship felt that the root cause of violence that has to be addressed is the weakness of citizenship among the people. He reminded the participants of the first statement of the constitution starting with "*We, the people of India...*" and urged the survivors to live by it. He also talked about how important it is to know our constitutional rights and



employ it in our day to day lives. He urged the survivors to understand the power of constitution which in turn will make them powerful citizen of the nation who are well-aware of their rights and duties and know when they're being violated and how to act upon it. This awareness will empower them which in turn will compel the stakeholders to be accountable for their actions and inactions hence, the common citizen will emerge as aware and conscious representatives of the nation.

He went ahead and expressed the need for such forum that provides a single platform to all the survivors to come together and listen to each other's stories and take necessary actions on it. He said that the struggle and movement will only be meaningful if it is acted upon by the survivors themselves and not be fought behalf of them by the organizations. He mentioned that it is important for the survivors to come affront and fight their own fights while the organizations provide them with all the necessary support required by them.

Formation of Ad-hoc committee of National Forum for Survivors of Rape and Sexual abuse

Below table is the list of ad-hoc committee member of National Forum for Survival of rape and Sexual abuse.

| Sr. | Name | Place |
|-----|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | Urmila Ji | Rajasthan |
| 2. | Vishnu Ji | Rajasthan |
| 3. | Bhanwari Devi | Rajasthan |
| 4.. | Bansi lal | Rajasthan |
| 5. | Ramsabha bai | Madhya Pradesh |
| 6. | Narpat singh | Madhya Pradesh |
| 7. | Gopal Ji | Madhya Pradesh |
| 8. | Kiran Pawara | Maharashtra |
| 9. | Jaldhar Pawara | Maharashtra |
| 10. | Kamraj Ji | Uttar Pradesh |
| 11. | Halli bai | Uttar Pradesh |
| 12. | Jyoti | Bihar |
| 13. | Mamti | Bihar |
| 14. | Sandhya Delhi | Delhi |
| 15. | Firoja | West Bengal |
| 16. | Atmaram | Chhattisgarh |
| 17. | Imartibai | Odisha |
| 18. | Bansi Lal Ji | Rajasthan |
| 19. | Geeta Ji | Uttar Pradesh |
| 20. | Lalibai | Madhya Pradesh |
| 21. | Kamal Ji | Madhya Pradesh |



Testimonies from Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan

Mangla Bai, Survivor from Madhya Pradesh

The case study is an evidence of acute trauma, depression and guilt that rape survivor had to face. The case study highlights experience of family's changing attitude towards the survivor and how she held responsible for what she is not responsible of.

The Incident took place in Ujjain district. The village has mixed demographic composition of caste. Most of the villagers are agricultural labor so as of survivors' husband. The incident took place on 5th September 2015 at around 2 PM at survivor's house where she was alone, doing their daily chores, when somebody from outside later identified as her neighbor, grab her from back and thrown her on the ground.

He raped her and fled away. She was screaming for help but nobody listened. She was covered with cow dung. Her husband came in evening. She narrated the whole incident to her husband. They immediately ran to Police station and file a complaint against the accused. Police immediately took up the charge and arrested the accused.

After the incident, the attitude of her family towards her started changing. She was much tensed observing such behavior of her own family till it started coming up in so obvious manner. Her husband started cursing and cribbing about the incident. It was difficult for her to either comprehend or digest until she confronted them. They stopped giving me for daily chore expenses. My husband ended up saying "ask the accused to give money". My own son went on to say that "If I would be in my father's position, I would have burned you alive". Now, I am paying price for what I have not done".

This wasn't enough, few days passed and she got to see the accused roaming around her neighboring. Imagine someone committed crime on you and few days later, you are seeing walking around you as if system of justice doesn't exist at all. She must have felt the same. The accused was free after few days. He was coming to face her. He pitied on her and said "You and Police could not do anything to me". "This is what our justice system is?" she replied.

Nirbhaya Abiyaan by initiated by Jan Sahas is following up on this case by registering a complaint against the accused for abusing her without the reasons. Jan Sahas had assisted

her in filing an FIR and also provided counseling support. Moreover, she received an assistance of Sewing machine to sustain her livelihood.

She went to court for four times for the hearing. Moreover, Medical report approved the rape, hearing of the police and doctors are still in the process.

Janki bai (Name Changed) Survivor from Rajasthan

Janki bai (Name changed) was kidnapped, held captive and fled after three months. She narrated the incident to her husband and immediately went to file an FIR. The accused lodged a complaint against her before she did. She was arrested in the charge of trafficking and impression for three months. She become pregnant there and aborted but police failed to provide even medical care to her.

Janki bai, 30, is a resident of of Rajashthan. Mohan lal (name changed) and Janki bai is daily wage earner of Lohar caste. She captivated, assaulted raped repeatedly and sold. Police denied registering her complaint by an excuse that she was faking it.

On 1st March 2016, Janki bai was standing at Kapasan crossroad. Lady name Ritu (Name changed) from Sitaram, Mandsuare district came and asked Janki bai where are you going? She replied I am going to Mansuar. They talked usually. She offered her a tea and told her that they are also going to mansuar. They can drop her there. Amidst, they got down at temple of *Jatla* goddess. They all prayed at the temple. Ritu offered *Prasad* to Janki bai. By eating the *Prasad*, Janki bai went unconscious. When she woke up, she was in farm and her hand was tied. They told her that she had to work in the farm and annually she would be paid 65,000 Rs. They made her stay in the farm only and not allowed to go out. Very often, the accused came at night and raped her. She was captivated for three months. Somehow, she managed to flee from there and reached to her home. She narrated the incident to her husband. They immediately went to police station and registered an FIR under sections 376 and 366. In response police did nothing. Instead, they arrested her in the false complaint registered by the accused.

When the accused came to know about her escape, they immediately went to police station and lodge a complaint against the survivor. Police arrested her under the sections of human

trafficking. She was imprisoned for three months. During the same time, she came to know about her pregnancy. Police did not provide them the medical care which led to miscarriage. Investigation is completed but hearing is not started yet.

Nirbhaya Abhiyaan initiated by Jan Sahas came to know about the case from print media. They undertook fact finding on the case. By understanding the intricacies of the case, team of Nirbhaya Abhiyaan provided legal support to the survivor as and when needed. Her husband was very supportive.

Surena (Name Changed) Survivor from Madhya Pradesh

This case is of Surena (name changed) who had to drop her education as the accused of sexual assault pressurized and threaten her and her family to withdraw the complaint registered against them. With the support of Jan Sahas, she finally could readmit into school and secured second rank in 12th exam.

Jan Sahas provides legal assistance to the victims in the matter of violence against Women and Dalit from fact finding to judicial decision through the Centre for social justice and equality.

The incident took place in Dewas district. She is from Bhilal caste. She was studying in the class of 10th at the time of the incident. She has two elder sisters who are staying in her father-in-law's house. Sunena was staying with her mother at home.

On date 4th February 2014, at around 8 p.m. when sunena was cleaning utensils in the verandah near to her home, at the same time, someone put a torch on her face. She asked who was there, then she heard the voice of I am Arjun Rajput. After this, she continued her work. Again the accused touch on her face. On it, she angrily told why he is doing it again and again. By hearing it, the accused started abusing her and thrashed her along with his friend. Sunena's mother and sister came to the spot after hearing her screaming. They saw that the accused grabbed her pulled her into the dark place and tore her dress. Witnessing this, Sunena's mother and sister shouted on them. By listening to the shouting of Sunena's mother and sister, the villagers ran to their home. The accused and his friends run away after this by leaving sunena. They immediately ran to police station to lodge a complaint.

The accused and his family started to pressurize and threatened for a compromise. Sunena's mother stopped her schooling after receiving threat from the accused.

When the case came into notice with the Centre for Social Justice and Equality, the team of CSJE conducted fact finding of the case. CSJE provided counseling support to Sunena's mother from time to time and advised her to continue sunena's study from her daughter's house. It has been observed that the effect of the incident of sexual assault that happens with the girls left her traumatized condition.

For 12th education, she had to go 5 km away from her village. But due to the threat from the accused, Sunena's mother refused to send her to the college Sunena informed the team of CSJE that her education has been affecting. CSJE consulted her mother and requested her not to stop her education. CSJE team helped Sunena to apply for the application in the subject of Biology in 12th standard and the team also provided travel expenses from her village to Dewas. The team admitted her for coaching on her subject. Jan Sahas intervention helped her continue her study and she secured 2nd rank in 12th class.

Since then she has been preparing to fulfill her future aspiration to become police officer.

Proposed Recommendation

1. The Nirbhaya fund received an allocation of Rs 1,000 crores in each fiscal year, since its introduction in 2013-14, making it a total corpus of Rs 3,000 crores in 2015-16. The fund remained unutilized in the first two years, despite proposals being received from various ministries. Moreover, It was observed that out of this total corpus, fund were not allocated under appropriate head to initialized the expenditure on the same.
2. Engagement and advocacy efforts for the Trafficking of Persons (Prevention, Protection and Rehabilitation) Bill 2016
3. Justice Usha Mehra committee recommended **One Stop Centre** across Indian states and Union Territory. The centre ensures to provide in house facility of a nurse, gynecologist, police inspector, forensic expert and councilor- all under one roof for

proper examination of the case. One Stop Centered in all districts of Indian state must to set up on priority bases. Moreover, budget allocation for establishing one stop centre is not released in most of the cases for instance only in 18 districts One Stop Centers are set up out of total 53 districts in Madhya Pradesh.

4. **Two Finger test** violated the right of rape survivor to privacy, physical and mental integrity and dignity. Medical treatment should be carried out in such a manner that constitutes cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment. The state is obliged to provide the safety measure which can ensure and protect the right of survivors. In 2013 Supreme Court ordered to ban such practice and come out with medical procedure to validate sexual assault. Despite such practice are prevalent. Such practices must be immediately abolished.
5. Ministry of Family and Health has issued a guideline for providing proper medico-care support to the survivor. The aim was to bring about certain degree of **uniformity in approaching, treating and documenting the case of violence especially rape**. The purpose was to set the course of more sensitive and human approach to survivors of rape and sexual violence when they arrive at hospital for treatment and proper recording and documentation of medical history and facts by treating doctor. This needs to be immediately put into practice with state making it mandatory.
6. Moreover, As it is mentioned in the same guideline, in case of a girl or woman, every possible effort should be made to find a female doctor but absence of availability of lady doctor should not deny or delay the treatment and examination. In case a female doctor is not available for the examination of a female survivor, a male doctor should conduct the examination in the presence of a female attendant.
7. Under the amended Criminal law, victims cant **not denied for treatment in the hospital** weather private or government. It is thus mandatory obligation, if not hospital can be sued with likely penal consequences.
8. Family members of the survivor are the immediate support system that one seeks support from. In order to cater to the psycho-social needs to survivors and family members focused intervention and supporting infrastructure should be established.

9. Under the Nirbhaya fund, proposed amount was allotted for Universalisation of Women Helpline number. States need to immediately introduced helpline number.
10. It has been often observed that cases of gang rape, charge sheet and FIR have been filed long after the incident, which can eventually weaken the case. Hence, system needs to be place to address the need of timeline for filing the charge sheet, FIR and special court for speedy trails.
11. Victim Compensation Fund was initiated to support victims of rape, acid attack, victim of human trafficking, sexual abuse and assault of minor etc. Execution of this scheme has to be speeded up as directed by center to all states.

National Network of Survivors' Forum

About the Forum

Survivors of rape, sexual abuse and trafficking are the immediate subject of secondary victimization, stigma and dehumanizing experience with medical practitioner, police and in judicial process. In spite of in placed protective laws and welfare policies, violence against girls and women is shown continuous ascending figures. Looking at increasing incidents of violence against girls and women, it is an emergent need that voices from these sections should articulate and put forth their concerns. Moreover, family members being an important immediate support system available to survivors, it is quite necessary to involve and constructively engage them with the issues survivors face. In cases where the survivor is minor, family is the only system that they seek support/help from. It is in this light, it is necessary to have platform form, build and operated by survivors and their family members. National Network of Survivor conceived to cater the aforementioned concerns along with following objectives.

Objectives

- To build the capacity and confidence of survivors to fight as barefoot lawyers for enabling them to seek Justice and help to other survivors.
- To ensure implementation of laws and policies for justice and rehabilitation of survivors thorough community based monitoring.

- To create conducive social environment against social stigma and social disempowerment for survivors of sexual violence at national level.
- To engage and involve boys and men and other all social/state actors for prevention of sexual violence.

Process to develop Network of survivors: National Survivors Forum

Meeting held between ad-hoc committee members of National Forum for Survivor and representatives of civil society organisations i.e. Jan Sahas, Yuva Vikas Mandal, Gramin Swavlamban Samiti, Jan Jagriti Kendra, Majlis, ADECOM, Change Mantras, centre for citizenship etc. Members of Ad-hoc committee narrate her zeal and determination to reach and mobilize other survivor across India through forum. Firoja, a member of ad-hoc committee narrate about her passionate advocacy work for accessing entitlement of survivors in west Bengal. She is keenly interested to work with such passion in national forum too. Bansilal, a member from Rajasthan want to work to end violence against girls by raising awareness about women rights and would extend all possible help to survivor of rape and sexual assault. Imartibai from Panna agreed with Bansi lal ji showed her determination to raise awareness about legal framework mean to be violence against women. Halli bai from Uttar Pradesh expressed her happiness for being a part of national forum where she can share a concern and empathy.

N.R. Syag, representative from Centre from Citizenship suggested developing comprehensive strategies and planning to meet desired goal of forum. Ashif Shaikh from Jan Sahas urged all partner organizations to share equal responsibility instead any single organization. Sanjay Dumane from Jan Sahas and Rajkumar Ahirwar from Gramin Swawlamban Samiti cited Garima Abhiyan as epitome of community consciousness led campaign and advocacy, same model could be replicated in forum. Sameer Taware from Anti-slavery International suggested that forum should be independent and sustainable; it should not be depending on any civil society organization. Audrey D'mello from Majlis and Manju Gardiya from Jan Jagriti Kendra committed to strengthen forum in their respective field intervention. Roop Sen from Change Mantra, West Bengal based civil society

organization to stress more upon victim –survivor- leader approached. He further suggested about need to conduct intensive workshop for leader of national forum. In the concluding remarks all have decided to conduct workshop explicitly for leaders where civil society organization will play role of facilitator.

Plan of Action

- Forums will aim to increase its membership to 10,000 in first year of its functioning from across Indian states.
- 4 workshops will be organized in the first year of its functioning to empower them to access justice from the judiciary. The workshops will be intensely focused on protective laws and welfare policies.
- Forum will raise voice of the survivors for policy reform including trafficking bill, 2016
- Workshops with Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) and Community Based organizations (CBOs) to enable them to response and act on the cases of violence against girls and women.

NGOs and Civil Society Organization participated

| S.N. | Name | State |
|------|---|------------------|
| 1. | Gramin Savlamban Samiti | Madhya Pradesh |
| 2. | Buniyad | Madhya Pradesh |
| 3. | Udan | Madhya Pradesh |
| 4. | Yuva Vikash Manch | Madhya Pradesh |
| 5. | Mamidipudi Venkatarangaiya (MV) Foundation | Andhra Pradesh |
| 6. | Human Rights Watch | Delhi |
| 7. | Sutra | Himachal Pradesh |
| 8. | Association for Advocacy and Legal Initiatives (AALI) | Uttar Pradesh |
| 9. | Sanjog | West Bengal |
| 10. | Tata Institute of Social Sciences | Maharashtra |
| 11. | Change Mantra | West Bengal |

| | | |
|-----|-------------------------------|----------------|
| 12. | Jan Jagruti Kendra | Chhattisgarh |
| 13. | Anti Slavery international | New Delhi |
| 14. | Usha International | New Delhi |
| 15. | International Justice Mission | New Delhi |
| 16. | Majlis | Maharashtra |
| 17. | Aarambh | Madhya Pradesh |
| 18. | ADECOM Network | Pondicherry |
| 19. | Centre for Citizenship | Madhya Pradesh |
| 20. | Maitry Network | Tamil Nadu |
| 21. | Samvedana | Maharashtra |
| 22. | Sahayog | Uttar Pradesh |
| 23. | Dignity Alliance | Delhi |
| 24. | Garima Abhiyan | Bihar |
| 25. | Change Alliance | Delhi |
| 26. | Srujan Sanstha | Uttar Pradesh |
| 27. | PHIA Foundation | Madhya Pradesh |
| 28. | JATAN | West Bengal |
| 29. | MARA | Karnataka |
| 30. | I-Partner India | New Delhi |