

Crime against Women



Chapter 7: Crime Against Women

Introduction

Crime against women includes any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. The Constitution of India recognized equality rights of women in Articles 14, 15 and 16. Article 15 (3) allowed the State for making special provisions for women and children to prohibit discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth. Despite the constitutional provisions and different gender specific laws in place, the problem of violence and crime against women has acquired phenomenal proportion.

The incidence of crime against women in India have been increasing continuously with 2.13 lakh reported cases in 2010 which rose to 3.37 lakh reported cases in 2014 registering a growth of 58 *per cent* in last four years. According to the report of National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) for the year 2014, Uttar Pradesh earned the dubious distinction of leading the list of States where crime against women in 2014 was highest, accounting for 11.4 *per cent* of the total number of incidence of crime against women in the country.

Violence and crime against women is a social problem which is linked to gender inequality and violates the right of women to live without fear with freedom and dignity. The Committee on Crime Statistics setup by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, GoI in their report submitted in June 2011 stated that it has been recognised that a sizable portion of criminal events are never reported to the police and are therefore not included in police or any other statistics. Further, the committee had concluded that NCRB captures even less than 0.16 *per cent* of the total crime against women. The National Family Health Survey-3 (latest) which collected data on 'Help seeking by women' who were victims of violence, brought out that only 2.1 *per cent* of the women who experience physical and sexual violence sought assistance from institutional sources such as police. The above findings of the NFHS would entail that the law enforcement authorities in the State should not be complacent about the relatively lower registered crime rate per one lakh of women population.

Audit analysed various crime data in respect of the State and financial and other support schemes implemented by the State Government for providing help, compensation, protection and rehabilitation of victims, and our findings are discussed below:

Audit findings

7.1 Incidence of crimes against women

Information provided by Home (Police) Department, GoUP revealed that the incidence of crime against women in the State have been rising consistently during last five years as shown in the table below:

Table 7.1: Crimes against women in the State during 2010-15

Sl. No.	Detail of Crime/IPC	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
1	Rape (Sec. 376 IPC)	1,582	1,962	2,058	2,940	2,945
2	Homicide for dowry, dowry deaths or their attempts (Sec. 302/304-B IPC)	2,817	2,865	2,869	3,116	3,119
3	Torture-both mental and physical (Sec. 498-A IPC)	7,302	6,540	7,155	8,902	9,476
4	Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty (Sec. 354 IPC)	2,989	3,430	4,106	7,092	7,972
5	Insult the modesty of women (Sec. 509 IPC)	1	2	14	33	25
6	Importation of girls from foreign country (under 21 years of age) (Sec. 366-B IPC)	1	2	1	0	1
7	Kidnapping and abduction of girls/women for specified purposes (Sec. 363-373 IPC)	5,145	6,678	7,057	8,510	8,964
8	Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961	940	887	1,189	1,092	1,100
9	Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986	154	197	173	86	49
10	The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956	3	10	7	7	11
11	The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987	0	0	0	0	0
12	The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1976	0	0	1	1	0
13	The Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971	0	0	0	0	0
14	PC-PNDT (Prohibition of sex selection) Act, 1994	0	0	4	0	0
15	The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976	0	0	0	0	0
16	Foeticide (Sec. 315-316 IPC)	4	4	1	2	1
17	Procuration of minor Girl (Sec. 366-A IPC)	13	8	17	29	31
18	Buying of girls for prostitution (Sec. 373 IPC)	0	0	0	0	0
19	Selling of Girls for prostitution (Sec. 372 IPC)	0	0	0	0	0
Total		20,951	22,585	24,652	31,810	33,694

(Source: Information furnished by Home (Police) Department)

It would be seen from Table 7.1 that there has been 61 *per cent* increase in incidence of crime against women between 2010-11 and 2014-15. The increase in crime has been very steep during 2013-14 when the number of such incidence shot up from 24,652 in 2012-13 to 31,810 in 2013-14. The incidence of crime against women has not declined in 2014-15.

The major crimes against women were rape; homicide for dowry, dowry deaths or their attempts; torture- both mental and physical; assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty; kidnapping and abduction; and cases under Dowry Prohibition Act where maximum number of cases were reported and there has been significant increase during 2010-15 in the State. The status of crimes against women under these categories is discussed in the subsequent paragraph.

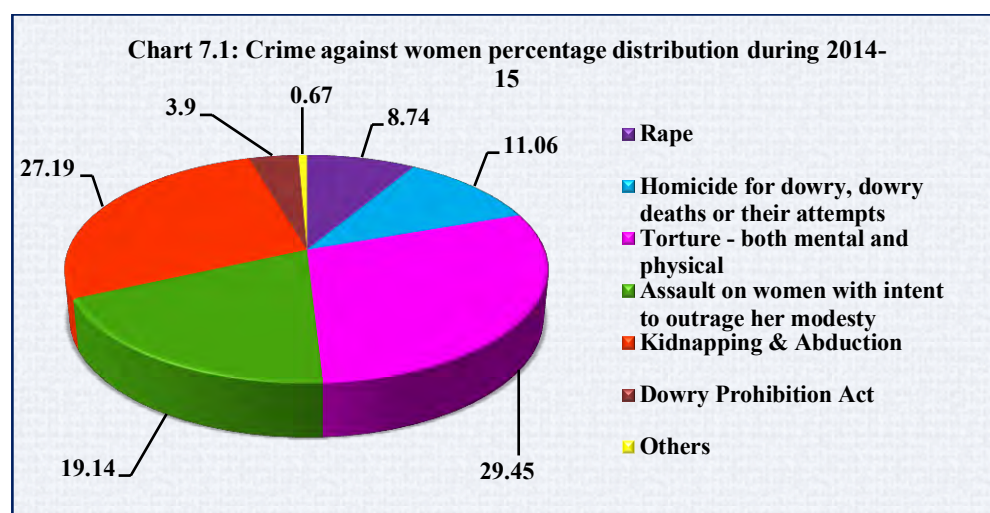
7.2 Major crimes against women

Rape, homicide for dowry, dowry deaths or their attempts, torture- both mental and physical, assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, kidnapping and abduction and cases under Dowry Prohibition Act are the major crimes contributing more than 99 per cent of the incidence of crimes against women in the State. The category-wise details of crime against women and their trends during last five years are given in the table below:

Table 7.2: Major crimes against women during last five years.

Sl. No.	Year	Rape	Homicide for dowry, dowry deaths or their attempts	Torture- both mental and physical	Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty	Kidnapping & Abduction	Dowry Prohibition Act	Others
1.	2010-11	1,582	2,817	7,302	2,989	5,145	940	176
2.	2011-12	1,962	2,865	6,540	3,430	6,678	887	223
3.	2012-13	2,058	2,869	7,155	4,106	7,057	1,189	218
4.	2013-14	2,940	3,116	8,902	7,092	8,510	1,092	158
5.	2014-15	2,945	3,119	9,476	7,972	8,964	1,100	118
Total		11,487	14,786	39,375	25,589	36,354	5,208	893

(Source: Information furnished by Home (Police) Department)



(Source: Information furnished by Home (Police) Department)

Age-wise analysis of major crimes against women in the State is given in the *Appendix 7.1 to 7.3*.

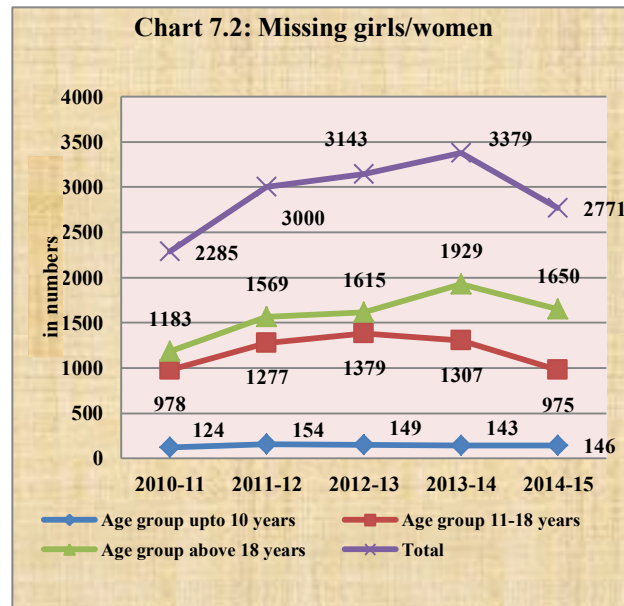
We in audit observed that:

- Legally, rape has been defined in different sub-sections of section 375 and punishments are provisioned in sections 376 (1) and (2), 376 A, 376 B, 376 C, 376 D and 376 E of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The number of rape cases increased (43 *per cent*) suddenly during 2013-14 and 2014-15 over the previous year. The most alarming fact is that the largest number (59 *per cent*) of victims of rape were minor girls (**Appendix 7.1**). Increase in the number of rape cases during last two years has been very significant (44 *per cent* in age group upto 10 years, 57 *per cent* in the age group 11 to 18 years, 27 *per cent* in the age group above 18 years). Districts with highest number of reported cases of rape during 2010-15 were Aligarh (392), Moradabad (377), Allahabad (348), Meerut (346) and Agra and Lucknow (328 each).
- There was 11 *per cent* increase in cases of homicide for dowry, dowry deaths or their attempts during last five years. Also, the number of reported cases under Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 increased from 940 in 2010-11 to 1,100 in 2014-15 (17 *per cent*).
- The cases of Torture-both mental and physical increased from 7,302 in 2010-11 to 9,476 in 2014-15. There has been significant increase of 24 *per cent* in 2013-14 over the previous year.
- The cases of assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty have increased from 2989 in 2010-11 to 7972 in 2014-15. Maximum number (55 *per cent*) of victims for the said crime were minor girls (**Appendix 7.2**). In the year 2013-14 there was an increase of 73 *per cent* in the cases of assault on women. Districts with highest number of reported cases of assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty during 2010-15 were Lucknow (1205), Meerut (1125), Aligarh (1067), Agra (979) and Allahabad (767) in the State.
- The cases of kidnappings/abductions also increased consistently during 2010-15 with significant increase in 2013-14 and 2014-15. In this category of crime also, the maximum number (71 *per cent*) of victims were minor girls. For details see **Appendix 7.3**. Top five districts in the State with reported number of cases of kidnappings/abductions during 2010-15 were Aligarh (1524), Kanpur Nagar (1511), Agra (1502), Lucknow (1274) and Meerut (1109).

During discussion in exit conference (December 2015) the Government assured to take required action against the fact while taking its cognizance.

7.3 Human trafficking and missing persons

The National Human Rights Commission, action research 2004, brought out the linkages of human trafficking and missing persons.



(Source: Home (Police) Department)

enforcement agencies and work for a network of NGOs for the purpose of tracing and reintegrating missing children with their family.

Information provided by Home (Police) Department revealed increasing trend in missing girls/women during 2010-15 as depicted in the chart 7.2.

It was evident that there was an overall increase of 21 *per cent* in the number of missing girls/women in the State during 2010-15 (*Appendix 7.4*). Department did not provide details of traced girls and action taken against the culprits, though called for (April 2015) by Audit. Moreover, the department did not furnish their reply regarding help of civil society (NGOs, concerned citizens etc.) in tracing and reintegrating the missing children with their families.

Thus, there has been increase in incidence of crime against women between 2010-11 and 2014-15 in the State with significant increase in major crimes such as Rape, homicide for dowry, dowry deaths or their attempts, torture-both mental and physical, assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, kidnapping and abduction and cases under Dowry Prohibition Act. In order to effectively control crime especially against women and to perform various law and order related functions *viz.* prevention and detection of crime, security and safety of public etc., adequacy of police manpower including women police becomes essential. The status of availability of police manpower including women police personnel in the State has been discussed in the succeeding paragraphs.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) issued an advisory on missing children to expedite the investigation and to ensure prosecution of offenders.

The State Legal Services Authorities were directed to earmark responsible and competent NGOs as nodal NGOs in the state for assisting the law

7.4 Police manpower

To protect 19.98 crore population of the State (census 2011), 162783 police personnel were deployed in the State. This implied that only 81 police personnel per one lakh population were available in the State to enforce law and order and deal with all types of crime including crime against women. As per the Lok Sabha unstarred question answered by the Hon'ble Minister of Home Affairs, GoI on 22 July 2014, against the sanctioned strength of 178.48 police personnel per one lakh population in the State of Uttar Pradesh, actual strength was only 81.01 police personnel per one lakh population. This indicated huge shortage of police manpower in the State even against the sanctioned strength. The deployment of police manpower in the State was much below the national average of 136.42 police personnel per one lakh population and the United Nations norm of 222 police personnel per one lakh population.

A comparative position of sanctioned strength and actual manpower in the State of Uttar Pradesh with other major States is given in the table below:

Table 7.3: Sanctioned strength and actual police manpower in various States.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Total police per one lakh of population	
		Sanctioned	Actual
1.	Uttar Pradesh	178.48	81.01
2.	Assam	200.03	177.73
3.	Bihar	88.10	68.81
4.	Gujarat	188.15	113.16
5.	Karnataka	150.98	117.41
6.	Madhya Pradesh	122.19	104.92
7.	Maharashtra	181.99	170.01
8.	Punjab	282.24	220.62
9.	Tamil Nadu	168.97	138.62
10.	Uttarakhand	198.61	175.35
11.	West Bengal	120.40	77.76
12.	All India	181.47	136.42

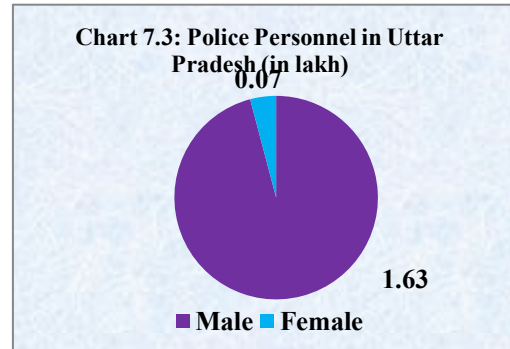
(Source: Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI)

Since Uttar Pradesh tops the list of the States having highest number of violent crimes accounting for 12.7 *per cent* of the total number of violent crimes in the country and also has maximum incidence of crime against women, shortage of about 55 *per cent* of the police manpower, if not immediately addressed, may further worsen the crime scenario in the State. No effective steps seem to have been taken to address the situation as is evident from the increasing rate of crime against women as discussed in paragraph 7.1 and 7.2 above.

Recommendation: Government may ensure adequate police manpower to effectively control the increasing incidence of crime including crime against women in the State.

7.4.1 Women police personnel

Though the population of women in the State is 9.53 crore and Uttar Pradesh is amongst the few States having highest incidence of crime against women, the number of women police personnel in the State was only 7,404 constituting just 4.55 per cent of the total police force in the State. Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), GoI had recommended (September 2009) the States to ensure availability of women upto 33



(Source: State Crime Records Bureau)

per cent of police force. Small strength of women police personnel indicated that the State Government has not seriously acted on the recommendations of MHA in order to deal with the victims of crime in a more humane, sensitive, reassuring and caring manner.

Recommendation: Given the large number of crimes against minor girls and women, GoUP may consider implementing MHA recommendations regarding employment of women police personnel.

7.5 Delay in filing FIRs

As per section 97 of UP Police Regulation, whenever information relating to the commission of a cognizable offence was given (orally or in writing) to an officer in-charge of a police station, the report was to be taken down immediately in the Check Receipt Book without delay, even if it appeared untrue. Scrutiny revealed that in at least 62 cases¹ of trafficking, rape and kidnapping of girls, there was delay in FIRs, including six cases wherein FIRs were lodged at the behest of higher police officers and in 11 cases FIRs were filed at the directions of the court (*Appendix 7.5*).

7.6 Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems

Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems (CCTNS) Project was envisaged by Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI to modernise police force for enhancing outcomes in the areas of crime investigation and criminals' detection, information gathering and its dissemination among various police organisations and units across the country through creation of a nationwide network under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP). The State Government in 2009 decided to implement the CCTNS project to modernise

¹ Audit evidence provided by Guria (an NGO situated at Varanasi and working for welfare and empowerment of women)

its police force. CCTNS Core Application Software (CAS) functionalities included four basic modules for Registration, Investigation, Prosecution, and Search and Reporting and a portal for providing Citizen interface. CCTNS aims at creating a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing at all levels especially at the Police Station level through creation of a nationwide networked infrastructure for evolution of state-of-art tracking system.

The implementation of the project has, however, been considerably delayed in the State. Except for registration of FIRs, other functionalities/ modules of CAS are rarely being used by the police stations and higher offices though made functional. Further, Citizen centric services envisaged to be made available through Police portal and *via* SMS have not yet been made fully functional. Detailed findings on the implementation of this project are included in Chapter 2 of CAG's Report No. 01 of 2016.

Due to delays in the implementation of CCTNS project, modernisation of police infrastructure has been adversely affected and the outcomes in the areas of crime investigation and criminals' detection, information gathering and its dissemination among various police organisations and units across the country have been impacted.

Recommendation: GoUP may issue directions for effective use of all functionalities of CAS such as investigation, prosecution, search and reporting to enhance operational efficiency of the police department.

7.7 Compensation Schemes for victims of crimes

Financial assistance cannot compensate for the agony and mental stress a woman suffers due to heinous crimes such as rape, acid attack etc. Compensation schemes were formulated by GoI and GoUP from time to time to assist the victims in overcoming the trauma and provide support to lead a dignified and meaningful life. The implementation status of two such schemes *viz.* 'Financial Assistance and Support Services to the Victims of Rape: A Scheme for Restorative Justice' of GoI and 'The Uttar Pradesh Victim Compensation Scheme' of GoUP is discussed in succeeding paragraphs.

7.7.1 Financial Assistance and Support Services to the Victims of Rape

Under the direction² of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, a scheme for restorative justice was formulated by GoI as 'Financial Assistance and Support Services to Victims of Rape: A Scheme for Restorative Justice'. Under the scheme, Criminal Injuries Relief & Rehabilitation Boards at districts and state level were to be set up. The Scheme envisages total cash assistance of ₹ 1.50 lakh as well as restorative support services such as counselling, shelter, medical and legal aid upto ₹ 0.50 lakh.

² Writ petition (criminal) number 362/93 (Delhi Domestic Working Women's Forum versus Union of India and others).

Scrutiny revealed that for implementation of the scheme in the State, an amount of ₹ 15.03 crore³ was tentatively allocated by GoI for two years only (2010-12) during 2010-15, with the condition that actual releases were to be made on the basis of projected requirement and availability of overall funds. Audit observed that this allocation was not utilized by the department though 3544 rape cases were reported in the State during 2010-12.

Recommendation: Financial assistance and support services should be provided to the victims of rape promptly as per prescribed norms.

7.7.2 The Uttar Pradesh Victim Compensation Scheme

The Uttar Pradesh Victim Compensation Scheme, 2014 was introduced (April 2014) for the purpose of providing compensation to victims or their dependents who have suffered loss or injury as a result of crime and require rehabilitation. The State was to allocate separate budget every year for the scheme to be operated by the Secretary, State Legal Services Authority (SLSA). The District Legal Services Authority was to decide the quantum of compensation⁴ to be awarded to the victim or dependents on the basis of loss suffered by the victim.

Scrutiny revealed that an amount of ₹ two crore was sanctioned (March 2015) by GoUP for the year 2014-15 but was placed at the disposal of Director General of Police (DGP) and not transferred to SLSA as of June 2015. As a result, no compensation could be paid under the Scheme to the victims and their dependents during 2014-15. SLSA in January 2016 replied that the fund allocation of ₹ two crore was received by them in October 2015 and a total compensation of ₹ 3.49 lakh had since been paid to two victims. The information provided by SLSA disclosed that out of the total 18 cases for sanction of compensation, only two cases were awarded compensation. In remaining 16 cases no compensation was awarded till December 2015 and the delay in these cases ranged between four and 20 months, basically for want of recommendations of DLSAs.

Recommendation: Compensation should be paid without any delay to victims and their dependents under ‘The Uttar Pradesh Victim Compensation Scheme’.

7.8 Trafficking

The Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITP Act) was enacted for prevention of immoral trafficking. The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Convention on Preventing and Combating Trafficking in Women and Children for Prostitution defined trafficking as the moving, selling or buying of women and children for prostitution within and outside

³ 2010-11: ₹ 2.20 crore and 2011-12: ₹ 12.83 crore.

⁴ Rape: ₹ two lakh; loss or injury: ₹ One Lakh; victim of corrosive substance i.e. acid attack: ₹ three lakh; death (non-earning member): ₹ 1.5 lakh; death (earning member): ₹ two lakh; and victim of human trafficking: ₹ two lakh.

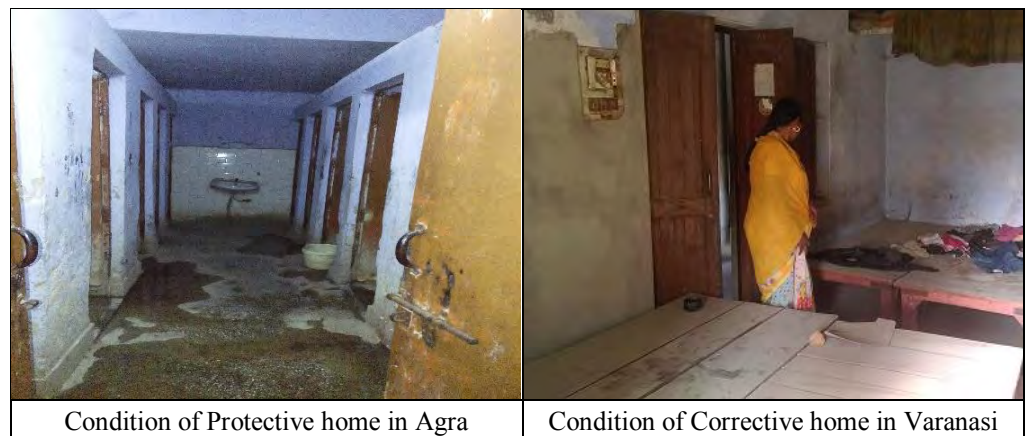
country for monetary or other considerations with or without the consent of the person subjected to trafficking.

As per the information provided by Home (Police) Department, 154 cases⁵ (Minor Girl: 33; Adult Women: 121) were registered under ITP Act in the State during 2010-15. Government was to establish Protective homes and Corrective institutions for trafficked women and children and was also to issue licence to persons or authorities for establishing and maintaining such protective homes or corrective institutions under the provisions of Section 21 of ITP Act. The status of Protective homes and corrective institutions established by the State Government is discussed below:

7.8.1 Protective homes and Corrective institutions

As per the information provided (August 2015) by the Department of Women Welfare, there were 621 sex workers and 326 children in 48 districts.

Scrutiny revealed that the Government is yet to identify sex workers in remaining 27 districts of the State. Further, the Government had established (October 2010) one Protective home in Agra and one Corrective home in Varanasi with inmate capacity of 75 each. However, only 27 inmates were living (May 2015) in the Protective home at Agra and no inmate was found (August 2015) in Corrective home at Varanasi. The condition of these homes was also found to be uncongenial and dilapidated as depicted in the photographs given below:



Thus, very few inmates in the protective/corrective homes despite large number of sex workers and their children indicates that the Government's schemes for providing protection, vocational training and rehabilitation were not effective.

7.8.2 Welfare of children of sex workers

Facilities such as Crèche, pre-school programme, day and night care centres, counselling centres etc., are essential for welfare and development of children

⁵ 2010-11: 0, 2011-12: 14, 2012-13: 78, 2013-14: 11 and 2014-15: 51 cases.

of sex workers. Scrutiny revealed that no action plan was prepared by the department to extend such facilities to the children of sex workers to ensure that they get adequate opportunities for a potentially bright future and get reintegrated with the society and do not join the sex trade.

During discussion in exit conference (December 2015), while taking cognizance of the fact, the Government assured to take required action.

7.9 UJJAWALA- Rescue and Rehabilitation of trafficked women

Introduction

Ujjawala is a scheme for the prevention of trafficking, rescue and rehabilitation of women and child victims of trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation. The scheme was launched in 2007 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. It aims at reintegration and repatriation of victims including cross border victims.

The target groups or main beneficiaries of this scheme are women and child victims who have been trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation as well as those women and children who are vulnerable to becoming victims of this crime. These vulnerable sections include slum dwellers, children of sex workers, refugees, homeless victims of natural disasters, etc.

The scheme is being implemented in the State by the Department of Women Welfare through various Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) to provide direct aid and benefit to victims of trafficking. Immediate relief provided under the scheme includes provision of food, shelter, trauma care and counseling to the rescued victims. Later on, victims are also to be provided skill training, capacity building, job placement and guidance in income generating activities to empower them and help them live independently.

Ujjawala is a Centrally Sponsored scheme with GoI providing 90 *per cent* share of expenditure and balance 10 *per cent* being met by the implementing agency (NGO). The norms for providing grants to NGOs for *Ujjawala* projects are given in (**Appendix 7.6**). Component-wise assistance were directly provided to implementing agencies (NGOs) in two installments by the GoI. The first installment being normally released with the sanction of the project and the second and subsequent installments are to be released after submission of Utilisation Certificates (UCs) by the implementing agencies for the previous installments alongwith their own proportionate share of cost. Utilisation certificates provided by the Directorate revealed that only ₹ 66.07 lakh were released by GoI against which a total expenditure of ₹ 56.02 lakh was incurred during 2010-15.

Implementation

7.9.1 Non-functioning of *Ujjawala* projects

As per information provided by the Directorate, Women Welfare, only 13 *Ujjawala* projects were implemented in the State during 2010-11 to 2014-15. Details of the projects are given in **Appendix 7.7**. The scheme had five main

components, i.e., prevention, rescue, rehabilitation, re-integration and repatriation. Scrutiny however, revealed that only one (Barabanki district) out of these 13 Ujjawala projects sanctioned was covering all the five components of the scheme.

Audit examination further disclosed that out of 13 *Ujjawala* projects sanctioned by the Government, only three projects (Allahabad, Pratapgarh and Unnao) covering four components viz. prevention, rescue, rehabilitation and re-integration were located in the test checked districts. Audit found all the three projects closed and the District Probation Officer stated that the projects were not functional in the districts.

Audit further observed that no grants were released to NGOs in 2011-12 and 2014-15. It was also noticed that grants were released to 13 projects for a period ranging between six and 15 months only and second and subsequent installments were not released to 12 projects. No specific reasons were furnished by the Department for non-release of second installment. Since, NGOs are largely dependent on government grants (90 *per cent*) for running of the projects, non-release of grant in 12 out of 13 projects for a longer period indicated that the scheme had become largely non-functional. Although, Directorate Women Welfare stated that these 12 *Ujjawala* projects were running.

On being pointed out Directorate, Women Welfare replied that this problem persisted due to non-release of funds from GoI. Further, during discussion in exit conference, Government assured to take required action on the reported fact.

7.9.2 Non-coverage of border districts

Scheme guidelines envisaged for setting-up of transit centers viz. transit camp, food and other incidentals at border-check points in respect of cross border victims.

As per the report⁶ of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), districts of Uttar Pradesh adjoining Nepal were transit area and vulnerable to trafficking of women and girls. However, scrutiny of records of directorate, women welfare revealed that no *Ujjawala* home was established in districts⁷ bordering Nepal. Thus, one of the objectives of scheme to facilitate rescue and repatriation of cross-border victims was not ensured.

During discussion in exit conference, Government took the cognisance of the fact and assured to take required action.

7.9.3 Monitoring

As per guidelines, a State Level Monitoring Committee was to be formed under the Chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Woman Welfare Department

⁶ India Country assessment report – A review commissioned by UNODC.

⁷ Bahraich, Lakhimpur Khiri, Maharajganj, Pilibhit, Shrawasti and Siddhartnagar.

GoUP which was to meet at least twice a year to monitor the project. Further, the continuation of grant to the implementing agency was to be based on the satisfactory performance reported by the State. It was also envisaged that periodic inspection would be undertaken by the State. Separately periodic evaluations of the project were also to be undertaken by external agency such as reputed institutions, *Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRI)*, block level institution and district level institution.

Scrutiny revealed that the State Level Monitoring Committee under the chairmanship of Principal Secretary, Woman Welfare Department was not formed. Further, periodic evaluations of the projects through reputed institutions, PRIs, block level institution and district level institution was not done. Norms/inspection schedules for periodic inspection were also not laid down by the Directorate.

On being pointed out in Audit, Directorate Women Welfare did not provide any specific reply, however, during discussion in exit conference, Government stated to take required action on the fact.

7.10 Conclusions

- Incidence of crime against women have been increasing consistently during last five years. The incidence of such crimes in the State are much higher as compared to all India average and most of the other States.

(Paragraph 7.1)

- The number of serious crimes against women such Rape, homicide for dowry, dowry deaths or their attempts, torture- both mental and physical, assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, kidnapping and abduction and cases under Dowry Prohibition Act have increased considerably.

(Paragraph 7.2)

- Despite high incidence of crime, the State Government has not taken effective steps to significantly strengthen its police force as the actual police manpower per one lakh population in the State is amongst the lowest in the country.

(Paragraph 7.4)

- The Government schemes for providing financial and other support to the victims have not been implemented effectively. No financial assistance was provided under the scheme 'Financial Assistance and Support Services to the Victims of Rape' despite substantial allocation by GoI and there have been delays in release of compensation under The Uttar Pradesh Victim Compensation Scheme, and

(Paragraph 7.7.1 & 7.7.2)

- The *Ujjawala* projects for trafficked women were mostly non-functional. Further, no *Ujjawala* homes were established in districts bordering Nepal. Major destination centres for trafficking had no *Ujjawala* projects.

(Paragraph 7.9.1 & 7.9.2)