

The image features a central white, irregularly shaped area that resembles a map of South Asia. This central shape is surrounded by a complex, abstract composition of colors and patterns. To the left and bottom-left, there are sections with a light green background and a pattern of small white dots. To the right and bottom-right, there are sections with a light blue background and a pattern of small white dots. The overall composition is layered and textured, with various shades of green, blue, and red. The text "SOUTH ASIA" is centered within the white shape in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

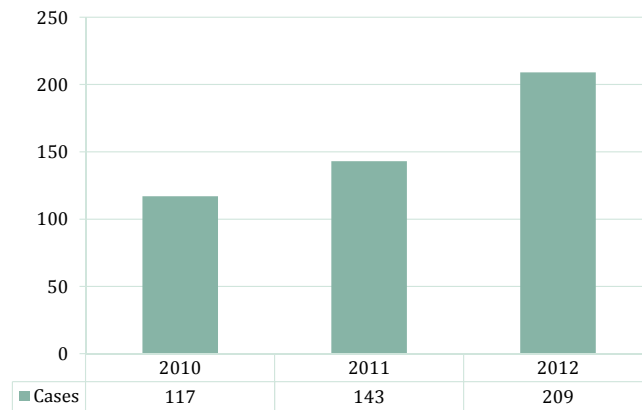
SOUTH ASIA

- BANGLADESH-

The new Anti-Human Trafficking Act was enacted in the year 2012 and covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol. Before 2012, the legislation covered only trafficking for sexual exploitation. The figures below refer to the old legislation.

Investigations and suspects

Number of court cases of trafficking in persons, 2010-2012



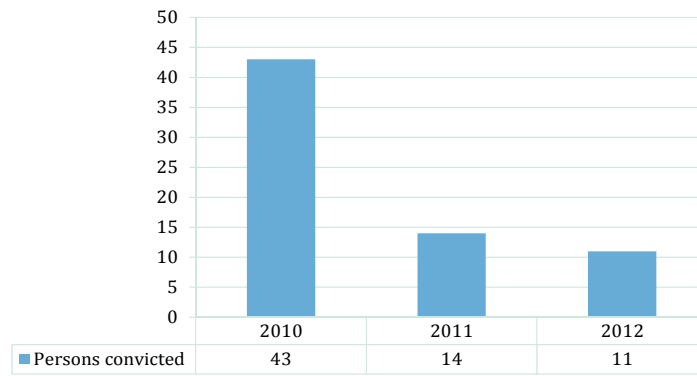
Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Number of court cases of trafficking in persons at prosecution, 2010-2012



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Number of persons convicted of trafficking in persons, 2010-2012



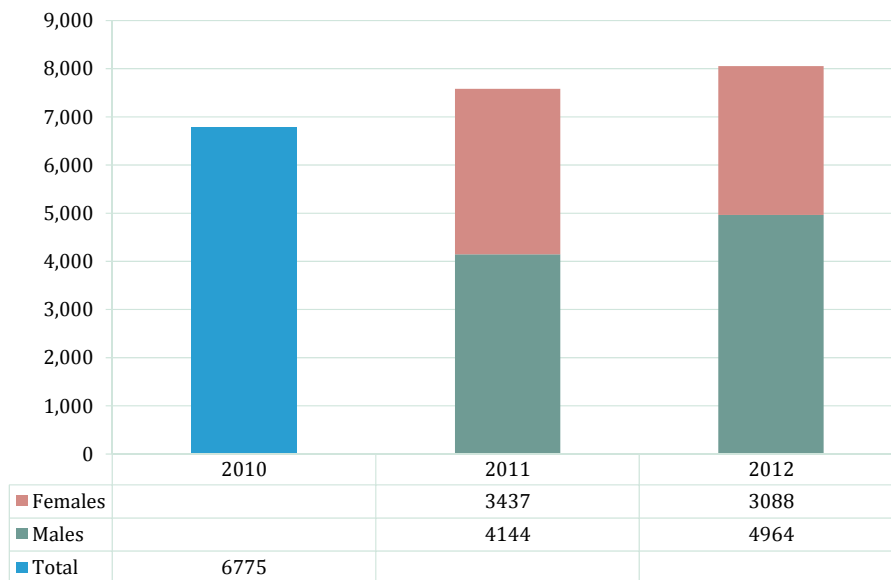
Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

- INDIA -

In the year 2013, India passed the Criminal Law (Amendment) Ordinance introducing the section 370A criminalizing Trafficking in Persons according to the UN Trafficking Protocol. Before that, the Immoral Traffic Prevention Act (ITPA) was used to prosecute some forms of trafficking for sexual exploitation. Other articles of the criminal code are also used to prosecute trafficking for sexual exploitation, including 'buying girls for prostitution', 'selling of girls for prostitution', 'importation of girls' and 'procurement of minor girls'. Trafficking for forced labour is prosecuted under other offences, including the Child Labour Prohibition Act and the laws prohibiting bonded labour..

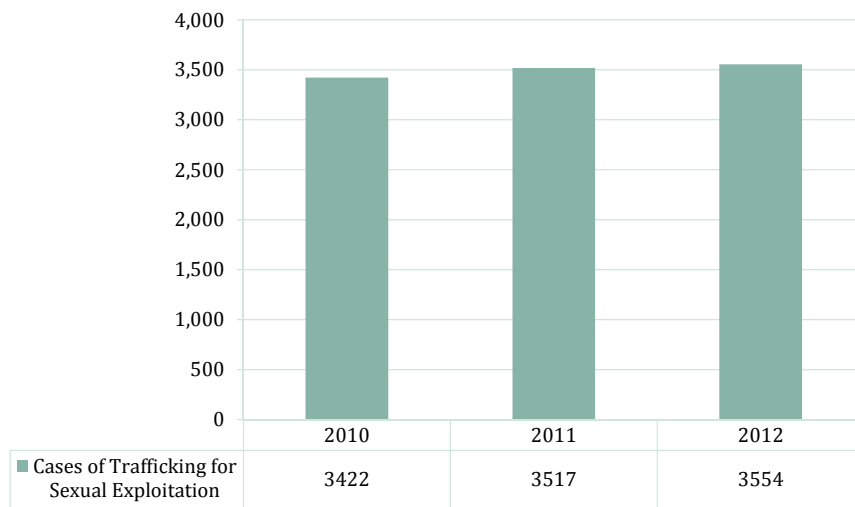
Investigations and suspects

Number of persons arrested under the ITPA, by gender, 2010-2012



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

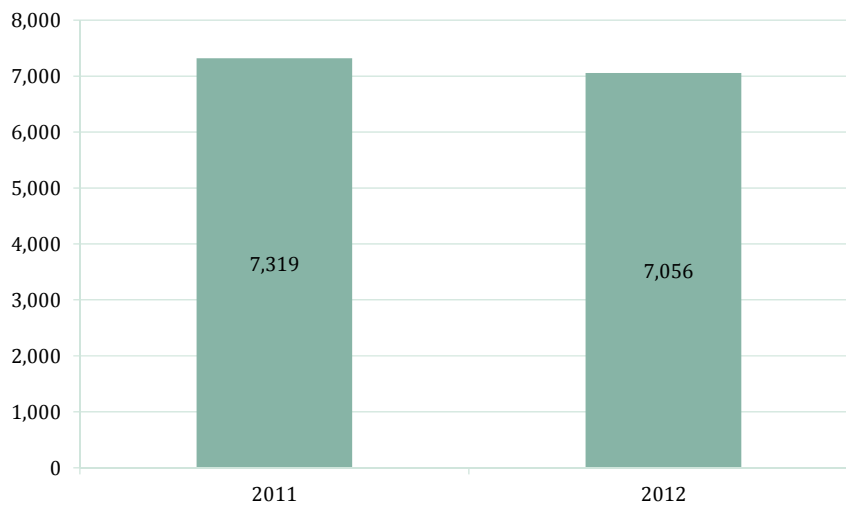
Number of cases investigated for different trafficking in persons offences, 2010-2012



These numbers refer to different trafficking offences (ITPA, buying of girls for prostitution, selling girls for prostitution, procurement of minor girl, importation of girls).

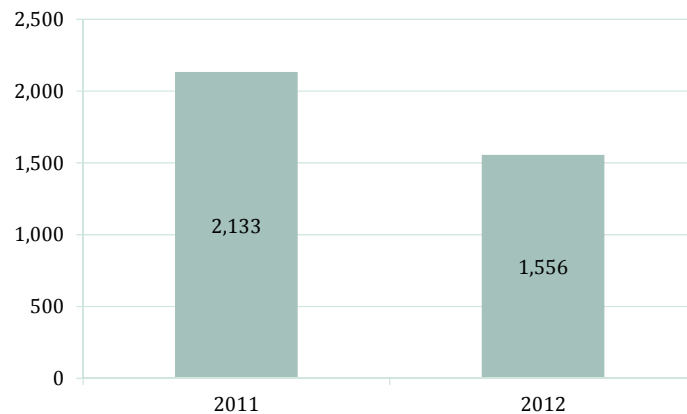
Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Number of persons against whom prosecution is commenced for ITPA, 2011-2012



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

Number of persons convicted of ITPA, 2011-2012



Source: Ministry of Home Affairs.

The authorities reports data on enforcement of the Child Labour (Prohibition) Act, 1986 - the act prohibits the employment of children below the age of 14 years old in a list of occupations and processes; Between 2010 and 2011 about 10,000 prosecutions have been conducted under this act, concluded with more than 4,100 convictions.

Source: Ministry of Labour.

Victims

During the fiscal year 2011/12, in the State of Delhi, the local Anti-Human Trafficking Unit has detected and assisted 1,532 victims of exploitation and trafficking. Of these, 118 were in condition of sexual exploitation, 1,371 child labourers, 12 persons in forced labour, 25 exploited in hazardous work and 6 in other exploitative situations.

In the State of Goa, the NGO ARZ assisted 179 victims of trafficking between 2009 and 2012. Of these victims, 146 were Indian and 33 foreigners (27 Nepalese, 4 Bangladeshi, 2 Eastern Europeans). The Indian victims included 39 from Mumbai, 31 from Manipur, 16 from Goa, 14 from Adhra Pradesh and the others from other parts of India.

During the fiscal year 2011/12, in Madhya Pradesh the local Anti-Human Trafficking Unit rescued 125 children and 27 women.

Between April 2011 and March 2012, the NGO Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) rescued 1152 children in forced/bonded labour.

Source: UNODC - India Country Assessment Report on Human Trafficking.

Additional Information

The new legislation introduced in the year 2013 foresees the penalty for the crime of trafficking is between seven years up to life imprisonment depending upon the gravity of the crime. The penalty for the employment of a trafficked person is penalized five years which may extend to seven years and with fine. In the same year, the Ministry of Home Affairs created a specific Trafficking in Persons web portal.

- MALDIVES-

In December 2013, the national authorities introduced the offence of trafficking in persons in the Maldives. The anti-trafficking bill is criminalizing sexual exploitation and forced labour. Before that, the state of the Maldives did not have an anti-trafficking legislation in place. Article 25 (a) of the Constitution prohibits slavery, servitude and forced labour. Article 3(a) of the Employment Act (2008) prohibit forced labour.

Victims

There are reports documenting trafficking of migrants from neighboring countries for labour and sexual exploitation purposes in the Maldives.

Source: UN Human Rights Committee, Concluding observations adopted by the Human Rights Committee at its 105th session, 9-27 July 2012.

The human right commission of the Maldives indicates many migrant workers are faced with a number of limitations in their movement, which make them vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking. Many of migrant workers employed in the construction industry are often living in segregated environments. It is a common practice to confiscate passport of the migrant workers by the employer. Maldives Police Services have found passports and work permits of migrant workers withheld by many of the recruitment or employment agencies working in the Maldives.

The Department of Immigration and Emigration reported the country is also a transit point for human trafficking. Between 2010 and 2011, this authority identified two East Asians (one male and one female) suspected trafficked victims for labour exploitation, one South Asian male for sexual exploitation, 11 Syrians for suspected to be trafficked for labour exploitation, and three South Asian suspected to be trafficked for labour and sexual exploitation.

Source: Human Rights Commission of the Maldives.

According to the national authorities, trafficking in persons is widespread across the country. Crime groups use the Maldives as a transit destination for illegal entry to Europe. According to the department of immigration, significant amount of foreign nationals had been interdicted on their way to Europe, Canada and Australia by using counterfeit passports. These individuals are from East Asia, South Asia, the Middle East and Sub Saharan Africa. The authorities also report expatriate workers are often victims of trafficking, where they pay exorbitant amounts to rogue agents in the range of USD 2000 to travel to Maldives, have their documents confiscated, and are made to live and work in inhumane conditions.

Source: Government of the Republic of Maldives, National Security Policy 2012.

- NEPAL -

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Nepal covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

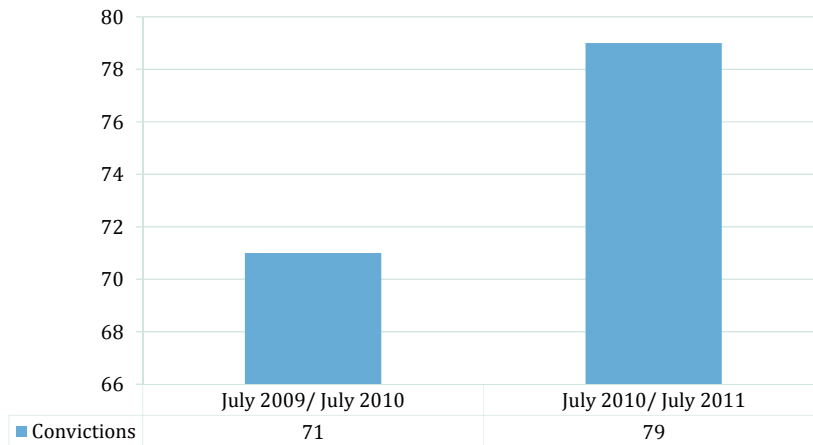
Investigations and suspects

Number of prosecutions for trafficking in persons, July 2009- July 2011



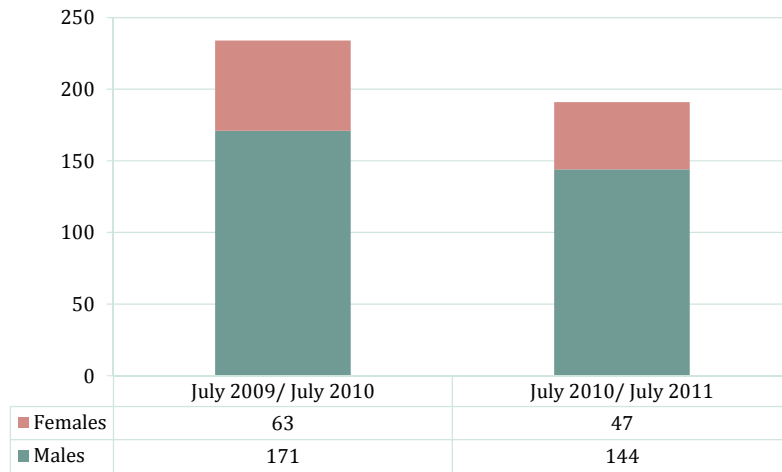
Source: Nepal police Headquarters.

Number of convictions of trafficking in persons, July 2009- July 2011



Source: Nepal police Headquarters.

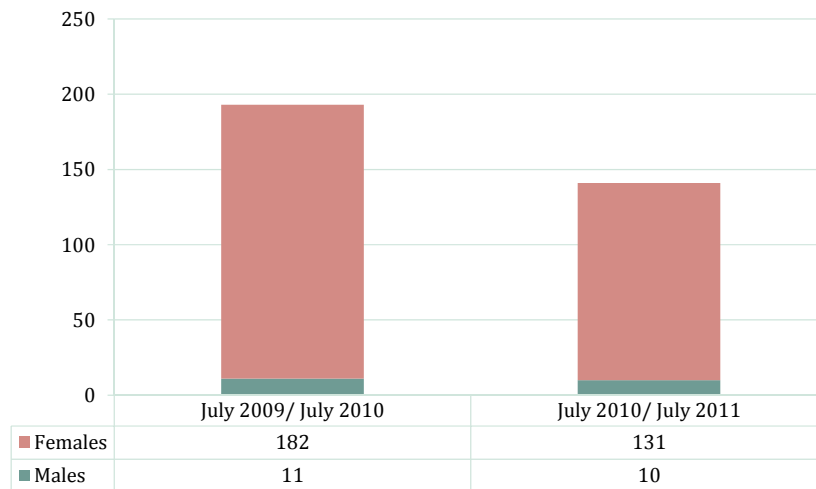
Number of persons accused of trafficking in persons, by gender, July 2009-July 2011



Source: Nepal police Headquarters.

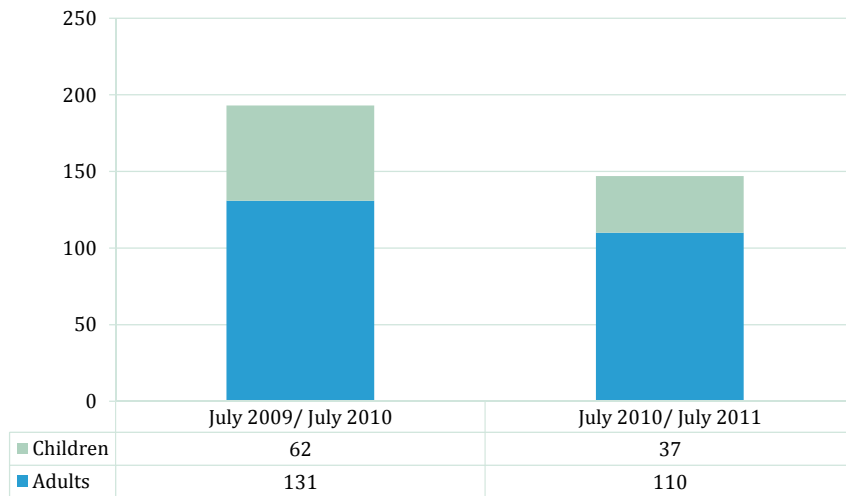
Victims

Number of detected victims of trafficking in persons, by gender, July 2009-July 2011



Source: Nepal police Headquarters.

Number of detected victims of trafficking in persons, by age, July 2009-July 2011

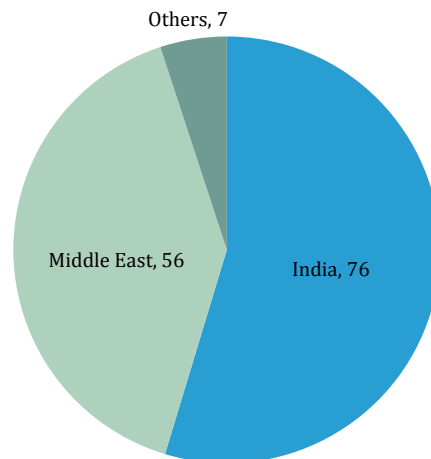


Source: Nepal police Headquarters.

All the victims detected by the Police were Nepalese nationals trafficked abroad and internally.

Source: Nepal police Headquarters.

Nepali female victims of trafficking in persons, detected abroad and assisted by the NGO Maiti by region of destination, July 2009-July 2011



Source: Maiti.

- PAKISTAN-

The Prevention and Control of Human Trafficking Ordinance (PACHTO) is used to prosecute some forms of transnational trafficking. Other offences on bonded labour, slavery, begging, forced marriages and sexual exploitation are used to prosecute forms of domestic trafficking.

Investigations and suspects

The Anti-Trafficking Unit of the Federal Intelligence Agency (FIA), the Provincial Police and the labour inspectors investigated more than 11,000 cases were registered for offences related to trafficking in persons for the year 2011. Of these cases, more than 5,000 are for sexual exploitation. Other investigations concerned victims exploited in begging, bonded labour and forced marriages. In 2011, about 4,000 prosecutions were undertaken and about 100 convictions recorded for offences related to trafficking in persons.

Source: Anti-Trafficking Units (ATUs) - Federal Investigation Agency and Provincial Police.

Victims

Anecdotal evidence suggests that victims of trafficking are among the largest number of irregular migrants to Pakistan. In particular, there is evidence of women and children being trafficked to Pakistan for sexual exploitation, sometimes in the form of forced marriages. NGO workers have reported the presence of Chinese, Russian, Nepali, Iranian, and Bangladeshi women in Pakistan.

Source: UNODC Pakistan.

- SRI LANKA-

The current legislation on trafficking in persons in Sri Lanka covers all forms of exploitation indicated in the UN Trafficking Protocol.

Investigations and suspects

Between 2010 and March 2012, about 106 cases of trafficking in persons and related offences were investigated by the Police.

Source: Police Statistics.

One conviction was recorded in 2010, and one in 2011.

Source: Police Statistics.

Victims

Of the 56 cases investigated in 2011, 36 involved children victims and 20 adult women victims.

Source: Police Statistics.