

# MANOBAL A NEW BEGINNING FOUNDATION

# NEWSLETTER

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Believe me, it is heart-wrenching, for me to see and meet people who are trapped in human trafficking. Perhaps I understand their pain better than others. It is this pain that has inspired me to write this article, even though I may not be very good at writing. I feel obliged to share my experience with all of you. I urge as many of you as possible to step forward and lend your support to this cause.

A few weeks ago, I encountered many women in the red light area (GB Road, Delhi), each of whom has been living a life of unimaginable hardship for years, which scares me to even think about. About 90% of these women are victims of human trafficking. Surprisingly, they do not even know they are victims of human trafficking; they do not even know what human trafficking is. When they were first brought here, they were young and beautiful. Undoubtedly, they were forced into this work and have faced unimaginable stress. There was probably no one to whom they could express their pain. Everyone around them has been exploiting them from then until now.

What saddens me the most is that they have

reached an age when most people want to live comfortably. At this stage of life, one looks forward to retiring from hard work, yet they are still forced to earn their living in the same way. Their bodies are tired, their knees ache, and they are surrounded by diseases. Still, they dress up for customers, eager to earn enough to sustain themselves. Some are unaware of their age, dressing up and fighting illness in the hope of earning something every day.

Their struggle continues, becoming more challenging with age. Among them, I met a woman who could barely hear despite her advanced age, yet eagerly waited for any opportunity to earn. Who thinks about the stage of life she is going through? Society always shuns those who fail to modernize their thinking, despite the progress we make. I am not sure how long this effort will take, but I am committed. **Do you?**



**Nirmala B Walter**  
*Founder and Social Worker  
Manobal A New Beginning  
Foundation*

International Women's Day was celebrated by Manobal at Mahila Chowki on Swami Shradhdhanand Marg. It was an occasion for women who were once victims of human trafficking and are now involved in prostitution to join in the celebration. They observed the day with dignity and joy and also received hygiene kits as gifts. Manobal's ongoing efforts play a crucial role in integrating these women into mainstream society, recognizing the importance of every life.



Manobal (MANBF) conducted an impactful session at Nirmal Chhaya Nari Niketan. Dr. Annie Theodore led a session on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO) and counselling.



When we walk together, new paths of life open up. It is Manobal's effort to work for victims of human trafficking and provide a new direction for their lives. To strengthen this relationship, Manobal celebrated Holi with women victims of human trafficking on March 23. It was a joyful time for them. Best wishes for Holi.



## Collaboration

Manobal was invited to an NGO's meeting. The Special Commissioner of Police heard the grievances. It was a very fruitful meeting. Manobal stood out as the Joint CP invited us separately in his office to discuss how we could work for women and children in collaboration with Delhi Police.



Manobala thanks Special CP Robin Hibu for helping a trafficking victim return their home.



Under the Abhaas Project run by Manobal, an awareness campaign was conducted in various schools in Delhi. This campaign was jointly organized by the WCD and Manobal. Over three months, more than 5000 children in approximately 8 schools were educated about human trafficking, child labour, good touch-bad touch, and the POCSO law. During the campaign, we realized that many children are still unaware of these issues. We also encountered related cases in some schools.



## Rescue and Repatriation

The Manobal assisted the Delhi Police in a rescue operation during which three girls were rescued. Manobal arranged a shelter home for them so that he could stay safe.



Two of the girls, who were from different parts of India, have been sent home. One girl, who was trafficked from Bangladesh to India, was found to be a minor. The police have registered a case, and she will be repatriation to Bangladesh once legal procedures are completed. The Manobal is continuously counselling her, considering her mental condition.

After many months of effort, two women from Uganda were successfully repatriated to their country. They were both rescued from an area in Delhi and had been victims of human trafficking. Today, both are in their home country and are self-employed.



Divya was rescued from Swami Shraddhanand Marg in January. She was in very poor condition at that time, having been beaten, kept intoxicated, and forced into prostitution. Divya was placed in a shelter home where she received counselling and stable. Later, her family was traced, and she was successfully sent home.

Puja was rescued from Swami Shraddhanand Marg in March. She was forced into prostitution. Puja was kept in a shelter home where she was counselled. Later, her family was traced and she was successfully sent home.



## Asha's\* Journey: A Beacon of Hope from Project Light House

In a transformative milestone for Project Light House, Manobal has celebrated the first success of this ambitious initiative. While this achievement marks a small beginning, the project's vision is vast and inspiring. The story of Asha, the project's first beneficiary, shines as a testament to resilience and hope.



Two years ago, Asha bravely sought Manobal NGO support to escape the confines of a brothel. Recognizing her courage, Manobal immediately extended a helping hand. Over the next two years, Asha received extensive counselling and unwavering support from the Project Light House team, aiming to reintegrate her into mainstream society.

Throughout this period, Manobal provided Asha with the necessary resources and guidance to build a new life. This included financial assistance to start her own business. Today, Asha proudly operates a small momo shop, a modest but significant step towards self-reliance. Her shop not only provides her with a livelihood but also symbolizes her determination to forge a new path.

Asha reflects on her journey with a sense of optimism: "My work will progress slowly, but I will keep trying." Her words capture the essence of Project Light House's mission – to

empower women to rebuild their lives with dignity and independence.

The core objective of Project Light House is to support older women who have been marginalized and deemed "unusable" in the field of prostitution. Though the terminology may be harsh, it starkly reflects the grim reality faced by many.

Manobal is committed to rescuing and rehabilitating more women like Asha from red-light areas, providing them with the tools and support necessary for a fresh start. With each success story, Project Light House moves closer to its goal of transforming lives and restoring hope.

Manobal remains confident in the potential to uplift more women, guiding them towards brighter futures, one courageous step at a time.



\*Victim Name change

## Tuition Centre

Manobal has started a tuition centre for girls in the Kali Basti area of Uttam Nagar. Kali Basti is a vulnerable area, surrounded by issues such as drug abuse and prostitution. Manobal aims to raise awareness and provide a safe environment for the girls in this area. The goal of this tuition centre is to encourage girls to pursue education. We have also arranged basic computer education for them so they can keep pace with the modern world. Currently, 20 girls attend this centre and are benefiting from its services.

We provide them with various forms of exposure from time to time. They have regular classes on moral values and are educated about human trafficking and good touch-bad touch. We also involve their parents to ensure the whole family becomes aware.

Recently, the girls were taken on a tour of the National Science Centre, where they enjoyed learning about science in a fun and engaging way.



Computer installation in Centre



Mother's day celebration



Human trafficking awareness



Moral classes



environment day celebration



National Science Center Delhi



Science with fun



Science with fun

Manobal celebrated Menstrual Hygiene Day by distributing sanitary pads on Swami Shradhdhanand Marg and raising awareness about menstrual hygiene. These small acts of kindness allow Manobal to connect with women who are victims of human trafficking, helping to build bonds that can transform their lives.



A serious discussion was held with the Counselor of the Uganda High Commission regarding the increase in human trafficking from Uganda to India.



Manobal provided livelihood training and taught participants how to make soaps and wax fragrances for clothes.



*Cheques and DDs in favour of Manobal A New Beginning Foundation*

Canara Bank, Lakhnadon Seoni MP

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All donations sent to **Manobal A New Beginning Foundation** are exempted under section 80(G) of the IT Act of 1961.

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