



MUMBAI, INDIA

THE PROBLEM SEX TRAFFICKING

Mumbai is India's largest city—22 million people—and the commercial, financial and entertainment capital of the country. It is also home to one of Asia's largest red-light districts. Every year, scores of girls are trafficked across state borders and from Nepal and Bangladesh to Mumbai. Traffickers prey on young women without a support network, selling them to brothels or private networks where they are exploited in the commercial sex industry. Sex trafficking is a violent crime: IJM has met survivors who were beaten, starved or forced to use drugs and alcohol. Some have shared that they were raped more than a dozen times in a day.

IJM MUMBAI PROGRESS SINCE 2000



640+

survivors
rescued from sex
trafficking



178

criminals restrained
for sex trafficking
offences



24,800+

police, government
officials, NGOs and
others trained by IJM



THE FACTS

40.3 million
people are
estimated to be
held in slavery worldwide.¹



India's Central Bureau of
Investigation estimates that
there are **1.2 million children**
exploited in the country's
commercial sex trade.

Human trafficking generates
\$150 billion a year globally.²

**1 child goes missing every
12 minutes** in India, and nearly
half are never found.³



“None of these girls came here willingly; they were all forced. So I knew that by helping I was saving lives.”

–Sani,* a sex trafficking survivor who led IJM and police to rescue girls who had been hidden inside a brothel

How IJM Mumbai Combats Sex Trafficking

We rescue victims by identifying brothels, hotels and other locations where women and young girls are being trafficked. We partner with police agencies in Mumbai and the state of Maharashtra to rescue the victims and ensure that each survivor is treated with dignity and respect.

We bring criminals to justice by helping build strong cases against the brothel owners, managers and pimps so that India’s anti-trafficking laws are enforced. We support prosecutors at every step of the lengthy trial process and advocate for fair sentences that reflect the crime as defined by Indian law.

We restore survivors by walking closely with every young woman from the night she is rescued to the day she will complete our aftercare program—often years later. We partner with local aftercare homes that offer safe housing, education and job training. IJM social workers develop treatment plans for each survivor focusing on physical health, trauma counseling, personal security and economic self-sufficiency so she can truly thrive in freedom.

We strengthen justice systems by working hand-in-hand with investigating agencies, social workers and the judicial system. We partner with local government agencies to provide training that educates officials on trafficking and how to prevent, identify and prosecute the crime.

IJM MUMBAI MILESTONES

- 2000**

IJM MUMBAI OPENS
- 2004**

FIRST CONVICTION

The first criminal is convicted in an IJM case.
- 2004**

KINGPIN TRAFFICKER ARRESTED

This suspect has trafficked 60+ girls.
- 2013**

500TH TRAFFICKING VICTIM RESCUED IN IJM-SUPPORTED OPERATION
- 2014**

GOVERNMENT INVITES IJM TO TRAIN THOUSANDS

Maharashtra invites IJM to train 15,000 officials and serve on special task force to draft a statewide action plan against trafficking.



DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS SANJAY MACWAN

Starting with IJM in 2011 as the field office director, Sanjay has helped the team rescue hundreds of girls from sex trafficking and train thousands of local officials to protect the poor. Today, he oversees IJM’s projects in Mumbai and Kolkata as both cities seek to protect children from sex trafficking, hold criminals accountable, and help the justice system end this violence for good.



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INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE MISSION is a global organization that protects the poor from violence throughout the developing world. IJM partners with local authorities to rescue victims of violence, bring criminals to justice, restore survivors, and strengthen justice systems.

*A pseudonym. Child pictured on cover is not an actual victim; image taken with consent. All text and images © 2019 International Justice Mission