

Case History

Name of the child: Shivmati

Father's Name: Somnath

Native Place: Hathibadi village, Rangapada (P.S.), Sonitpur, Assam.

Shivmati, a 14 year old girl was rescued by BBA staffs along with Delhi Police from Hari Nagar area of Delhi on 15.01.2014. While narrating her sad story of being trafficked, she mentioned that she was trafficked from her native place by an unknown lady named Jyoti (trafficker). While roaming around the village, Jyoti noticed the vulnerability of the girl and tried to lure her with promises of education and a better life. She was also promised that her family will be given an advance of Rs. 5000/- after she reaches the destination. Thinking that this is an opportunity to financially support her family, Shivmati started her journey with Jyoti. However no such money ever came to the family and they lost their single daughter. Initially she was taken to Delhi and then further sent to Punjab where she was sold to a man named Alam - a contractor cum placement agency owner. She was made to work in his office along with 2 women. They were asked to cook for 40 men who were working under Alam. She was getting worried as the place did not find to be safer for, so she pleaded Alam to send her back home, but it was all in vain. However, after 3 weeks Jyoti called Alam and asked to send back the girl in Delhi with a man named Deepak.

Deepak handed over the girl to another man Alam, who runs a placement agency (New Assam Youth Placement Service) in New Delhi. After that Alam placed her in a house in Dwarka area of Delhi taking a commission of Rs. 40,000/- from the employer. After a few months, the family decided to take her to their parent's place in Hyderabad, however Shivmati completely denied this plan. During her stay, she also tried to contact Jyoti but got to know that she left Delhi with her husband a few months back. Feeling more helpless, the child requested Sanjeev (Employer) to send her back to the Placement agency so that she can go back home.

With the hope that Alam will help her to go back home, Sanjeev (employer) left the girl at the placement agency. But Alam had some other plans for the child. He again placed her in Hari Nagar area for a commission of Rs. 30,000/-. Since then the girl's misery has started. The child was forced to work for 16 hrs a day (6.00 am. - 10.30 pm.). Even though initially the family environment was pleasant but very soon the condition started becoming worse day by day. The child was made to sleep on the balcony and was threatened by her employer most of the time. Further the employer's husband, while drinking alcohol, used to force her to massage his legs and if not done properly, she was kicked. She had to face various horrific situations where she was continually abused, both physically and verbally. Apart from the physical and verbal abuse, she was also mentally harassed by her employer.

There were various incidents where the girl was locked and left alone in the balcony when the family went out the whole day. Another incidence was where the child was asked to sweep the floor using water having ice in it during winters.

Recollecting all these incidences she says that staying in the family was a threat to her life and this rescue is a freedom for her from all forms of exploitation. The BBA team is keeping up a track on the case so as the girl can receive justice at the earliest possible.

During follow up, it was found that she was studying in 9th standard. Recently, she also participated in Bharat Yatra, a nationwide campaign to build awareness on combating child sexual abuse and trafficking.