

Office of Shaktisinh Gohil
In-charge Bihar & National Spokesperson, AICC

<http://www.shaktisinhgohil.com>

Press Note

Dt: 28th July, 2018

Statement Issued by, Shri Shaktisinh Gohil, In-Charge, Bihar, Ms. Ranjeet Ranjan MP, Ms. Priyanka Chaturvedi, Convenor, AICC Communications & Ms Sharmishtha Mukherjee, President DPMC

मोदी राज में रक्षक बने भक्षक !

नारी पर बढ़ता गया अत्याचार, गहन निद्रा ताने सोती रही भाजपाई समर्थित नीतीश सरकार

While Shri Narendra Modi promised ‘न खाऊंगा, ना खाने दूंगा’, he lets crony capitalists loot all the hard earned money in Bank Scams and the Rafale Deal. While Shri Modi had exhorted ‘सबका साथ, सबका विकास’, his Government encourages the prosecution of the weakest. While Shri Modi had declared ‘बेटी बचाओ, बेटी पढ़ाओ’- Women Security has become the biggest social causality under BJP Government. While the nation is still recovering from the heart wrenching shockers of Unnao, Kathua and Mandsaur- another unspeakable saga of protector becoming the predator has been unraveled in NDA ruled Bihar!

BJP-JDU ruled Bihar is in the grip of complete lawlessness as horrifying incidents have shaken the conscience of the people. A Government and a CM who was known for empowering women and girl child through ‘bicycles’, ‘prohibition’ and ‘reservation’ presides over a regime where girls in shelter homes are being sexually exploited by the state. All thanks to the Anti-Women mindset of BJP and its leadership.

In a shocking incident in ‘Girls’ Children Home, Muzaffarpur’ funded by the Govt; medical examination of 42 girls from a Government funded, NGO-run home shelter found that at least 29 of them were raped (13 more medical reports still pending to be made public) and at least 3 were made to undergo abortion, and another 3 are pregnant. All of them are children; most of them between 7 and 14 years old. The girls

said - in statements recorded before the special POCSO court - that they were tortured, starved, injected with drugs, and raped almost every night.

Most of the perpetrators can easily be identified by the victims as evident from the details of investigation. Gory details of torture, subjugation, blackmail and exploitation have been narrated by girls as young as 10 and 11.

Most of the girls identified Brajesh Thakur, the key accused, as one of the rapists. One girl even spit on his photograph. "He used to beat us with a stick when anybody disobeyed him," another 10-year-old said. A 14-year-old said: "The girls used to shiver with fear whenever he (Brajesh) entered the rooms. He was known as "Hunterwala Uncle."(sic). Another seven-year-old said she was raped after her hands and feet were tied up. "When I tried to resist, I was beaten up and made to starve for three days. I surrendered before Brajesh Sir and apologized," she told the court.

Another seven-year-old speech-impaired girl was made to starve for two days. Finally she gave in. Another 10-year-old girl said she had scars on her private parts. "I was unable to move for days after I was tortured and raped repeatedly by office-bearers and some outsiders," she said.

"At times, girls were taken outside at night and they returned the next day. I don't know where they were taken." An 11-year-old girl referred to a " tondwala uncleji" (fat uncle), another identified her tormentor as "muchhwala uncleji" (moustachioed uncle)."Nobody was allowed to enter the rooms when tondwala uncleji or Netaji were around," another girl said.

FACTUAL MATRIX:-

- 1. Shocking details of sexual abuse, violence, mental and physical harassment of women & girls, Grave exploitation of people suffering from mental illness have been found in a Social Audit conducted by Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) across 110 such institutions in 38 districts in Bihar. Social Audit reveals that these people are simply 'rotting in these spaces' in some form or the other across these institutions. (See Annexure A-1)**

- 2. The TISS Report which mentions 15 institutions under ‘Grave Concerns’ which require immediate action is not been taken seriously by the Nitish Govt. Intriguingly, action has been taken only on one such home shelter in Muzaffarpur, while the outrageous crimes committed against women, children young boys and girls which are being sexually exploited and beaten in the rest of the 14 such homes have been conveniently ignored.**
- 3. Almost all institutions were found to be running in violation of the Juvenile Justice Act. According to the report, there are 15 Institutions which required immediate action. (Details of exploitation of each is attached as Annexure A-2)**
- 4. Fearing political backlash, an apathetic Nitish Kumar Govt hurriedly shifted the victim girls from Muzaffarpur to Mokama, Patna and Madhubani, after which they filed an FIR.**
- 5. The arrested key accused in this case Brijesh Thakur is being publically supported by President of BJP’s Youth Wing, BJYM, Sudhanshu Pathak who has demanded his release threatening a ‘आंदोलन’. Instead of seeking justice, for the victims and demanding harsh punishment for the accused, the BJP, like in other similar cases is brazening it out, is busy protecting the predators.**
- 6. The family of the ‘बाल संरक्षक अधिकारी’ (Ravi Roushan) has now made sensational claims backed by documents and a CD as a proof that the husband of Social Development Minister Manju Verma (of JDU); Chandrashekhar Verma (referred to as Netaji in the girls’ statements) used to regularly visit this controversial home shelter in seclusion. This has raised several uncomfortable questions regarding the role of a Minister and her husband in the Nitish Kumar Government. (Annexure A3)**

Alleging a shoddy investigation and a deliberate cover up, the family has also stated that if the photograph of the Minister’s husband- Chandrashekhar Verma is shown to the victim girls, they will definitely recognize the culprits of these heinous crimes. This has again put the needle of suspicion towards the role of the Minister’s husband.

QUESTIONS:-

1. Chief Minister, Shri Nitish Kumar is known as the ‘सुशासन बाबू’. **Is this the Good Governance Model of the BJP-JDU?**
2. BJP leaders have become repeated offenders in exploiting women and then shamelessly brazenly defending their own. Recent gruesome crimes of Unnao and Kathua are testimony to that. While the PM himself often makes misogynist statements, he has never spoken a word against his own. **We want to ask the PM and his partner in crime, Shri Nitish Kumar- when will they speak a word on this gruesome incident?**
3. After a lot of pressure from the opposition in Bihar, the Nitish Kumar Government has finally been forced to recommend a CBI probe into this. But why have they not even filed an FIR in the rest of the 14 home shelter and institutions mentioned under ‘Grave Concern, requiring Immediate Action’ of the TISS Report? **Why no CBI investigation in all these cases?**
4. The Social Audit has pointed out some serious lacunas and shortcomings in these Govt funded institutions. **Will the NDA Govt take action to improve the unlivable conditions and ensure fool proof security in these shelter homes?**

The opportunistic alliance of BJP-JDU in Bihar has just completed 1 year in power. It is a year marred of Misgovernance and Anarchy.

We demand a Supreme Court monitored CBI enquiry in the case so that the culprits are truly brought to book.

To,
The Editor,

Request to kindly publish this press note in your esteemed newspaper.



(Sunil Rami)
Personal Assistant

SUMMARY OF SOCIAL AUDIT REPORT, BIHAR

Context -

On the request of the Dept. of Social Welfare Govt of Bihar, Koshish- TISS was invited to do a social audit of **110 welfare institutions** across 38 districts in Bihar.

The Institutions were as follows:

1. Specialized Adoption agency - 21
2. Short Stay Homes for Women - 21
3. Old Age Homes - 5
4. Rehabilitation Centers for destitute – 13
5. Children Homes – 27
6. Open Shelter- 8
7. Observation Homes 11
8. Uttar Rakhsha Grih – 1
9. Special Home – 1
10. Home for Children with Mental retardation – 2

The audit report was released on 26th May 2018 by the Department of Social Welfare Govt. of Bihar.

FINDINGS -

1. **Violence** was found to be present in some form or the other across institutions, barring a few exceptions. Mental harassment through character assassination was found to be a common practice against the girls and women living in these institutions. In absence of trained staff, people falling under this category were further neglected and forced to live in pathetic conditions.
2. A very high number of persons suffering from **mental illness** were found living across these institutions. Similarly, persons with disability were also found to be present in absence of adequate mental health and disabled friendly facilities in Bihar. These intuitions were being used as rotting spaces for people with special needs.
3. **Health conditions** of the residents were found to be extremely poor across institutions. The situation was especially disturbing in homes for children and the elderly.
4. No scope for **education, vocational training** and recreational facilities were being provided across institutions, barring a few exceptions.

5. **No legal aid services** were found to be provided in institutions such as observation homes and short stay homes for women, institutions where residents are largely dependent on legal aid.
 6. **The budget was found to be inadequate** in absence of any revisions for several years. The food budget, for example, is 1400 rupees per person per month.
 7. It was found that **funds had been delayed** to NGOs running these institutions and the staff had not been paid salaries for several months, at times even years.
 8. Large numbers of **posts were found vacant** across institutions. This primarily consisted of essential posts such as the nurse, doctor, counselor etc.
 9. Institutions that are supposed to be non-custodial have also turned **custodial**. People were found to be kept in prison like situations against their consent.
 10. Girls and women are worst hit in these institutions in absence of any proper plan towards their rehabilitation. They were found to be stuck in institutional life, with very little scope for them ever being free.
-

REPORT

SOCIAL AUDIT OF NON-GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT WELFARE INSTITUTIONS

Submitted By 'KOSHISH'
(Field Action Project on Homelessness & Destitution)
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai

GRAVE CONCERNS

INSTITUTIONS REQUIRING IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

While abuse, varying in forms and degrees of intensity, was reported to be prevalent in almost all institutions, there were certain institutions that stood out in a manner that was appalling. Almost all institutions were found to be running in violation of the respective schemes and the essence of the Juvenile Justice Act, but the residents' inalienable right to life was in question in certain institutions. Here, we list down the names of these institutions, along with the nature of abuse reported to be carried out in an attempt to draw attention to the moral degradation humanity has suffered and calling out for stringent action to be taken against them.

1. The **Girls' Children Home in Muzaffarpur** run by '**Seva Sankalp Evam Vikas Samiti**' was both found by us to be running in a highly questionable manner along with grave instances of violence that was reported by the residents. Several girls reported about violence and being abused sexually. This is very serious and needs to be further investigated promptly. Immediate legal procedure must be followed to enquire into the charges and corrective measures be taken. The situation, also materially, was found by us to be in an extremely deplorable condition. The girls had no access to any sort of open space and were literally locked up in their wards except for when they went to the dining hall to take their meals. Vocational trainings and recreation were also missing.
2. Serious physical Violence and Sexual Abuse were reported by the residents of the **Boys' Children Home in Motihari** run by '**Nirdesh**'. One of the staff members was reported to be involved in severe physical violence. Another pattern of abuse we encountered in this Home involved the staff beating 'all' children when a child or a group of children 'made mistakes'. When asked to elaborate upon the mistakes they could make in order for it to qualify as one deserving of a beating, these were some of the reasons they cited – '*badmaschi karna*' (naughty behaviour), '*bhaagne ki koshish karna*' (trying to escape), '*aapas me ladai karna*' (fighting amongst each other). The older boys were clubbed in for accommodation with the younger boys. Boys from both the groups reported sexual abuse and violence. This again, calls for immediate action by the concerned authorities at the district and state level. These incidents of violence and abuse must be promptly investigated as per the procedures laid down by the law.

On the day of the audit visit, all staff members except one person, who could not properly explain, what his role in the Home was, were absent.

3. The **Boys' Children Home in Bhagalpur** being run by '**Rupam Pragati Samaj Samiti**' was yet another home where grave abuse was reported. Only one member from the staff was reported to be in support of the children, for which he reported being targeted by the NGO Secretary. He spoke of how the Secretary was responsible for the suspension of the previous Home Superintendent, who was

empathetic and had constantly raised voice against the manner in which the home was running. Financial malpractice was also alleged to be carried out by the NGO. Audit team asked the 'complaint box' to be opened as few children spoke about writing the complaint letters. The keys were first said to be misplaced but later produced and complaint box was opened. There was huge stock of letters written by the residents providing details of violence and other violations being carried out in the home. The RTO, Ms. Rekha, was mentioned in almost all letters as being the most abusive both physically and verbally. There was no educational, recreation or vocational facilities available.

Letters written by residents should have been taken seriously by the institution and corrective measures should have been taken. Also, the 'key' for complaint box should not be kept with the institutions as that would deter the children from making any complaints as they would fear

4. The **Munger Boys' Children Home** run by '**Panaah**' was being run from a building meant for Observation Homes. It was also run in the same premises as the Observation Home in Munger and had the same barrack like infrastructure. The boys reported being forced to work for the Superintendent whose residential quarters were in the same premises. They were made to cook and clean for him and if they refused, as reported by the boys, they were beaten up. One of the older boys, suffering from hearing and speech impairment, and supposedly a very good cook, showed us a 3 inch long scar across his cheek from the previous time he was hit by the Superintendent when he refused to cook for him. Such behavior from an officer in charge of the institution can result in abuse at large scale and therefore district authorities must investigate this properly and take required measures.

Another really young boy, about 7 years old, also suffering from hearing and speech impairment, told us his hearing aid had been taken away by the staff. He requested us to ask them back for the aid. We did and he was handed it back but it showed complete lack of sensitivity on part of the concerned staff.

5. The **Boys' Children Home** in **Gaya** run by '**DORD**' was found to be running in a custodial and exploitative manner. The boys were always kept locked up. During FGDs, the boys spoke about how some of the female staff members were forcing them to write lewd messages on paper and passing them to another female staff member who had joined recently. Upon being enquired if they were beaten up, the children replied in affirmation. While there is a possibility of some staff dynamics coming into play where children were being used, the issue of children being beaten up has to be dealt with appropriately and firm action be taken.

6. Three Specialized Adoption Agencies – Patna's '**Nari Gunjan**', Madhubani's '**RVESK**' and Kaimur's '**Gyan Bharti**' were found to be running in a condition that is likely to be life-threatening for the residents. There were very few caretakers as against the number of babies and children who lived here. The infrastructure of these homes was found to be inappropriate for housing infants and young children.

The premises were unhygienic. The children in these homes seemed hungry and unhappy. The adoption process from the Homes' end was found to be very slow and the adoption rate very low. The staff reported not having been paid for long durations. Since this institution had residents who were too young to give information, we had to rely entirely on the FGD with the staff and on the physical condition we found these Homes in.

7. The **Government run Observation Home in Araria** had a particular security guard appointed by the Bihar Police who was reported to be carrying out extreme violence against the boys. One of the older boys showed us a mark that went across his entire chest and looked like a compression of muscle tissues in the area and swelling around it. Another boy showed badly bruised knuckles and said they received no ointments or treatment. The superintendent admitted to be aware of this and said he has already spoken to the concerned guard. However, he also sounded helpless saying the guard had been appointed by the State and was from the Bihar Police and he can't do much. The boys had intense feelings of hatred towards this particular guard. When we tried discouraging them from such thoughts of vengeance, one of the boys stated – “*Is jagah ka naam sudhaar grih se badal kar bigaad grih kar dena chahiye*” (This place should be called 'Destruction Home' instead of 'Correction Home'). Since the matter is already verified by the Superintendent, appropriate action, including removing the guard from posting at child care institutions, must be taken.
8. The residents at **Short-stay Home in Patna** run by '**IKARD**' reported violence. Several girls who had lost their way and ended up there but had the addresses and phone numbers of their homes reported not being put in touch with their families. One of the RTOs and the Accountant were reported to be both verbally and physically abusive. One girl had reportedly committed suicide about a year ago, unable to cope with the violent atmosphere of the Home. Another girl, who had her parents' phone number and repeatedly requested the staff to get her on the phone, reportedly lost her mental balance from the trauma she suffered there. The girls reported that they got no clothes, medicines, toiletries etc. The food was reported to be very bad. The overall living condition of the Home not satisfactory.
9. The residents of **Short-stay Home in Motihari** being run by '**Sakhi**' reported incidents of physical violence, especially against women and girls suffering from mental illness. The Counselor was reported to be resorting to violence. Many girls reported about not receiving sanitary pads regularly. The overall living conditions of the Home were questionable and not satisfactory.
10. The **Short-stay Home in Munger** run by '**Novelty Welfare Society**' had sublet a portion of the building to a family and was drawing a rent of rupees 10,000 a month from them. One of their staff lingered around while we tried conducting the FGD with the girls. None of the girls said anything except that the bathrooms had no latches from the inside and that they felt unsafe. During inspection, one of our staff got a locked room opened and found a woman/girl suffering from mental illness sitting on

- woman/girl
11. The **Short-stay Home** in **Madhepura** run by '**Mahila Chetna Vikas Mandal**' seemed to be coercive. One girl reported to have been brought there forcibly from the streets and was neither allowed to leave nor call her family. We wanted to look into her case details but since no staff except for the Cook was present at the time of our visit, it could not be done. The cook seemed too scared to speak anything. There were no cots and mattresses in the Home and the women/girls had been sleeping on the floor.
 12. The residents at **Short-stay Home** in **Kaimur** run by '**Gram Swaraj Sewa Sansthan**' reported to be facing abuse. The security guard was reported to be sexually abusive. The women/girls reported that he often passed lewd comments and has inappropriate conduct. The fact that Security guard manages day to day affairs of the Home provides him undue power and authority over the residents.
 13. Disturbing instances and patterns of physical violence and abuse were reported by the residents in **Sewa Kutir, Muzaffarpur** run by '**Om Sai Foundation**'. Few residents shared about some staff members being abusive. They had informed the doctor who visits on a weekly basis, about the beating. They also spoke about how they had been brought into the Home on the pretext of being given work. There was no first aid box or any emergency medicines found. We could not access mandatory documents since the staff said the keys to the cupboard that held all the records was with another staff who was absent on the day of the audit. Complaints of violence needs to be taken up seriously and concerned staff be dealt with accordingly.
 14. The conditions in **Sewa Kutir, Gaya** run by '**Metta Buddha Trust**' was unsettling. The residents were all painfully thin; sitting huddled up together in the hall. We noticed some of the staff members hovering and gesturing to the residents while we tried talking to them. Few young, working people had been brought there on the pretext of getting work. The Home was found to be running in a highly controlling manner. During the time that was allotted for recreation, the residents, even the old and frail, were compelled to play. There were a large number of people with mental illness and the residents reported that they could notice some of their friends there slowly losing their mental balance and they knew they would soon join them, but could do nothing but watch helplessly.
 15. **Kaushal Kutir in Patna** run by '**Don Bosco Tech Society**', though not a violent space is faced with the prejudices of the management. To begin with, physical violence and verbal abuse against both men and women were reported. One of the female caretakers, who was once homeless herself, was reported to be abusive towards the female residents. People had been brought on the pretext of work and made to stay for long. Men and women segregation was followed with an authoritarian intensity. They attended classes together and lived in the same premises but were never allowed to speak to or even look at each other each

ANNEXURE V

SOCIAL AUDIT TEAM

1. Qayam Masumi
2. Sunita Vishwas
3. Asif Iqbal
4. Prem Narayan Jat
5. Nilesh Kamble
6. Mohd Tarique
7. Apurva Vivek



Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak



Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak (Miñtî)

युवा मोर्चा अध्यक्ष सकरा(मण्डल)पछमी



Add Friend



Follow



Message



More



युवा मोर्चा अध्यक्ष सकरा at Bharatiya
Janata Party (BJP)





Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak



Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak



15 May

कांग्रेस मुक्त हुआ कर्नाटक, सभी भाजपा समर्थको का बहुत बहुत आभार



मुबारक हो दोस्तो
हम कर्नाटक जीत गए है
क्या आप खश है?

खुश हैं तो शेयर व





Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak



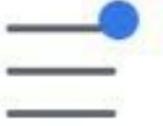
Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak is with Brajesh Thakur and 2 others.



15 June • 🌐

अगर हमारे ब्रजेश ठाकुर जी को रिहा नहीं किया गया।
तो

हम सब एक बड़ा आंदोलन करंगे कौन कौन हमारे साथ है इस आंदोलन में किउ की उन को व्यक्तिगत तरिके से जानता हूं वो बहुत ही अच्छे है और हर कौए का मदद करना उन को अच्छे से आता है। मेरे इस पोस्ट को ज्यादा से ज्यादा शेयर करे। ताकि हम सब ब्रजेश जी को इंसाफ़ दिला सके।।





Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak



Bjym Sudhanshu Pathak is with **Vikash Vikash Kumar** and 2 others.



10 June • 🌐

आज कुछ मेरे सकरा पछमी के छोटे भाई लोगों ले बाइक रैली निकाली इस के लिये उन सभी को बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद करता हु की वो भाजपा को ऐसी ही अपना समर्थन देते रहे।।।

