About Prerana

Prerana is a civil society organization that started working in the Red-Light Areas (RLA) of Mumbai in 1986 first with a view to eliminate inter-generational trafficking i.e. trafficking of the children of the sex-trafficked prostituted women into the sex trade, its allied activities or exploitative labor. To achieve this, Prerana evolved several path-breaking interventions, piloted them, evolved a success story out of each intervention, and disseminated them widely to facilitate their mainstreaming. Prerana expanded the scope of its intervention to address the issues of the prostituted women of the RLAs especially to fight violence against them and to protect their legal and human rights.

Services in the Red Light Areas

Night Care Centers (NCC)

The Night Care Center program was initiated as a response to an expressed need for the safety and well-being of the children of the prostituted women. The NCC is a safe shelter, located in the red-light area where children are taken care of so that they are away from the red-light areas during the dangerous night hours when their mothers are soliciting. The NCC provides services such as – protected shelter, wholesome nutrition, health check-ups and referrals, mental health support, education support, safe play options, safe sanitation options, along with opportunities for skills development, awareness sessions, and an overall platform for holistic personality development and growth.

The NCCs have a comprehensive nutrition and health component which adopts a holistic and comprehensive approach with regard to service delivery. Carefully planned nutritious meals are served to children four times a day (six times during Prerana’s Day to Day Summer Camp). The health and medical services have a systematic process that includes a complete general health check-up, periodic follow-ups, and end-to-end support for the management of specific medical conditions.

Apart from this, our NCC teams also work to enable access to social security documents like Aadhar cards and ration cards, access to public distribution systems, hold meetings with the mothers on various issues and concerns related to their (including their health) and their children’s wellbeing. At present, Prerana runs four NCCs, which are located in/near the red-light areas of Kamathipura (two NCCs), Falkland Road, and Vashi-Turbhe Stores.
Institutional Placement Programme (IPP)

IPP was evolved in consultation with the mothers in the red-light area. Mothers who feel their children aren't safe in the brothels, and in some cases, children themselves who express their safety concerns are referred to the Child Welfare Committee and then placed into child care institutions. These mothers want to de-link their children from the traumatizing exposures of RLAs and place them in long-term residential care and protection. At present, IPP is a structured intervention that involves collaborations with the government and non-government mechanisms to ensure successful protection and rehabilitation of vulnerable and at-risk children. The IPP program is run across all the three redlight areas we work in.

Educational Support Programme (ESP)

ESP is an intervention that caters to all educational needs of children in the NCCs - curricular, co-curricular, or extracurricular. The team keeps a track of the progress made by the children at their respective educational institutions by visiting their schools and colleges regularly. They also actively follow-up with the mothers and keep them updated on the educational progress of their children. Besides this, the programs team organizes study classes during the evening hours wherein qualified teachers provide support to school/college-going students in their studies and project work. Prerana also collaborates with other donors to provide educational scholarships for students who want to pursue advanced or professional degrees, and to those students who have to pay school/tuition/extra coaching fees. This program is deployed at all the Prerana NCCs through a dedicated team of social workers, teachers, and other resource persons.
About Red Light Area (RLA) Mapping

Over the years, Prerana has witnessed significant changes in the RLAs. Since 2011, Prerana began routinely mapping the RLAs of Kamathipura, Falkland Rd. and Vashi Turbhe. Through this exercise, the team of Prerana’s social workers have been able to identify the changing structures and dynamics of the RLAs. Understanding this is crucial for planning welfare and developmental services and strategies. The annual RLA mapping is undertaken in the months of February and March.

Through this document we aim to share an update on the current number of brothels, services, and organizations functioning in the RLAs of Falkland Rd. and Vashi-Turbhe with a reference to data collected in 2016.

The Falkland Rd. RLA is situated on a single street comprising of narrow and short by-lanes. The main road (named P.B.Marg) is lined with buildings that constitute of brothels. Much like the Kamathipura RLA, the Falkland Rd. RLA, one comes across old and extremely dilapidated infrastructure and superstructures. The electrification and water supply systems are deteriorated and frequently cause mishaps. The walls are covered in red-colored stains of the sputum thrown after chewing betel nut paan which is a common habit among the residents and visitors while the lanes are dotted with garbage.

The brothel buildings are juxtaposed in line with each brothel housing on an average of 15 women in a compact space of approximately 12’x7’ or 80 Sq. Ft area. Each brothel has an average of two to four 4’x6’ beds. These beds are what the women use as their space for dhandha (attending to their customers) as they call it, and their home for both them and their children. The beds are separated by just a thin tattered sheet of linen.

The streets are lined with a variety of commercial establishments like restaurants, tea stalls, paan/bidi stalls, clinics run by private doctors or quacks (unlicensed medical practitioners), and theaters screening B-grade films.
The Team noted that a total of 394 brothels were functioning out of the Falkland Rd. RLA in 2020.

A total of 21 buildings located on Falkland Rd. were covered in the RLA mapping exercise of 2020.

Over the last 5 years i.e. 2016 to 2020, there has been decrease in the total number of brothels functioning out of the RLA. In 2016, 410 brothels were functioning out of the area while in 2020, 395 brothels were functioning out of the area.

Since 2019, there has been an increase of 12 brothels in the area. Some of the reasons for this observed were:

- New rooms were built on the terrace of buildings in the area. These rooms function as brothels and are made out of metal sheets.
In May 2019, the Mumbai Police conducted a raid at one of the buildings on Falkland Rd. During this raid, 141 girls were said to have been rescued. A few weeks after the raid, the building once again began functioning as a brothel.

1 building that previously had brothels till 2017 has gone into redevelopment and been demolished. 1 building that had brothels till 2017 has been left unoccupied since.

- Buildings that were unoccupied in the previous years reopened with brothels in them.
- Previously shut brothels (shut due to renovation or raids) were reopened.

### COMMERCIAL & OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS

#### 1. Grocers, Food Stalls etc.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Paan/Bidi Shops</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Restaurants &amp; Food Stalls</th>
<th>2016</th>
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<tr>
<th>Beer Bars</th>
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<tr>
<th>Ration Shops (Grocers)</th>
<th>2016</th>
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2. Manufacturing Units

- In 2016, 30 'Caps & Bags' units were functioning out of the RLA. The number considerably decreased in 2019 to 6. By 2020 all the 'Caps & Bags' units were converted into 'Sareewala' units.
- In 2019 all the 'Jariwala' units were converted into 'Sareewala' units.
- Since 2016, there was 1 'Leather Shoe Making' unit in the RLA. In 2020, the same was shut down and converted into a 'Metal Dealer'.
- As of March 2020, 'Sareewala' and 'Metal Dealers' are the only manufacturing units in the RLA.
- Some of these units are located within the brothel buildings and in some cases have replaced the brothels.
3. Entertainment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Movie Theaters</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
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- As of March 2020, 11 movie theaters are functioning out of the RLA i.e. Alankar Cinema, Nishant Talkies, Moti Talkies, Taj Talkies, Alfred Talkies, New Roshan Talkies, Dream Land Cinema, Gulshan Talkies, Royal Talkies, Super Plaza Talkies, Naz Imperial talkies.
- Between 2019 and 2020, Silver Talkies and Shalimar Talkies were closed down.
- These theaters are mainly frequented by men and screen mostly b-grade films.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video Game Parlors</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
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- There is 1 video game parlor located near Alfred Talkies.
1. Medical Facilities

- The Clinics functioning out of the RLA are mainly run by 'quacks', (unlicensed medical practitioners).
- The BMC Health Post is located just outside the area.

2. Government Facilities

- There is just 1 Police Station surrounding the RLA i.e. VP Road Police Station. Two Beat offices are located within the RLA.
• Khabata Lane Bus Stop is located right outside the RLA.

3. Educational & Recreational Facilities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Private Schools &amp; Colleges</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
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• A total of 12 Private schools and colleges have been functioning within and around the RLA.

• Wilson High School; Union High School; Aryan High School; Lilavati Lalji Dayal High School & College Of Commerce; Chikitsak Samuha's Shirolkar High School; Sardar High School; Marwadi Vidyalaya; Vanita Vishram High School; Sant Gadhage Maharaj college; Sharda Sadan High School; Seva Sadan High School; Siddharth College.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>BMC Schools</th>
<th>2016</th>
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</table>

• Currently 5 schools run by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) in and around the RLA i.e. West Khetwadi Marathi Municipal School; Durgadevi Municipal School; Jaganath Shankar Seth Municipal School; Sindhi Galli Middle School; Majid Galli School.
There are 3 main gardens located in and around the RLA i.e. Durgadevi Municipal Garden; Shivsahyadri Garden; 12th Lane Khetwadi BMC Garden.

Since 2016, there has been 1 library functioning out of the RLA. This library is operated by Lodha Foundation and has been running since 2011.

4. Non Governmental Organizations
As of March 2020, 10 NGOs are currently providing various services in the RLA. The NGOs are as follows:

- **Social Activities Integration (SAI):** SAI works on health care, provide medical services in the RLA along with vocational training for the women and sponsorship’s for children.
- **Navjeevan:** Navjeevan is an Open Shelter providing day and night care services for children in the RLA. They also run a Legal Aid Clinic and provide health facilities.
- **Association for the Welfare of Persons with a Mental Handicap in Maharashtra (AWMH):** AWMH provided counseling services and care for children with special needs.
- **Apne Aap Women’s Collective:** Apane Aap provide day care services, pre-school education, exclusive study classes for girls, sponsorship’s for children. They also run a self-help group, distribute groceries among the HIV+ women, provide medical services and vocational training for the women of the RLA.
- **Asha Mahila Sanstha:** Asha Mahila Sanstha provides health care services for the women in the Kamathipura area. They provide counselling services for women living with HIV/AIDS, conduct outreach visits, offer medical health care for women diagnosed with Tuberculosis and also distribute condoms to women in the RLA.
- **Lodha Foundation:** Lodha Foundation runs the only library within the RLA. They also provide children with educational sponsorship’s and vocational training.
- **Indian Association for Promotion of Adoption and Child Welfare (IAPA):** IAPA provided educational support through study classes and sponsorship’s. It also facilitates vocational training and run a Child Guidance Clinic.
- **Oasis India:** Oasis provides medical facilities, day care services for children from the RLA along with offering educational support though Study Classes and sponsorship’s for children. They also provide vocational training and job placements.
- **Sanjeevani:** Sanjeevani provides pre-school services for the children of the RLA.
- **Savera NGO:** Savera provides women with vocational training and job placements.
The Vashi-Turbhe RLA is much smaller compared to the Falkland Rd. RLA, a major difference being the absence of ‘pucca’ vertical buildings. The area is composed of ‘kuccha’ hutmments. As compared to the red-light areas of Kamathipura and Falkland Rd. the Vashi-Turbhe RLA is still growing in size.

The proportion of pimps to girls was higher and that distinguished the Vashi-Turbhe RLA from Falkland Rd. RLA. The captivity of the prostituted women was worse than in the Falkland Rd. RLA and the women lived in ‘bondage’, facing severe restrictions on their freedom to move around. The prostituted mothers were highly vulnerable and there was acute and visible malnourishment among their children.

Prerana began it’s work in the Vashi-Turbhi RLA in 2001. Since then it has seen a considerable change in the dynamics of the area. A majority of the women in the area come from Nepal, Bangladesh and Kolkata. Women in the Vashi-Turbhe RLA migrate and in some cases are moved by the perpetrators from other RLAs like Kamathipura in Mumbai and Budhwar Peth in Pune etc. for various reasons. The RLA is concentrated into one specific area and the women aren’t allowed to solicit outside of this area.
• In 2016, 205 brothels were functioning in the RLA, in 2017 the number increased by 16 and in 2019 it further increased by 12 brothels. During the RLA Mapping activity in 2020, the Team noted that the brothels in the area decreased 11 which shut down.
• 1 brothel located on 'BG' street shut and has been replaced by an NCO that works with women and children in RLAs and runs a center there.

COMMERCIAL & OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS

1. Grocers, Food Stalls etc.

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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
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<td>Paan/Bidi Shops</td>
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<td>Tea Stalls, Beer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bars &amp; Restaurants</td>
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<td>General Stores</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ration Shops (Grocers)</td>
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2. Manufacturing Units

- In **2019**, **30 manufacturing units** were functioning out of the RLA. In **2020**, this number dropped to **15 units**.
- These units are located within the RLA.

3. Mics. Establishments

- Since 2016, **1 DJ & decoration service** has been functioning out of the RLA.
- Since 2016, **1 tailor** has been functioning out of the RLA and is located at the entrance of the area.
1. Medical Facilities

- Terna is a clinic located near the RLA which opened in 2017.
- Bombay Teen Challenge and Sahaara (NGOs working in the RLA) run clinics within the RLA.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clinics</th>
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- There are no medical stores in the RLA. The women go to the Turbhe store area or K.K Road to purchase medicines.

2. Educational & Recreational Facilities

- Since 2016 there are 3 schools located in and around the RLA i.e. Navjeevan Hindi High School, Samta Vidyalaya and NMMC Marathi Medium.
- In 2019, 1 public garden opened up right outside the RLA.

3. Government Facilities

- There are 5 public toilets in and around the RLA.
4. Religious Facilities

- Since 2016, 2 temples have been functioning in the RLA i.e. Naag Mandir and Durgadevi Mandir.

5. Non-Governmental Organizations

- There are no 'church' buildings, though NGOs such as Bombay Teen Challenge, Mana Prayer House, Sahara, Sahasi embersse, Asha Kendra, Rahab Scope and White Stone conduct prayer meetings at their office premises. These meetings are attended by the women and children.
• As of March 2020, 14 NGOs are currently providing services in the RLA. The NGOs are as follows:
  
  • **White Stone:** White Stone works with the women in the RLA providing medical and health care along with vocational training such as tailoring and jewelry making.
  
  • **Sahaara:** Sahaara works with women and children in the RLA providing health and medical care. They work with the HIV+ women and those with TB by providing meals.
  
  • **Asha Kendra:** Asha Kendra runs a day care center and a balwadi for children from the RLA.
  
  • **Sahasee Embers:** Sahasee Embers runs an Open Shelter for children from the RLA, provides vocational training for women and health care.
  
  • **Bombay Teen Challenge:** BTC provides health facilities and runs an adult literacy program for the women of RLA.
  
  • **Manna Prayer House:** Manna Prayer House runs a balwadi and provides breakfast for the children from the RLA.
  
  • **Prem Kiran:** Prem Kiran runs a balwadi, provides milk and eggs for those in the RLA and lunch for the women and children of the RLA. They also run an adult literacy program for the women in the RLA.
  
  • **Tree of Life:** Tree of Life runs a balwadi for the children in the RLA. They facilitate vocational training such as beauty parlor training and tailoring for the women.
  
  • **Love Without Reason:** Love Without Reason runs a day care center for children and provides vocational training for women and adolescents in the RLA.
  
  • **Rahab Scope:** Rahab Scope runs a play school and provides vocational training for women.
  
  • **Alert India:** Alert India provides vocational training for youth, provides job placements and creates awareness around health.
  
  • **International Justice Mission:** IJM runs a legal clinic in the RLA.
  
  • **Adhar Sheela Kendra:** Adhar Sheela Kendra provides vocational training for women.
  
  • **Apne Aap Women’s Collective:** Apne Aap conducts outreach within the RLA and provides health and medical services in the RLA.
DISCLAIMER

The information shared in this document has been derived from the residents/women/persons living in the mentioned RLA and are associated with Prerana through its various interventions and work done in the area. The Prerana team has attempted to maintain a high degree of accuracy while creating this resource. The document is primarily for informational purposes only.

Feel free to share your suggestions or ask questions on fighttraffickingindia@gmail.com

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