



UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

21st Century

Producer:
Script version Final
Duration: 12'24"

INDIA : GIRLS FOR SALE

INTRO :

In India – a child is abducted every 8 minutes. Most are girls. A third are never found. We follow the story of two girls who went missing - and one man's struggle to find them before they are lost forever.

VIDEO

SHOTS OF HOWRAH
BRIDGE AND
PROSTITUTES IN RED
LIGHT AREA

RISHI IN TRAVELLING CAR

UPSOUND/ RISHI KANT

AUDIO

NARRATION

Kolkata - one of the largest cities in India. It's home to one of the biggest red light districts in Asia. Over 60,000 prostitutes work here – many of them children, trafficked against their will. (16")

Rishi Kant, is an anti-trafficking activist. His mission is to rescue underage girls who have been kidnapped and then sold into prostitution, forced marriage or domestic slavery. (12")

RISHI KANT (In English)

Somebody identifies the girl, somebody procures the girl,

brings her out from the village and take her to the railway station or bus station, from there they are transported to bigger cities.

Once the girl is sent to Delhi or Mumbai, they are trapped. (19")

NARRATION

Today, he's on his way to meet the parents of a 17 year old girl, Noor Banu, who disappeared almost a year ago. (7")

RISHI'S CAR STOPS
OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE
AND HE WALKS IN.

Noor Banu's parents live on less than 50 cents a day. For them, this may be the only hope of finding their daughter. (9")

INTERCATION OF RISHI
AND NOORBANU'S
MOTHER

Mother: (In Bengali)
Here have a look. This is her picture. (2")

NOORBANU'S MOTHER
SHOWING HER
DAUGHTER'S
PHOTOGRAPH TO RISHI

Rishi: (in Bengali)
This one is your daughter? (1")

Mother: (in Bengali)
This guy, who's my relative, pretended to take my daughter to a doctor's appointment. I had no clue what was happening because I wasn't here. ((14")

Rishi: (In Bengali)
Did you register a police report? (3")

Father:
Yes. (1")

Rishi: (In Bengali)
So are the police trying to find your daughter? (3")

Mother: _((in Bengali)

No. They can't even find the kidnappers. (3")

RISHI TO CAM

RISHI KANT (In English)

Traffickers move from one place to another. Suppose if this girl is taken from this place, they will go to Kolkata. From Kolkata they might either go to Howrah Station and take a train to Delhi or to Mumbai. So we can track this case...(12")

RISHI SITTING IN CAR

NARRATION

Although Rishi is hopeful, the reality is that around a third of trafficked children are never traced. (6")

ARADHANA SINGH IN HER VAN

Stories of trafficked girls are not unique to this state, Bengal. They are just as commonplace in the neighbouring state of Jharkhand where Aradhana Singh is the head of the Anti-Trafficking Unit. (12")

UPSOUND/ ARADHANA

ARADHANA SINGH (In Hindi)

This is a hub for trafficking because there is a lot of poverty. There's a lack of education and awareness. (7")

GIRLS ENJOYING AT MELA

NARRATION

There are many traffickers involved in each step of transporting the girls from the village to big cities. And there is a financial transaction each time (9")

UPSOUND/ ARADHANA

ARADHANA SINGH (In Hindi)

Sell a girl and the trafficker takes US\$ 320. After that

people come to the agencies and buy her for US\$ 500-800. (11")

ARADHANA SINGH
TRAVELLING THROUGH
THE AREA

NARRATION

Today, as Aradhana Singh is travelling through the area, a mother approaches her. (5")

INTERACTION OF
ARADHANA AND
MARIAM'S MOTHER

ARADHANA SINGH (In Hindi)

What happened? Where are you coming from? (4")

MARIAM'S MOTHER

I live nearby, in Murhur. (3")

ARADHANA SINGH (In Hindi)

So you live in Murhur. Name, Salomi. Is your daughter missing? (4")

MARIAM'S MOTHER

Yes (1").

NARRATION

The mother reports that her 14 year old daughter Mariam vanished from her home over 2 weeks ago. (5")

INTERACTION OF
ARADHANA AND
MARIAM'S MOTHER

ARADHANA SINGH (In Hindi)

We will do a police report. Get her photograph as well. (5")

REENACTMENT OF
MARIAM AND THE
TRAFFICKER

NARRATION

Mariam's story, like that of Noor Banu, mirrors the experience of thousands of other girls. A family member tricked her into leaving the village with him. To protect her identity, we have changed her name. (13")

RISHI MEETS SARBARI	Meanwhile, back in Kolkata, Rishi Kant plots his next move to locate 17 year old Noor Banu (6")
HOWRAH STATION	He heads to the busy Howrah station where he believes Noor Banu may have passed through. (6")
RISHI MOVING OUT FROM POLICE STATION	As expected, the trail is cold. It's been a year now since Noor Banu vanished. Most successful rescues take place soon after the abduction. (10")
GIRLS DANCING	Rishi is not sure what to do next.. (3")
ARADHANA SINGH IN POLICE STATION	But in the other case - of 14 year old Mariam, Aradhana Singh has managed to track down the trafficker. She calls Rishi to see if he can help find her. (12")
ARADHANA ON CAMERA	<p><u>ARADHANA SINGH</u></p> <p><i>We work through a network. And non-governmental organisations are very helpful since the police can't be everywhere. So where we can't go – the NGOs come in and help us catch the traffickers (11")</i></p>
	<p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>After speaking to Aradhana, Rishi heads to the state of Haryana, about 150 kilometers away – where Mariam is believed to be located. (10")</p>
RISHI IN CAR	Rishi meets up with the local police team. Joining them is Mariam's mother, and the relative who sold her daughter to a trafficker for a small payment. This relative has now agreed to cooperate with the police. (20")
RISHI MOVING OUT OF CAR AND MEETS JHARKHAND POLICE TEAM MARIAM'S MOTHER AND THE TRAFFICKER	Rishi and the police set up a trap to capture the local trafficker. The relative offers him another girl for sale. (9")

THE TRAFFICKER MAKES
THE CALL

TRAFFICKER PRAVEEN: (in Hindi)
I am Praveen. Can you recall? (2")

PHONE INTERACTION OF
TRAFFICKER PRAVEEN
AND OTHER PERSON ON
PHONE CALL

OTHER PERSON ON PHONE CALL:

Yes. Yes. (1")

TRAFFICKER PRAVEEN: (in Hindi)

*I have come to Karnal. I have brought another girl...I've
got one more girl. (3")*

OTHER PERSON ON PHONE CALL:

You have brought a girl? (2)

TRAFFICKER PRAVEEN: (in Hindi)

Yes. Now where should I meet you? (3")

RISHI READING MESSAGE

NARRATION

The police team's cyber cell tracks the call. (3")

RISHI AND HIS TEAM
MAKING THEIR WAY TO
CATCH SURINDER

OTHER PERSON ON PHONE CALL

I'll call you back again

Okay?

NARRATION

They now have his location. (2")

NIGHTSHOTS DRIVING

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
over 150,000 people are trafficked within South Asia every
year. Globally, human trafficking is a 32 billion dollar industry.
(16")

POLICE AT THE
TRAFFICKERS HOME

Hoping to find Mariam, Rishi's team arrive at the trafficker's,
home. (5")

A YOUNG GIRL SITTING IN

A BED

VOICES IN RAID

This is Surinder, the trafficker. And there's a girl here too.

Where are you from? (12")

THE POLICE ASKING
QUESTIONS –
INTERACTION.

NARRATION

There is a young girl in his bed. (2")

THEY LEAVE THE HOUSE
AND HEAD INTO THE CAR

VOICE IN RAID

I

What is your mother's name? (2")

GIRL

Ganga (1")

INTERACTION OF
SURINDER AND POLICE IN
CAR

VOICE

And your father's name? (2")

GIRL

Budra. (1")

NARRATION

But it is not Mariam. (2")

*In the car, the police question the trafficker about Mariam
(3")*

SURINDER SINGH (In Bengali)

The girl you are referring to. What's her name?

Mariam.

Yes Mariam.

*So then we sold her off for marriage in a village near
Punjab. (6")*

MARIAM'S MOTHER (In Hindi)

It is very difficult for me to sleep. I was thrown out of my

MARIAM'S MOTHER ON
CAMERA

own home, but I worked hard and somehow fed her. And now she's missing, nowhere to be found. This torture is slowly killing me. (23")

NARRATION

RISHI AND HIS TEAM
HEAD TO PUNJAB

The selling of young girls as brides is common in some states like Punjab and Haryana. A major factor is the extremely low sex ratio of females to males—

Young girls are brought here and sold as child brides to the local men at bargain prices. (22")

RISHI AND HIS TEAM
MOVES AHEAD TO CATCH
MARIAM

The team has received new information on where Mariam is being kept. But marriage in India is sacrosanct and snatching a girl from her marital home can have violent consequences. (14")

POLICEMAN

RISHI AND POLICE
CONDUCTING RAID

Call the girl's mother. (2"

VOICES THROUGH THE RAID

Get up, come out!

Just a minute. Just listen to me. (9")

NARRATION

MARIAM FINALLY
RESCUED

Startled and afraid, Mariam emerges from the room. (6")

VOICES THROUGH RAID

RISHI AND PUNJAB
POLICE TOOK THE
TRAFFICKER TO POLICE
STATION

You've misled this girl and bought her! (3"0

Come child, don't be afraid. (2")

MARIAM'S MOTHER

MARIAM AND HER MOTHER
IN CAR BEING TAKEN TO

My daughter! (1")

NARRATION

MARIAM AND HER MOTHER
REUNITED

After 20 days of separation, mother and daughter are finally reunited. (5")

VOICES THROUGH THE RAID

POLICE ESCORTING MEN
OUT INTO VEHICLES

Come on, put your shoes on fast.

This is the husband? I'd like to thrash him!

Come on, come on. Move out, let's get out of here.

He's an old man! Yes.

He's at least fifty to fifty five years old!

He was sleeping naked with such a small child! (38")

NARRATION

MARIAM'S HUSBAND
GETTING OUT OF CAR
NIGHTSHOTS

The husband of 14 year old Mariam is a 50 year old man. (5")

MARIAM

MARIAM

He called me and told me that come I'll buy you new clothes. (3")

MARIAM CRYING

When they put me on a train in Ranchi, I realised I was being taken somewhere else. After that... (4")

...after that they forced me to get married. (3")

CHILD WELFARE
COMMITTEE

NARRATION

If convicted, the husband will face 10 years in prison for purchasing Mariam. (4")

RISHI KANT

RISHI IN TRAVELLING CAR

The girl has been rescued finally after at least twenty-four hours of efforts to trace the girl, and that too - from two states. (14")

NARRATION

MARIAM WITH HIM IN CAR Mariam will be taken to the Child Welfare Committee for a hearing before she can go back home. (6")

Back in Noor Banu's village, her parents are still waiting for her return, surrounded by her meagre belongings. (8")

NOOR BANU'S FATHER NOOR BANU'S FATHER (in Bengali)
My feelings are the same as any other parent. If the child dies it's easier.
But if she goes missing, it is more painful. (12")

A SMALL GIRL ENJOYING ON SWING NARRATION
In India – for every Mariam who is rescued, there are several Noor Banus who remain missing..... and far too many parents – and children – continue to feel that pain (14")