

**Read the given text carefully and deal with the activities that follow:**

## **Human Trafficking**

Human trafficking is one of the cross-cutting issues. It is a worldwide serious concern. Human trafficking is an illegal trade of human beings for sexual exploitation, forced labour, extraction of organs or tissues and so on. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), human trafficking is the recruitment or transportation of persons by means of the threat or use of force or other forms of abduction, fraud or deception, or for the purpose of exploitation. It knows no gender, age, race and boundaries.

Victims are trafficked within a country or transnational. They are smuggled because they are forced to work as prostitutes, domestic servants, beggars, factory workers, mine workers, circus performers and child soldiers. It is like another form of slavery. The majority of trafficking victims are women and children because of their marginalisation in many societies and their limited economic resources. Besides them, other key target groups include people from low income households, ethnic minorities, illiterate or people with low level of education, refugees, illegal migrants, children running away from home, and other. Members of split families are also prone to it. Women of forced marriage and early marriage, deserted wife, widows and discriminated daughters are easily victimised.

Traffickers prey on the most vulnerable members of society. In order to deceive, first, they take help of local people to identify such families. They may provide economic incentive and financial loans to their friends, relatives, family, spouse or even parents. At times, most victims are lured to promises of better jobs or well paid job in cities, false marriages and proposals, easy money, dream of sophisticated life and other. Victims of earthquakes, floods, wars and epidemics can be easily smuggled.

Most victims are involved in slavery like practices, and kept in prison like environment. It is because they can be physically and sexually abused. They have to work long hours without any rest or recreation. They never get medical facility when they fall sick. They are either paid less or their earnings are withheld with prolonged indebtedness to traffickers.

Our constitution has preserved the right to freedom. Therefore, we must fight against trafficking of persons. In addition to legislation, the Nepal government, the Ministry of Women, Children and Welfare, various INGOs and NGOs and many other organisations in Nepal are dedicated to combat human trafficking.

If we suspect anyone involving in such illegal activities, we have to report the police or any member of concerned organisations. We can also use helpline numbers anytime to inform about victims or traffickers. Our little effort will be a great help to control violation of human rights.

**1. Write the word/phrase from the text having the following meanings.**

- a. Against law/prohibited by law:** .....
- b. Prison:** .....
- c. The act of treating unfairly:** .....
- d. Moved illegally in or out of country:** .....
- e. Extending across national boundaries:** .....
- f. Likely or liable to suffer from:** .....
- g. Activity done for enjoyment:** .....

### 3. Find the words or phrases from the text above that give similar meaning to the following.

a. a topic that has strong impact on all and that must receive special attention.

b. sexual abuse of children and youth.

c. extending across national boundaries.

d. a person who engages in a sexual activity for payment.

e. treatment of a person or group as insignificant.

f. left by husband.

g. exposed to the possibility of being harmed.

h. a telephone service providing help with problems.

### 2. Reading comprehension

i. Read the text, and decide whether the following statements are true[T] or false[F].

a. Traffickers' target is only girls and women.

b. Human trafficking is a burning issue.

c. Victims get a better job and earn better when they are recruited.

d. The nearest family members may help smugglers.

e. Rich and developed countries are free from human trafficking problems.