

**May1, 2019.**  
**REACHING OUT.....TO HOPE, PRAJWALA AN ANTI TRAFFICKING ORGANIZATION**

As part of the International Exchange Alumni networking conducted by the US Consulate Hyderabad, the members meet every month to bond over the varied work we are doing and share our commitment and passion for social causes and involve ourselves in developmental activities that contribute to nation building. As part of our April 2019 meet up, the US Consulate Hyderabad arranged a visit to the NGO Prajwala, the rehabilitation home for trafficked women and children run by Padmashri Dr. Sunitha Krishnan.

Trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation is an organized crime and a multi-billion-dollar industry. Thousands of women and children are globally trafficked for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation every year. Within India, women and children are procured from different parts of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Jharkhand, Odhisha, Bihar etc. and trafficked to different parts of the country. Places of exploitation are now moving out of the red lights areas and spreading its tentacles in hotels, resorts, massager parlours, beauty parlours and apartments. While 93% of sex trafficking is inter and intra state, 7% is of foreign nationals are from Nepal, Bangladesh, Uzbekistan, Thailand and some African countries,

Prajwala, which means an eternal flame, is a step towards this mission.

**The Vision**

A trafficking free society where no woman or child is sexually exploited and no human being is treated as a 'commodity' for sale.

Prajwala today works on all aspects of anti-trafficking from prevention, rescue, restoration, rehabilitation, reintegration to advocacy with a large team of survivors as full-time staff.



