International Justice Mission
Pursuing Justice Together
International Justice Mission is an organisation that helps protect the poor from violence. In India, IJM works on two forms of human trafficking: Bonded Labour and Commercial Sexual Exploitation (sex trafficking) of minors.

Our approach to justice is holistic. We work directly and collaboratively with the government at the state and national levels to pursue individual cases of violence, restore survivors, and make offenders accountable for their crime. We also empower vulnerable community members through awareness building programmes.
IJM works with the Government, other Non-Governmental and Community-Based Organisations, with a need-specific and participatory approach. We believe that engagement is a vital part of initiating any process-oriented intervention. Rather than viewing capacity building as an event, we consider ourselves as co-partners, working towards the unified goal of ending bonded labour. The true success of our efforts lies in seeing our partners accomplish their goals both, in the short term, as well as in the long run.
IJM resource persons are regularly invited for trainings at the Tamil Nadu Police Academy and the Police Training College, Chennai. At the district level, IJM conducts trainings at In-Service Training Centres. Apart from this, IJM resource persons have been privileged to train key district-level police officers on bonded labour.

5,278 police officers trained since 2010
IJM collaborates with the Anna Institute of Management (AIM) to train Revenue Divisional Officers and Sub Collectors on Bonded Labour. IJM resource persons are also invited by AIM to train the other district government officers on human trafficking and bonded labour.

In the districts, IJM works with the respective collectorate to train key revenue and labour officials and equip them to handle bonded labour cases.

2,726 district officials trained since 2010
International Justice Mission supported the Thomson Reuters Foundation in February 2017 by training 20 journalists who were part of a week-long course on human trafficking. IJM led one session on ‘Bonded Labour: Law and the Challenges’.

The participants included journalists from The Hindu, Times of India, NDTV and some of the other leading publications from different states in India.
Community

IJM actively engages with the vulnerable community and other grassroots NGOs to equip, train and empower them on the issue of bonded labour. Since 2012, IJM has been conducting state-wide awareness campaigns in Tamil Nadu to raise awareness, sensitise and educate the most vulnerable community members.

17,546 community members reached since 2012
“The handbook “Combating the Bonded Labour System” prepared by IJM, in association with the Government of Tamil Nadu, is a very useful and effective tool for preventing and addressing bonded labour. The human rights approach and the trafficking perspective provides the right method and direction. No doubt, this booklet will be an excellent resource guide to all law enforcement and justice delivery agencies in India.”

Dr. P. M. Nair, IPS (Retd.),
Chair Professor,
TISS, Mumbai

“The session was extremely useful for journalists attending the course, giving them details on the existing laws and their implementation. The training was anecdotal and factual, using examples to illustrate the way in which the law functions. Participant feedback indicates that they found IJM’s session engaging and informative.”

Ms. Anuradha Nagaraj,
Correspondent,
Thomson Reuters Foundation

“The training sessions on bonded labour handled by IJM resource persons was well appreciated by the participants.”

Mr. A. Mohamed Jamaluddin,
Program Director,
Anna Institute of Management

“The training session was an eye-opener in several ways as it provided exposure to the legal implications of bonded labour. Officers were able to raise queries on practical issues, seek clarifications and get insight into certain grey areas. It added a professional depth to our field knowledge.”

Mr. E. T. Samson,
Superintendent of Police,
Tiruvallur

“Training of officials is indispensable to successfully implement the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act as it sensitises them on the issue and makes them aware of all the provisions of the Act. We have found that periodical training has improved the rescue and rehabilitation measures within our district.”

Mr. Rahul Nadh A. R., IAS
Additional Collector (Development) and Project Officer, DRDA, Kanniyakumari (Former Sub-Collector, Thiruvallur)

“Mr. Arun Thamburaj, IAS,
Sub-Collector,
Kancheepuram

“The Bonded Labour Awareness Workshop conducted for all the Tahsildars, Deputy Tahsildars, Revenue Inspectors and Village Administrative Officers, in collaboration with IJM at Kancheepuram Sub-Division was a very interactive and enjoyable session which threw light on all aspects of bonded labour starting from definition to rehabilitation. Such frequent training would not only sensitise our staff, but would also go a long way in weeding out this evil of bonded labour at the grassroots level.”

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