

RED-LIGHT AREA MAPPING:

# VASHI-TURBHE

2021



#### **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 specially to fight violence against them and to protect their legal and human rights.

#### About Vashi-Turbhe

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' hutments. 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 its 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 in one specific area and the women aren't allowed to solicit outside of this area.

#### 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 that adopts a holistic and comprehensive approach 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

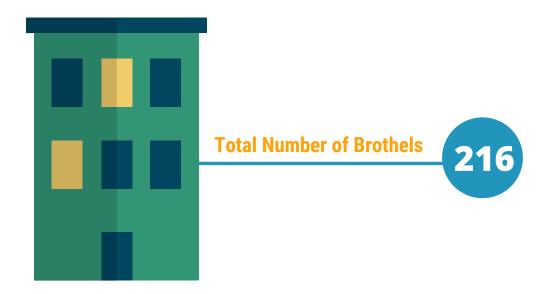
and colleges regularly. They also actively follow up with the mothers and keep them updated on the educational progress of their children. Besides this, the program team organizes study classes during the evening hours wherein qualified teachers provide support to school/college-going students in their 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 has been routinely mapping the RLAs of Vashi-Turbhe. Through this exercise, the team of Prerana's social workers has identified 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 in the RLAs where Prerana's NCC services are being provided.

Through this document, we hope to indicate the changes in the RLA of Vashi-Turbhe, in 2020–21.

### **BROTHELS**



- Prerana's Team noted that a total of 216 brothels are currently functioning in the Vashi-Turbhe RLA in 2021.
- 5 brothels closed in 2021.

### **COMMERCIAL & OTHER ESTABLISHMENTS**

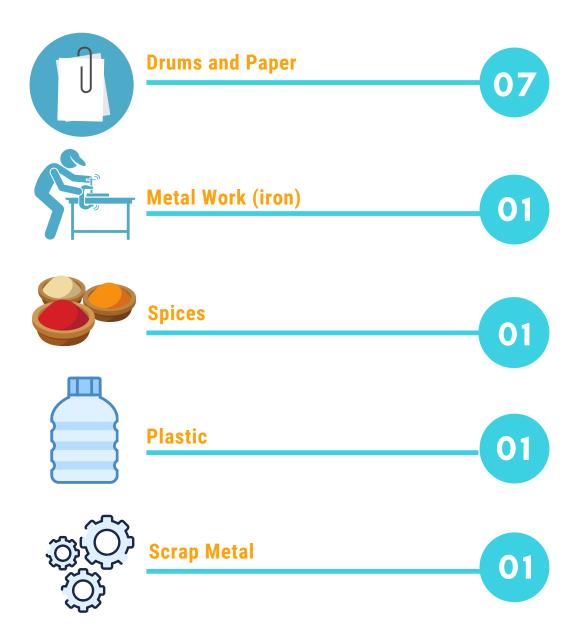
### 1. Grocers, Food Stalls etc.

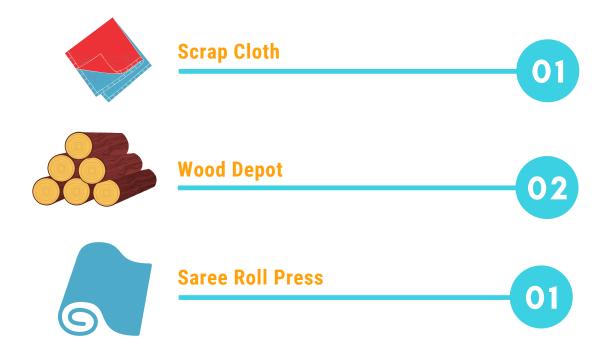




• One of the restaurants has a bar. There is no separate beer shop in the area.

### 2. Manufacturing Units





### **SERVICES**

### **1.Medical Facilities**



• There is no medical store in the red light area. Women come down to Turbhe store, KK Road to purchase medicines

#### 2. Educational Facililities



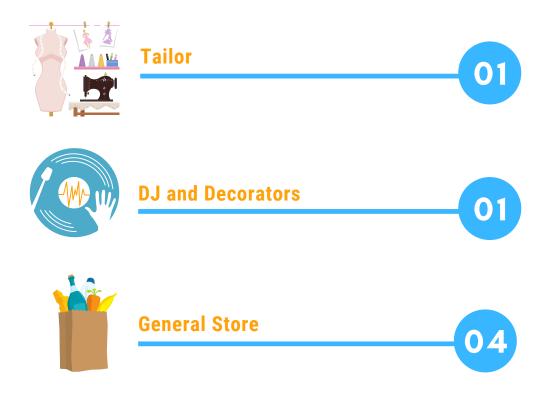
• All schools are up to 10th standard only.

#### 3. Civic Services



• There is no police station nearby. The red-light area comes under the jurisdiction of Sanpada Police station.

### 4. Commercial Services



#### 5. Other Services



### 6. Religious Places



 There are no churches as such but some organisations conduct prayers in their vicinity with the women and children from the red light area.

## 3. Non-Government Organisations



NGO	Services	Target Group
White Stone	Health services to women, vocational training in tailoring and jewelery making	women and children
Sahara	provide medical services to women, work with people living with HIV/AIDS, nutritious food to people suffering from TB, HIV, Grocery relief service during the pandemic.	women and children
Asha Kendra	Provide day care shelter facility, conduct activities and balwadi, Grocery relief service during the pandemic.	children
Manna Prayer House Trust	Balwadi, morning snacks	children
Rahab Scope	play school and vocational training for women, grocery relief service during the pandemic	women and children
Bombay Teen Challenge	health and adult literacy programe for women, Grocery relief service during the pandemic	women and children
Sahasee Embers	vocational training for women, health care services, Night Care Center, Day Care Center, Grocery relief service during the pandemic	women
Save The Children	vocational training for youth, healthcare services, Grocery relief services during the pandemic	women and children

NGO	Services	Target Group
Alert India	health awareness sessions, vocational training for youth	women and children
IJM	legal aid clinic, grocery relief service during the pandemic	women
Adhar Sheela kendra	vocational training to women	women
Apne Aap Women's Collective	outreach programs, healthcare services for women	women



#### **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.

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Your trusted knowledge partner in the fight against human trafficking

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