

# Tribune

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## CWC tells police to trace trafficked maid's employer

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The Child Welfare Committee, South Delhi, has given a month's time to the police to trace a placement agency owner and recover over Rs 2 lakh as wages of a girl rescued by the Bachpan Bachao Andolan (BBA) after three years of working as a maid. The girl, a resident of Lakhimpur, Assam, was trafficked into Delhi in 2010 by Sushant Dass, owner of 'Khushi Enterprises Placement Agencies' and was made to work at many places as a domestic help.

"I was promised salary, but was not paid anything. I was not even allowed to go home," she said.

Following a complaint by the girl to an activist, the BBA rescued her on June 18 last year from a house in Malviya Nagar. While Dass and his family have absconded, the girl stayed at a rehabilitation home 'Prayaas' for a year.

The CWC, Lajpat Nagar had directed that the victim be paid around Rs 2,40,000 for her work for three years, out of which a sum of about Rs 30,000 has been recovered from her employers.

"The rest needs to be recovered from the placement agency," the CWC said in its order on Friday.

BBA chairperson R.S. Chaurasia said the CWC order is a significant sign that the High Court directions regarding the issue are being followed.

"Apart from the prosecution, this will convey that traffickers and those who employ child labourers will not be let off scot-free and will have to repay every single penny they owe to the victims," he said.

*my note*