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Vol. 23 No. 65 Establish

■ **US: India isn't making minimum effort to end trafficking**

India's trafficking curbs weak

Washington, June 29: The US has noted that the conviction rate, investigations, prosecutions and convictions in India are "disproportionately low" relative to the scale of human trafficking, and has retained the country in Tier 2' of its annual report on trade of humans. "The government of India does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, however, it is making significant efforts to do so. The government demonstrated increasing efforts compared to the previous reporting peri-

■ **THOSE FROM** the most disadvantaged social strata — lowest caste Dalits, members of tribal communities, religious minorities, and women and girls from excluded groups — are most vulnerable.

od, therefore India remained on Tier 2," the report said. The department places each country in this report onto one of four

tiers, as mandated by The Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) of the US.

Tier 2 suggests that the government of the country does not fully meet the TVPA's minimum standards, but is making significant efforts to bring itself into compliance with those standards. India was placed in Tier 2 on human trafficking since 2011.

The report said India has demonstrated increasing efforts by nearly tripling the number of victims identified and increasing its budget for shelter programmes for

female and child trafficking victims.

It noted that the government's inter-ministerial committee in 2017 to discuss and revise a draft anti-trafficking bill and India's border guard force along its Nepal border conducted several awareness activities on human trafficking for students and border communities.

As reported over the past five years, the state department said India is a source, destination, and transit country for men, women and children subjected to forced labour and sex trafficking. — PTI

Swiss bank gets 'clean'

■ **Centre says not all of it to get all data from January**

DC CORRESPONDENT
NEW DELHI, JUNE 29

On the backfoot after reports emerged that money parked by Indians in Swiss banks had risen by over 50 per cent, the government indicated on Friday that all the funds that were deposited in Switzerland need not be black money.

Finance minister Piyush Goyal said as per the agree-

WAR OF WORDS

To assume that tax evaders in Switzerland in the deposits is what ago, is to start off presumption.