



Embassy of the United States of America

October 6, 2005

Meena Saraswathi Seshu
General Secretary
SANGRAM
Aarohan Bunglow
Ghanshyamnagar, Madhavnagar Road
Sangli (Maharashtra State)
Telefax: 0233-2312191

Dear Ms. Seshu,

In reference to the article that appeared September 29, 2005 on the website HindustanTimes.com, I would like to clarify that the article does not reflect the position of the United States Government regarding SANGRAM.

United States funding for activities carried out by your organization, SANGRAM, was terminated by the mutual consent of the Avert Society and SANGRAM. United States Government funding was not removed from SANGRAM for trafficking in persons.

Trafficking in persons is an abhorrent crime against humanity. The United States Government seeks the support of governments and organizations throughout the world to eliminate it completely. We are also committed to combating HIV/AIDS, especially in high-risk groups.

I regret any confusion that may have been caused by the inaccuracies in this article.

Respectfully,

David Kennedy
Spokesman
U.S. Embassy, New Delhi