STAY HOME. STAY SAFE.
AT HOME. AT RISK.

A Rapid Survey Series across 6 States on the Domestic Violence Redressal Ecosystem during COVID-19 Outbreak

SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS: ONE STOP CENTRES (OSCs)

AT HOME, AT RISK is a series of rapid surveys to understand how the redressal ecosystem for domestic violence has functioned during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The surveys are conducted by eight member organisations of Lam-lynti Chittara Neralu (LCN) across 7 states. They are based on phone interviews with women and transgender survivors of domestic violence, and the staff of a range of service providers such as shelter homes, helplines, One Stop Crisis Centers, women’s rights organizations, among others.

* [https://scroll.in/article/857370/one-stop-centres-for-rape-survivors-in-india-are-now-resolving-marital-disputes](https://scroll.in/article/857370/one-stop-centres-for-rape-survivors-in-india-are-now-resolving-marital-disputes)

LCN (LAM-LYNTI CHITTARA NERALU) IS A NATIONAL NETWORK THAT WORKS TOWARDS IMPROVED AND RIGHTS-BASED SHELTER SERVICES FOR SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE.

Total OSCs interviewed: 16

- Delhi: 3
- Nagaland: 3
- Assam: 3
- Jharkhand: 2
- Karnataka: 3
- Tamil Nadu: 2

INDIA
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING LOCKDOWN

500 domestic violence cases (during the lockdown), as reported by 15 OSCs

“There is a 50 per cent increase in domestic violence cases. Loss of livelihood in many families led to frustration in both the husband and the wife. This resulted in physical and verbal abuse”.

OSC, Tamil Nadu

“There was an 80 per cent increase in domestic violence cases. Loss of livelihood in many families led to frustration in both the husband and the wife. This resulted in physical and verbal abuse”.

OSC, Karnataka

Syntesis of Findings:
One Stop Centres (OSCs)
WHO IS THE SURVIVOR?
Mostly married women, homemakers*
Women with physical and mental disabilities
Elderly women
Transpersons
Domestic and factory workers, daily wagers
* reported by 14 out of 16 OSCs

NATURE OF VIOLENCE
Mostly physical, economic, psychological and sexual violence

MOST NAMED PERPETRATOR*

- Husband: 11 OSCs
- In-laws: 8 OSCs
- Natal family: 2 OSCs

* data from 12 OSCs

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SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS:
ONE STOP CENTRES (OSCs)
STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION

Out of 11 OSCs that contacted the Police

- 9 received support
- 2 received no support

Out of 6 OSCs that contacted Helplines

- 5 received support
- 1 received no support

Out of 16 OSCs

- 4 received support from Protection Officers
- 5 received support from State Legal Services Authority

“During the lockdown, we were on our way in an auto rickshaw when the traffic police stopped us. I contacted the case worker who asked me to seek help from a senior government official. We received no support from the government functionaries we contacted. Only after I contacted a senior official from the traffic police did they release us”.

OSC, Karnataka

“A woman whose husband deprived her of money approached a women’s police station. The SHO sarcastically asked the woman: ‘Should I give you money?’”

OSC, Delhi
"Some shelters denied admission to women because of fear of contamination. Hence, with the help of the police, we decided to accommodate these women".

OSC, Nagaland

"All the departments were active. We rescued around 20 women with police assistance."

"Doctors offered immediate medical treatment at the government hospital."

"The police accompanied us all the way through; from the point of rescue, they took us to the hospital for registering Medico Legal Cases (MLCs). Then they dropped the women to the shelter homes and us to the OSC."

There were 10 cases for which the District Legal Services Authority also helped us promptly."

OSC, Tamil Nadu

STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION

Out of 5 OSCs that contacted shelter homes 14 received support

All 8 OSCs that contacted medical staff 8 received support

Out of 16 OSCs, 3 obtained court orders via online conferencing 3 received support
**CHALLENGES FACED***

- Limited availability of doctors and the police due to pandemic-related duties
- Frequent transfers of legal advisors
- Lack of PPE kits and sanitization

*Although the Ministry of Women and Child Development’s directive dated 25th March 2020 instructs the district administrations to take appropriate measures to ensure institutional and personal hygiene for the operation of the OSCs and women’s helplines, no PPE kits or sanitizers were provided by the administration*.  

**OSC, Assam**

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**SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS: ONE STOP CENTRES (OSCs)**

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“When the government announced the lockdown, there were no clear instructions from the Government on how to deal with women survivors of violence. Women were left without shelter or OSC accommodation when government departments dodged the responsibility to screen women for COVID-19”.

OSC, Assam

* data by 8 OSCs
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Contact: lcnsecretariat@jagori.org

Design and layout: Neelima P Aryan | bluinker.in