**SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS: SURVIVORS**

**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.

**TOTAL SURVIVORS SURVEYED: 13**

- Delhi: 7
- Meghalaya: 1
- Jharkhand: 1
- Karnataka: 2
- Tamil Nadu: 2

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

SURVIVORS

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

MOST REPORTED FORMS OF VIOLENCE

- Physical Abuse (slapped, punched or hit with an object): 10/13
- Financial Abuse (control over and denial of money): 9/13
- Psychological/Emotional Trauma: 8/13

MOST NAMED PERPETRATOR

- Husband/Marital Family: 10/13
- Natal Family (parents, brother): 3/13

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, AN ONGOING PANDEMIC

All survivors, aged 19-55 years, report a history of physical abuse and psychological trauma that predates the pandemic.

LOCKDOWN WORSENS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

6/13 survivors or their family members lost their job during the lockdown.

“Ever since I got married, I faced all kinds of torture for money. We live separately. During the lockdown, I lost my job and my husband influenced my landlord to get the house vacated. I had nowhere to go so I contacted the women’s helpline.”

44 year old former account assistant, Karnataka

“I have faced violence even earlier but not to this extent. Due to the lockdown, my brother lost his job. There was no money at home and I became the target of everyone’s frustration”.

32 year old physically disabled survivor, Tamil Nadu

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“WHO WOULD YOU REACH OUT TO FIRST?”
Only 3 out of 13 survivors named the police.

FRONTLINE SUPPORT

**Neighbours**
5/13 survivors were helped by a neighbour who rescued them from violence, provided access to telephone, accompanied her to the doctor.

AVOIDING THE POLICE

6 / 13 survivors reported avoiding the police

**Some reasons:**
Don't have faith in the police (32 year old construction worker, Tamil Nadu)
Poor prior experience—they did not act on my complaint (34 year old unemployed graduate, Delhi)
I was told, “people are dying here and you want to file a case for such a small issue” (53 year old domestic worker, Delhi)

181* HELPLINE

7 / 13 survivors do not know about 181

*181 is a government-funded, 24X7, toll-free, emergency number for women in distress.
When 40 year old V was severely injured on the head after her husband (who lost his livelihood during the lockdown) hit her and their daughter...

...we called 100. They did not come to us but asked us to visit the police station. When we went there to file a complaint, we were made to sit outside from 8.30 AM to 6 PM. Then, they shooed us, showing their lathi. After we reached home, they called us at 6.30 PM, asking us to come to the police station. We refused as it was getting dark.

...1091 asked us to meet them at the main road. When we reached that road, they said, "sit in the police van". We did not understand why we should sit there because the police station was very close. Later, the police officials at the station told us that it was for the MLC (medicolegal case).

...so when we asked 181 to arrange a vehicle for us for the MLC, they said they will get back. We kept on waiting for their call but did not hear back.
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