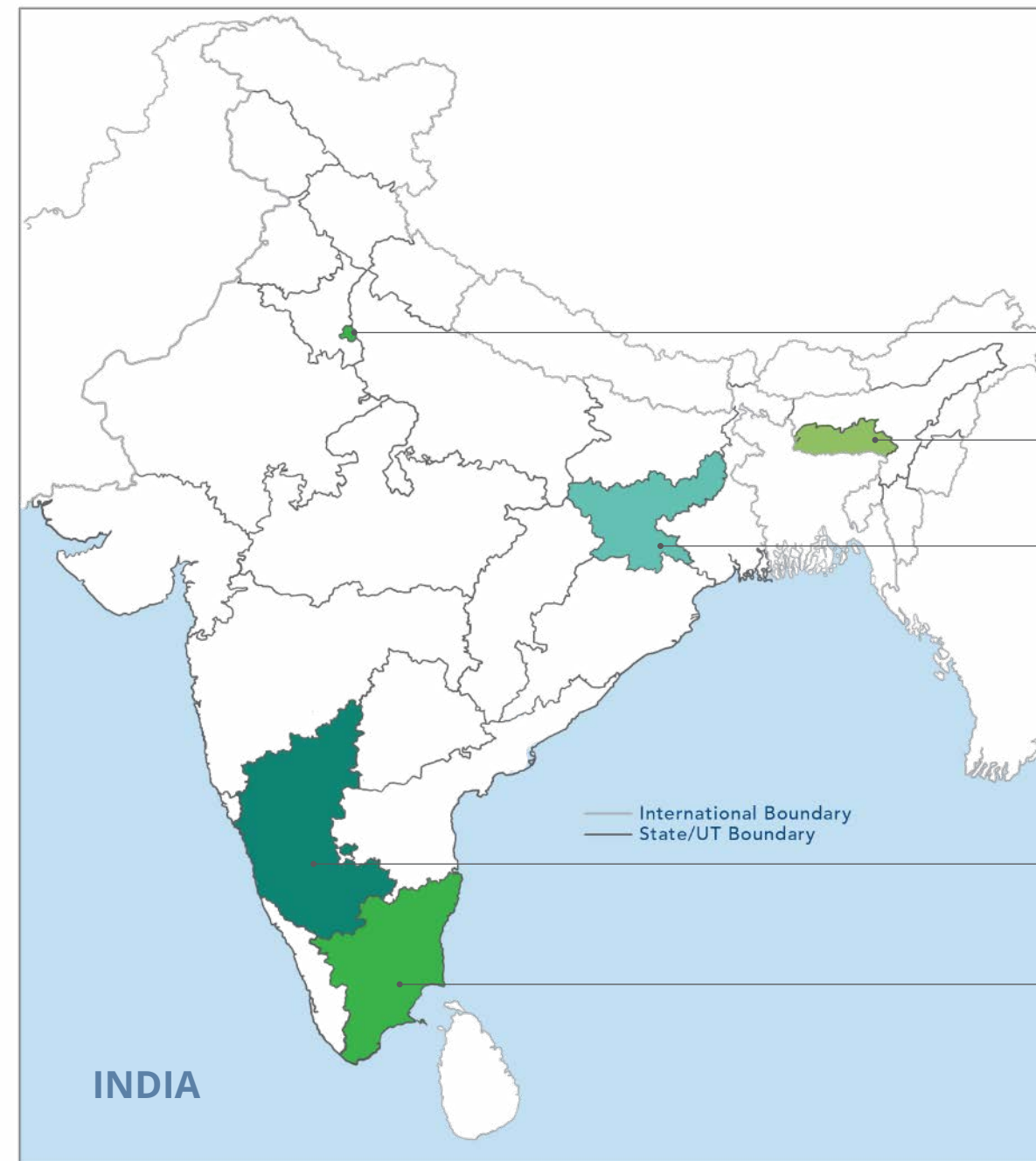


~~STAY HOME. STAY SAFE.~~ AT HOME. AT RISK.

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

SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS: SURVIVORS

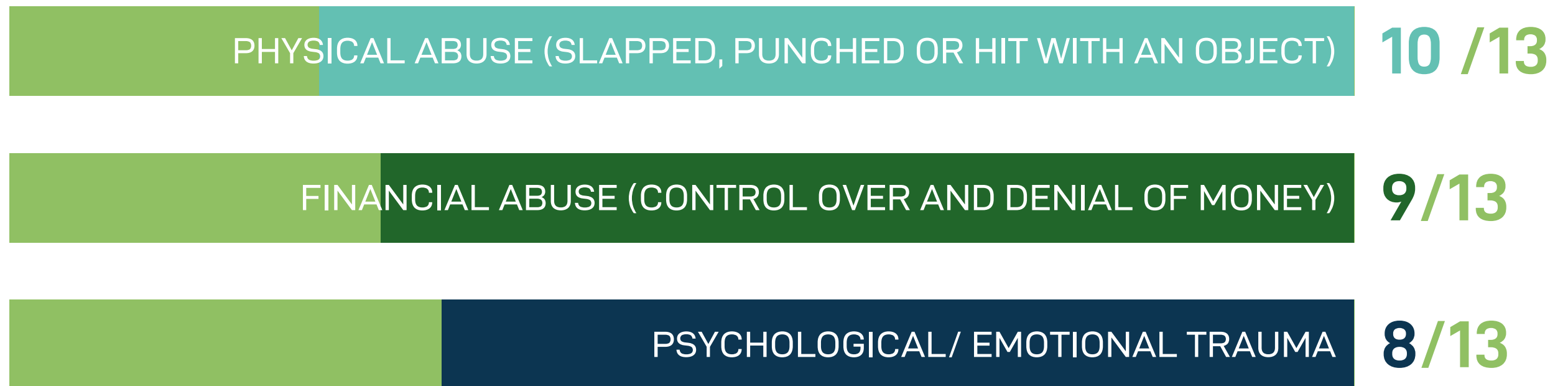
AT HOME, AT RISK is a series of rapid surveys to understand how the redressal ecosystem for domestic violence has functioned during the COVID-19 pandemic. The surveys are conducted by eight member organisations of Lam-lynti Chittara Neralu (LCN) across 7 states. They are based on phone interviews with 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

MOST REPORTED FORMS OF VIOLENCE



MOST NAMED PERPETRATOR

10/13

3/13

HUSBAND/MARITAL FAMILY

NATAL FAMILY (PARENTS, BROTHER)

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



“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

“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

“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.

HOW THE 'SYSTEM' RESPONDED

...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.

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...



... **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.



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

Contact: lcnsecretariat@jagori.org