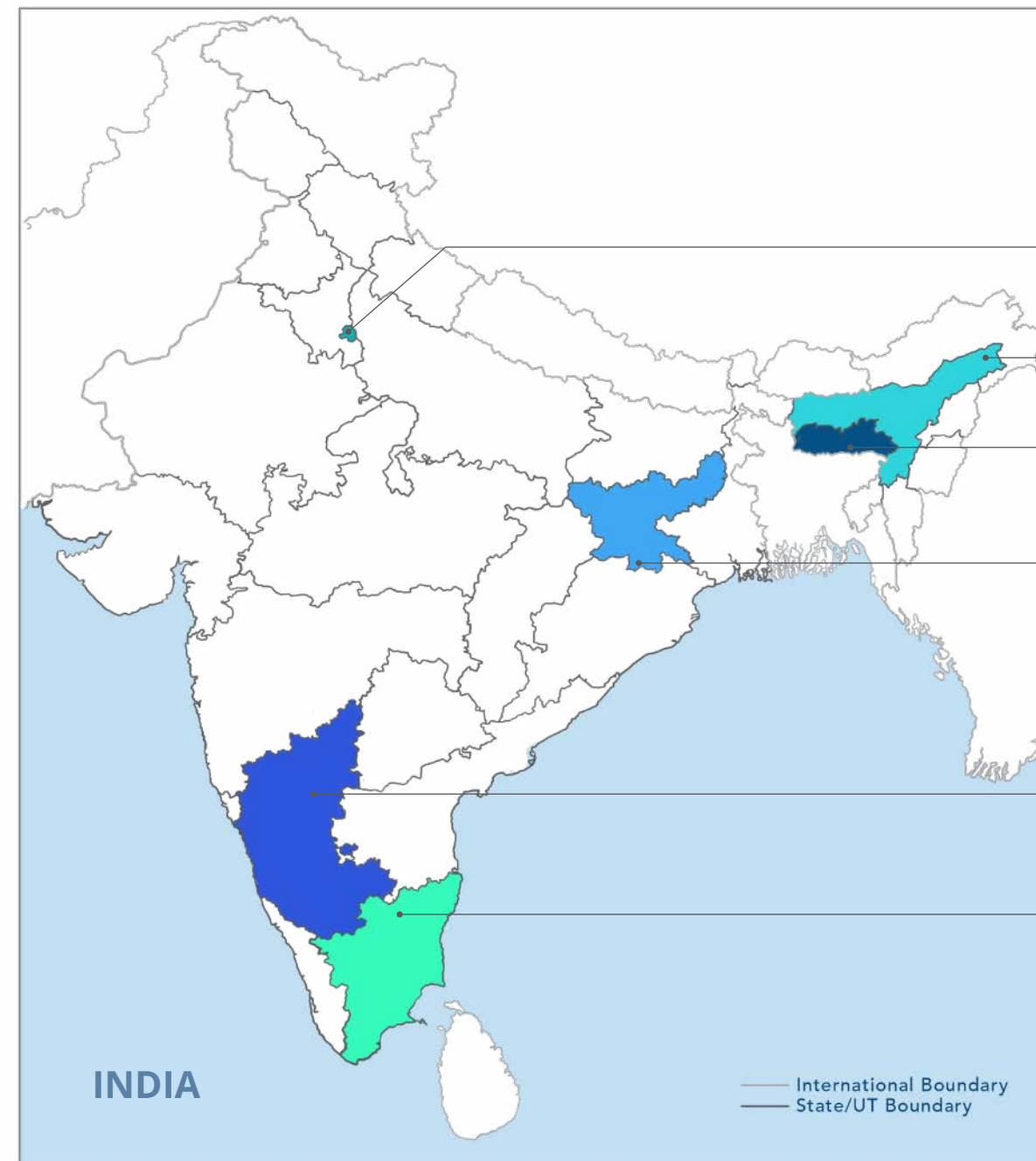


~~STAY HOME. STAY SAFE.~~ AT HOME. AT RISK.

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

SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS: NGOs

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 NGOs
SURVEYED: 18**

Delhi

5

Assam

1

Meghalaya

2

Jharkhand

3

Karnataka

3

Tamil Nadu

4

REPORTED CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING LOCKDOWN*

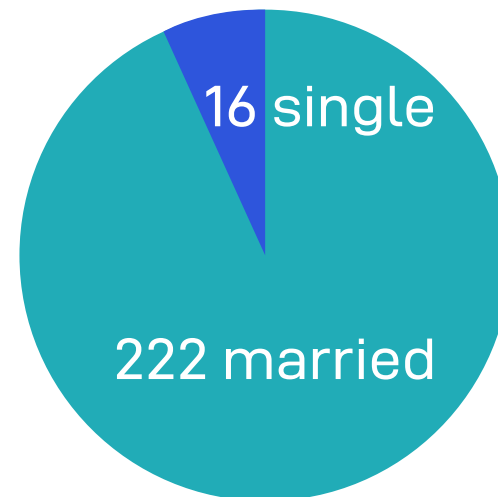
321

* data from 17 NGOs

AGE OF SURVIVORS



MARITAL STATUS OF SURVIVORS*



* data from 14 NGOs

MOST NAMED PERPETRATOR



* data from 14 NGOs; some survivors named more than one perpetrator

“The lockdown worsened the physical and financial abuse faced by a 25-year-old daily wager in her marital home. She could neither go to her natal home nor leave for work. Trapped in violence, she set herself on fire. When we heard this from villagers, we somehow managed to take her to the hospital and save her life”.

NGO, Assam

RESPONSE BY SERVICE PROVIDERS

Among 13 NGOs

6 contacted the police,
3 received support



5 contacted helplines,
3 received support



4 contacted Protection Officers,
3 received poor responses



2 found 181 inaccessible

“It was very difficult for women to reach the police station during the lockdown. Yet, the police asked them to come the next day. In some cases, police officials advised women to leave for their natal families once the lockdown was lifted.”

NGO, Jharkhand

“The 181 staff did not accompany the survivor for MLC (medicolegal case). A police official who went with her for the MLC mocked her by calling her ‘mental’”.

NGO, Delhi

“POs are unaware of the domestic violence law”.

NGO, Jharkhand

* data from 13 NGOs

FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS DURING COVID-19*

4

12

extra funds only
for relief work

no specific allocations for
survivor support

* data by 16 NGOs

“We work with 30 physically disabled, low-income women who stay alone. Many of them work in garment factories. 26 women lost their jobs due to the lockdown, their struggles have increased. We found it difficult to help them financially so now they come to us to learn handicrafts”.

NGO, Tamil Nadu

WOMEN'S NGOs: SERVICES CURTAILED

“A pregnant woman was physically abused by her husband and in-laws. We approached 181 and the police, but received no support. For 17 days, the case was not registered anywhere till we managed to meet the DCP. If it was not for the lockdown and if we were at the office, it would not have taken so long”.

NGO, Delhi

“Very few women have access to a phone. Our team could not reach them during the lockdown. The police was busy with COVID-19, and so did not pay attention to cases of domestic violence. In regular times too, their response to domestic violence is quite frustrating. Finally we could only meet and follow up with survivors during relief distribution”.

NGO, Assam

THE MANY HANDS OF SUPPORT



“A 28 year old domestic violence survivor in full-term pregnancy was unable to find a hospital for delivery. The hospital she had sought treatment from was turned into a COVID-19 centre. She went from hospital to hospital, but to no avail. This is when we sought the help of another NGO, and together we called 112. The police helped admit her in the hospital and stayed by her side till she delivered and returned home. The Department of Health also intervened to ensure that she stayed safe and was looked after”.

NGO, Delhi



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

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