



गृह मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF
HOME AFFAIRS



Project Report
on
Crime Against Women- Check & Halt
Prevention Strategies

(CAWCH)
(कवच)

(Project No. 02/MM:07)

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1. INTRODUCTION

“The criterion for the development of any country is the level of freedom, choices and opportunities that the women of that country enjoy compared to men.”

Historically, women all over the world have been considered as the physically weaker gender. The gender differences and bias existing globally, places women at a disadvantageous position. Violence and crime against women is a social problem which is linked to gender inequality violating the right of women to live without fear with freedom and dignity. Crime against women is the assertion of dominance over them that stems from the basic societal instincts. As a matter of fact, the problem of violence against women is not something new and is often not considered as violence because of the general acceptance of male superiority in the society, misconstrued religious values and resulting socio cultural attitudes. Many times, the accused happens to be a close relative of the victim which makes it difficult for her to raise an alarm due to the prevailing social structures.

In recent years, there has been an alarming increase in the cases of atrocities and violence against women in the country, which may be partly attributed to the growing awareness and reporting of crime against women. Which implies that progressively a greater number of women were becoming victims of violence and they were coming forward in more numbers in getting the crime registered?

Crime against women includes any act of gender-based violence that results in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. The Constitution of India has recognized equality rights to women in articles 14, 15 and 16. Article 15 (3) allows the State to make special provisions for women and children to prohibit discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth.

Despite these constitutional provisions and various gender specific laws, the instance of violence and crime against women has acquired a phenomenal proportion.



The makers of our constitution had great expectations for India's future. They provided a constitution that would promote political, economic, social and cultural development.

Ours is a revolutionary constitution in the sense that it provides equal rights and opportunities to all and recognizes adult franchise. In our country, granting voting rights to women was a huge leap forward after independence. Not only that, the constitution specifically facilitated positive intervention in favor women and laws for protection of women's rights, liberty and dignity have emanated from these provisions.

However, changing the mindset and attitude of the society from conservative to a progressive one was always and still continues to be a huge challenge. No doubt, the society has been changing for good as far as women's rights are concerned, but there has also been some backlash, which manifests in violence against women in the form of female foeticide / infanticide, rape, molestation, sexual harassment, dowry harassment, domestic violence etc.

The state has provided legal remedies for the above forms of violence through;

1. Preconception and Prenatal Diagnostic Technologies Act, 1994.
2. Amendments in criminal laws after 'Nirbhaya Case'. Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which provides for death penalty for the rape that results in victim's death or a permanent vegetative state.
3. Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
4. Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 and other safeguards in Sections 80, 85 of BNS, earlier sections 304B, 498A of IPC resp.
5. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005.
6. Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012 and its recent amendments making rape of a girl child younger than 12 years of age, punishable with death penalty.



Above laws provide for a framework for remedies to specific kind of violence and act as deterrents. But for such deterrent to work, the implementation of these laws has to be effective.

2. OVERVIEW

2.1 Project Title

कवच / CAWCH

Crime Against Women- Check & Halt

2.2 Vision

“Creating a general environment of safety for women and preventing crime against them would help in providing women with quality education, physical and mental health, skill development and employment. Ensuring women a secure and a better living would enable a comprehensive development of the country in the long term.”

2.3 Objective

The specific objectives to realize this vision are;

1. Identifying and recognizing the prevalent societal evils to analyze and solve the problem of crime against women.
2. Sensitizing the criminal justice system for a prompt response and being sensitive towards women's issues.
3. Devising strategies to build confidence among women by using technology like CCTV cameras at vulnerable places, GPS and Cameras fitted public conveyance



4. Developing and popularizing the use of mechanisms and tools such as panic buttons and SOS devices.
5. Creating awareness among women for identifying, detecting and avoiding dangers around them.
6. Learning about Safe touch and Unsafe touch (Good touch and Bad touch) from childhood and how to respond in such crises
7. Having counselors in school to talk to children and ascertain if they suffer from any exploitation. If situation demands, counselor can inform parents and also seek police intervention.
8. Learning about important provisions of law ensuring protection to women
9. Creating more She teams, Bharosa Kendra to help women in distress
10. Effective implementation of Mahila Helpline
11. Imparting self-defense training to the vulnerable sections and preparing them for quick response in a moment of crisis.
12. Publicizing strong punitive actions in the cases of crime against women for creating deterrence.
13. Wide scale publicity to the State's preparedness to deal with the menace of crime against women.
14. Devising strategies for ushering societal, attitudinal and perceptual change towards women and sensitizing young and impressionable minds on role of women in the society to bring about such societal change.
15. Devise strategies to use media and community awareness as supporting tools for achieving the above objectives.



3. PROJECT

3.1 Purpose of the Project

Violence and crime against women is a social problem which is linked to gender inequality and violates the right of women to live without fear with freedom and dignity. The Committee on Crime Statistics setup by the Ministry of Statistics and Program Implementation, Government Of India, in their report submitted in June 2011 stated that it has been recognized that a sizable portion of criminal events are never reported to the police and are therefore not included in police or any other statistics.



The role of criminal justice system, including the law enforcement agencies, becomes critical. Law enforcement agencies are duty bound not only to help in providing justice to the victims but also to prevent such crimes from taking place.

The cardinal principle therefore remains, “Prevention is better than cure.”

With the advancement of technology, it's prudent to take help of CCTVs at vulnerable locations and in moving vehicles, Automatic Number Plate Reader camera (ANPR) and PTZ cameras at crucial junctions, GPS in public transports Body worn cameras with She Teams. Moreover, it is equally important to spread



awareness through various programs and school curriculum about gender equality, laws made by government and various helpline for women in crisis. Response time of police and other concerned agencies to reach out to victim should be minimized. Support system involved in crime against women must be sensitized to help in delivering emotional strength and speedy justice to the victim.

The purpose of this project is to prevent crime against women, make them aware about the laws and various help lines if they need in time of distress and to create safe and secure environment in the society.

3.2 Sponsor

This project can be sponsored by the central government under Nirbhaya Fund. The technological part like having CCTV cameras at vulnerable locations, GPS, VTS and cameras in public transports can be incorporated in the Smart City project.

Prevention Strategies which have financial implications are as under

1. A. Situation Based Prevention

A-1. Transportation – For installing Panic button, Vehicle Tracking Device, GPS and CCTVs in transportation services like taxies/buses/rickshaws etc and simultaneously installing GPS, Mobile Data Terminal in first responder team and connectivity with the control room. To make Control room for viewing live locations, CCTVs and responding to panic calls.

A-2. Vulnerable Stationary Locations – to carry out survey for identifying vulnerable locations.

A-2.1 Street lights- to install street lights in dark vulnerable locations.

A-2.2 CCTV Cameras- to install CCTVs at vulnerable locations.

A-2.3 Police Patrolling- more police vehicles will be required as per the locations



2. B. Victim Focused Prevention

B-1. Self Defense Techniques – Schools have to engage trainer to teach self defense techniques

B-2. Providing SOS devices and Panic buttons to women

B-3. Creating SHE Team of police with body worn camera

B-4. Mahila Helpline – Making the helpline more effective by reducing response time and keeping the identity of victim confidential by trained call responder

B-5. Bharosa Kendra - a one-stop support centre for short term and long term support and stay

3. C. School Based Prevention

C-2 Counselor in School – appointment of trained counselor in school

Prevention Strategies which does not have financial implications

1. C. School Based Prevention

C-1. Learning of "Safe & Unsafe touch"- To be included in school curriculum

C-3 Inclusion of sex education in curriculum- To be included in school curriculum

2. D. Community based Prevention

Community interventions are more effective when facilitators are well-trained and have won the trust of a community like counselors, Asha workers.

3. E. Media Based Prevention –It is the most dominant tool for opinion formation

4. F. Response of law enforcement agencies – Response must be quick and with sensitivity. Follow up measure is also required to analyze and improve further.



4. SITUATIONAL ASSESSMENT AND PROBLEM STATEMENT

Cruelty by husband and relatives, assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty, kidnapping and abduction, rape, dowry deaths are the major crimes contributing to the total incidence of crimes against women in various States.

4-A DATA ANALYSIS

As per "CRIME IN INDIA-2019", cases under crime against women have reported as under. Rate of total crime against women in 2019 is 62.4 States and UTs. Crime rate is calculated as per 1 Lakh of population.

Crime Against Women (State / UT)

Crime Head		Crime Incidence			
		2017	2018	2019	
Total Against Women		3,59,849	3,78,236	4,05,861	
NO	Crime Head	Total Cases Reported	Major State/UT during 2019		
1	Cruelty by husband or his relatives	1,25,298	Rajasthan (18,432)	Uttar Pradesh (18,304)	West Bengal (16,951)
2	Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty	88,367	Uttar Pradesh (11,988)	Odisha (11,308)	Maharashtra (10472)
3	Kidnapping & Abduction	72,780	Uttar Pradesh (11,649)	Bihar (9,025)	Assam (6,989)
4	Rape	32,033	Rajasthan (5,997)	Uttar Pradesh (3,065)	Madhya Pradesh (2,485)

(Source Crime in India-2019)



1. Majority of cases under crimes against women was reported under 'Cruelty by Husband or His Relatives' (30.87%) followed by 'Assault on Women with intent to Outrage her Modesty' (21.77%) 'Kidnapping & Abduction of Women' (17.93%) and Rape (7.89%).
2. Uttar Pradesh reported 14.75% (59,853) out of total cases of crimes against women followed by Rajasthan 10.24% (41,550 cases) during 2019.
3. Dowry death cases 7,115, abetment of suicide of women cases 5,009, acid attack cases 150 and Attempt to acid attack cases 42, Rape cases 32,033, Cybercrimes (women centric only) 1,621 were reported in year 2019.
4. Women and Girls victims of rape cases under below 6 years were 144 and between 6 to 12 years were 428. Total rape cases victims in 2019 were 32,260.
5. Number of cases in which offenders were known to rape victims 30,165 (94.2%) out of total 32,033.

Crime Against Women (Metropolitan Cities)
[19 cities with more than 2 million population]

Crime Head			Crime incidence (IPC +SLL)		
			2017	2018	2019
Total Crime against Women			40,839	42,180	45,485
NO	Crime Head	Total Cases Reported	Major Metropolitan Cities during 2019		
1.	Cruelty by husband or his relatives	14,045	Delhi (3,697)	Hyderabad (1,568)	Jaipur (1,525)
2.	Assault on women with intent to outrage her modesty	9,206	Delhi (2,311)	Mumbai (2,069)	Bengaluru (803)
3.	Kidnapping & Abduction	8,767	Delhi (3,398)	Mumbai (1,327)	Bengaluru (617)
4.	Rape	3309	Delhi (1,231)	Jaipur (517)	Mumbai (394)

(source Crime in India-2019)

1. Majority of cases under crimes against women were reported under 'Cruelty by Husband of His Relatives' followed by 'Assault on Women with intent to Outrage her Modesty' 'Kidnapping & Abduction of Women' and 'Rape'.



2. Delhi reported 12,902 (28.4%) cases out of 45,485 cases crimes against women followed by Mumbai 6,519 (14.3%) cases and by Bengaluru 3,486 (7.7%) cases during 2019.

3. Dowry death cases 385, abetment of suicide of women cases 425, acid attack cases 22, attempt to acid attack cases 12, Rape cases 3309.

4. Cyber Crimes/Information Technology Act (women centric only) 205 cases reported in 2019.

Some new crimes are emerging such as;

Stalking and cyber stalking

Blackmailing through revenge porn

Sexual harassment at schools and workplaces

Intra - national and international trafficking of women for labor, prostitution and organ smuggling.

Urgent and important need of the hour is devising standard operating procedures and enhancing the capacity of law enforcement agencies to deal with the above crimes for effective implementations of laws.

A newly emerging crime in India is blackmailing and extortion through cyberspace. Young women in India are falling prey to blackmailing for doing something that their families or society doesn't approve.

It may be over their sex life and pornographic images or something as trivial as talking to men belonging to another caste or religious groups. Such facts or materials are leveraged for extortion or sexual favors.

Another grave crime is that of sexual harassment at schools / colleges or workplace. This might have been a long existing problem which may have come in the limelight recently, as most women are often afraid to complain.



Sexual harassment is well a calibrated crime where the predator chooses and grooms the victims after much deliberation. It is about power. A sexual predator strikes because he knows and has ensured that there would be no consequences to his actions.

Sometimes, when such harassment goes unreported, the culprit may develop a sense of impunity. As a result, the criminal behavior may escalate. In many cases, women have been raped or murdered by a co- worker.

There is already a law in place to deal with such harassment. Its implementation and preventive actions can lead to a safe working environment for women and help to stop serious crime.

Intra-national and international trafficking of women: South Asia has the largest population of the world living in poverty. This makes it prone to human trafficking. Destitution and poverty often put such population in such a desperate situation that they become easy targets of organized human traffickers.

Also, India is surrounded by other poor countries. As a result, it has become an international hub for trade and transportation of trafficked persons.

Women are bought from poor regions and sold into prosperous regions of India for the purpose of providing cheap labor, marriage and organ smuggling or sex trafficking.

These women are most vulnerable to violent crimes as they have absolutely no protection from either their families or the law. In long term such treatment of women leads to objectification and commoditization of women in society.

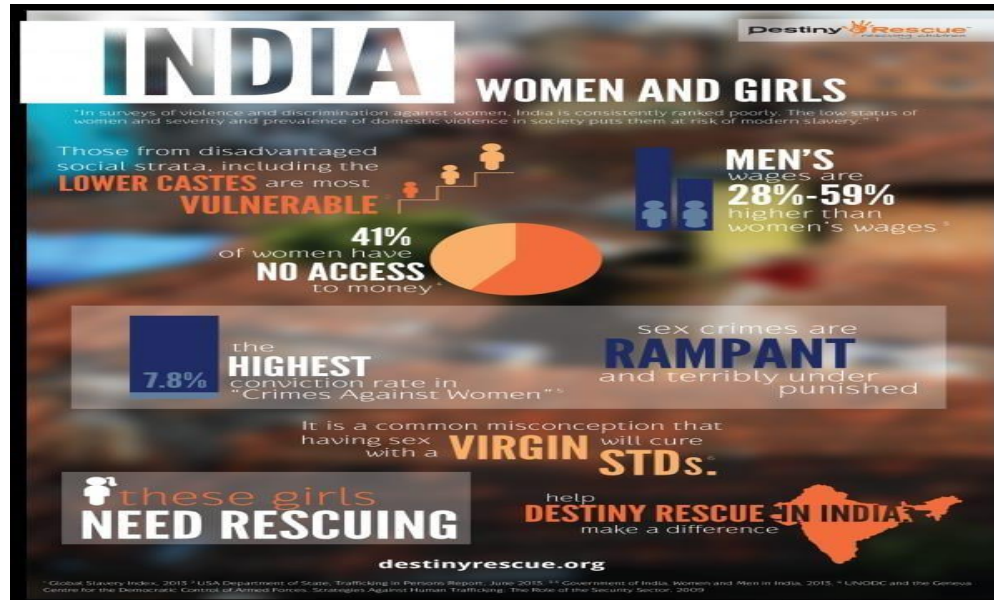


Figure 1: Women and Girls Trafficking Scenario

[Image source: destinyrescue.org]

Government has made many efforts to stop such heinous practices. Government has launched anti-human trafficking portal for Info sharing and tracking effective implementation of anti-human trafficking measures. It has also been connected to "track child", the National portal on missing children.



Figure 2: Child Trafficking

[Image source: destinyrescue.org]



But the best way to prevent such crimes is implementing anti - poverty measures along with the strict enforcement of anti-human trafficking laws.

Acid Attacks:

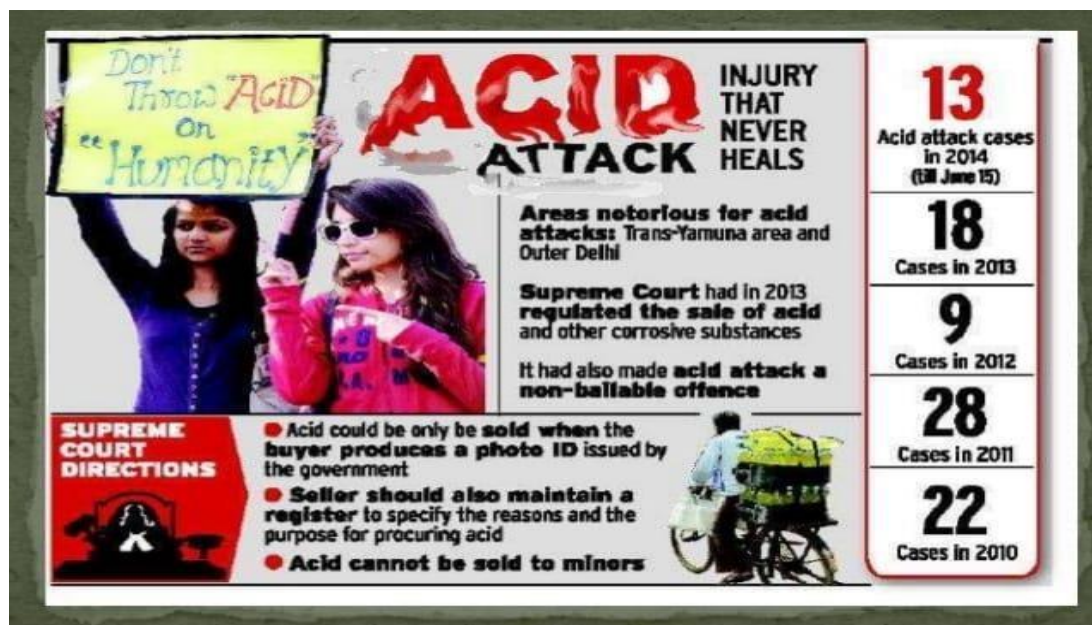


Figure 3: Acid Attacks in India Scenario

[Image Source: Young India Vision]

In 2019, 150 cases of acid attack (Section 124(1) BNS, earlier section 326A IPC) and attempt to acid attack (Section 124(2) BNS, earlier section 326B IPC) 42 cases were reported as per NCRB.

Government has taken many steps to prevent such attacks and accommodate the victims of such attack.

In 2013, Acid attack is made a specific offence with a punishment of imprisonment not less than 10 years and which can extend to life imprisonment and with fine.

The rights of Persons with Disabilities Act were revised in 2016 to include acid attack survivors as physically disabled. It extends reservation benefits in government funded education Institutions and government jobs to acid attack survivors.



Acid attack is one of the most debilitating attacks as the victim has to go through an average of 80 percent facial reconstruction surgery. The mental and physical recovery is possible only after the victim shows extreme will power to survive.

Acid attacks are strange in the sense that unlike other crimes against women, they are region and culture specific with most crimes taking place in South Asia. The motive behind an acid attack is to humiliate and not to kill.

The most common reason for such an attack is the rejection of romantic or sexual advances of the culprit by the victim. Other motives are domestic dispute, dowry demands, property disputes and communal violence.

✦ **Spousal Violence**

Spousal violence is prevalent in the society. As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) 2015-16 report one-third of ever-married women (33%) have ever experienced spousal physical, sexual, or emotional violence by their current husband (for currently married women) or their most recent husband (for formerly married women), and 26 percent have experienced at least one of these forms of violence in the 12 months preceding the survey.

Thirty percent of ever-married women have experienced spousal physical violence, with 23 percent experiencing this type of violence in the past 12 months. Seven percent have experienced spousal sexual violence, with 5 percent experiencing this type of violence in the past 12 months.

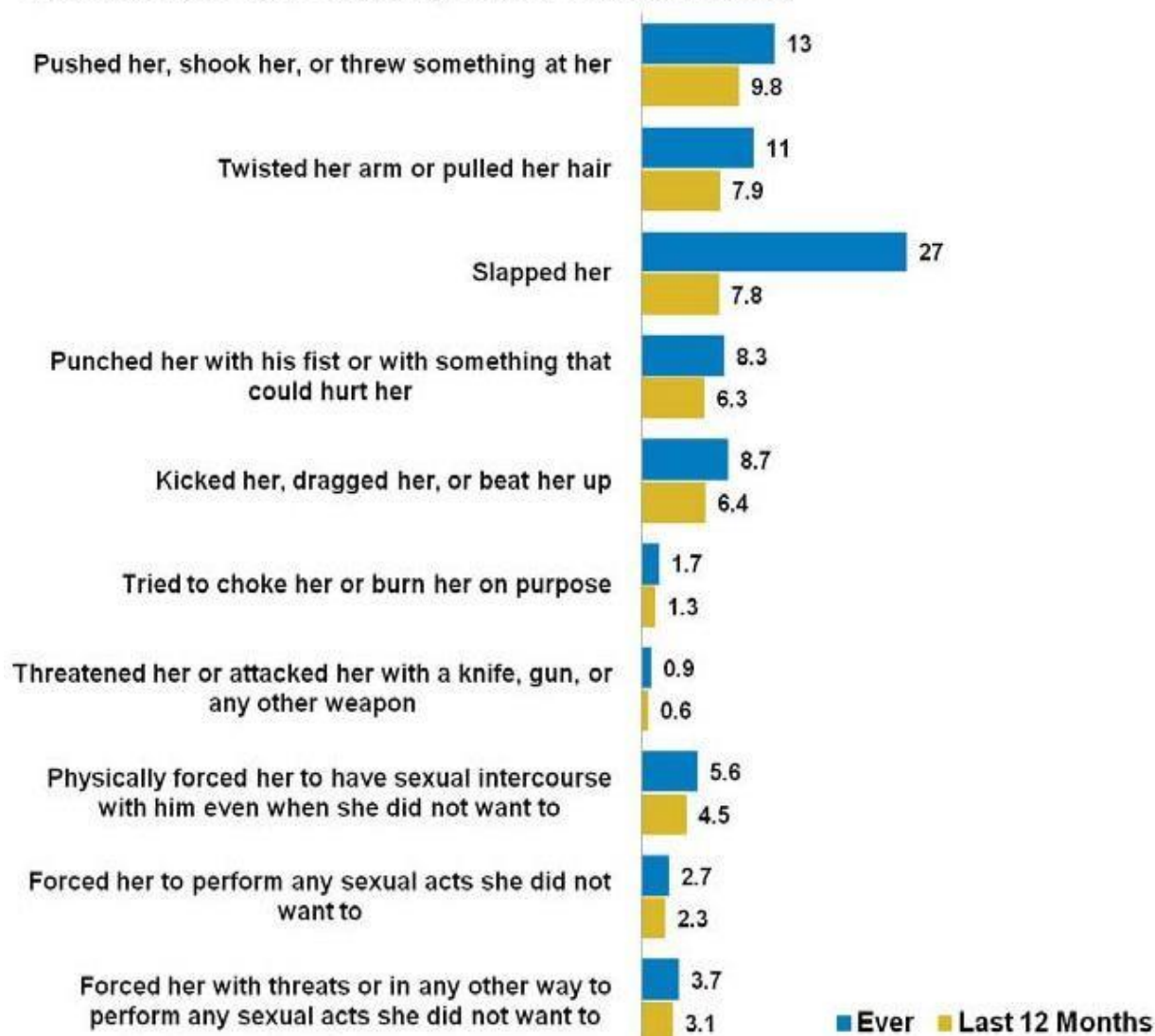
Spousal emotional violence was reported by 14 percent of ever-married women, and 11 percent reported such violence in the past 12 months.

Of the acts of physical violence committed by the current or most recent husbands, the most common type is slapping, reported by 27 percent of ever-married women. A type of spousal violence with the percentage is shown below as per NFHS-4.



Types of Spousal Violence

Percentage of ever-married women age 15-49 who have ever experienced specified acts of spousal physical or sexual violence

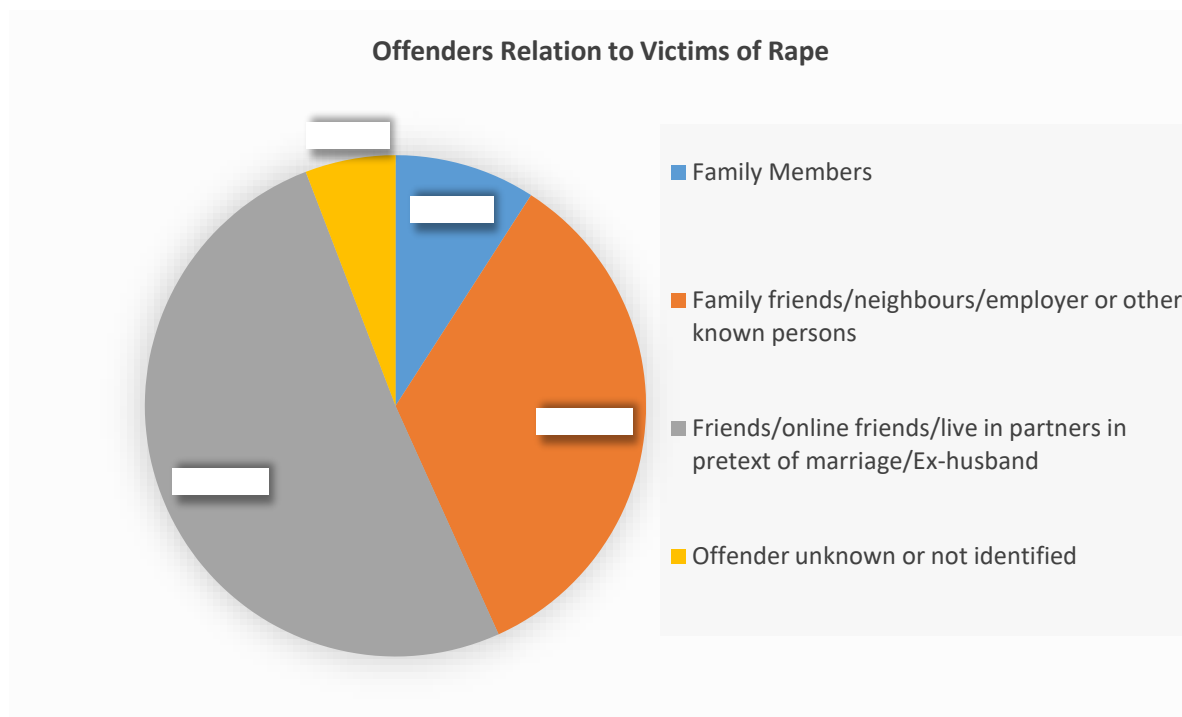




✦ Rape

As per Crime in India statistics 2019 majority of rape accused are known to the victims. The accused belong to close family members, other relatives and known person on whom generally women put trust.

Offenders Relation to Victims of Rape 2019 (source: Crime in India 2019)		
Total Rape cases	32033	
No. of Cases in which offenders were known to the Victims	30165	94.17%
Family Members	2916	9.10%
Family friends/neighbours/employer or other known persons	10938	34.15%
Friends/online friends/live in partners in pretext of marriage/Ex-husband	16311	50.92%
Offender unknown or not identified	1868	5.83%





The genesis of such a horrible crime is the relative position of women to men in a society. In a way the entire society is responsible for such an attack. Such crimes represent the meager value that a patriarchal society attaches to a woman's right to make a choice about her body, her love life, marriage or dreams of future life.

Thus, prevention of such crime demands efforts to create a society which respect a woman's choice about her own life. This is a long-term process but in short term we can start with sensitizing the society, creating safe and secure environment with the help of technology, vulnerable locations with CCTV and more lighting, having more SHE teams of police, one stop crisis center, counselors, community awareness program. We have to change the education curriculum to incorporate the gender sensitization and certain legal provisions to make men and women aware about such heinous crime to bring greater understanding about the issue.



5. CRITICAL ASSUMPTIONS AND CONSTRAINS

✦ HELP-SEEKING AMONG WOMEN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED VIOLENCE

As per National Family Health Survey (NFHS-4) 2015-16, of all women in India who have ever experienced any type of physical or sexual violence, only 14 percent have sought help to stop the violence and 77 percent have never sought help nor told anyone about the violence they experienced.

Sources of Help

- Among the women who have experienced physical or sexual violence and sought help, the most common source for help was the women's own family (65%).
- The second most common source for help was husband's family. (29%).
- Fifteen percent of women sought help from a friend.
- Among institutional sources of help, the most common is police (3%), followed by a religious leader (2%). Only 1 percent each have ever sought help from a doctor or medical personnel, a lawyer, or a social service organization.

✦ Reasons for not Seeking Help

- The victims think that complaining will not end the abuse.
- Most crimes of sexual nature are committed by known people.
- The victims are too young to take an action on their own.
- Victims think that they will not be trusted.
- The victims fear the repercussions of complaining on them or their families.



- Police is the most advisable and immediate point of contact for victims to seek help. But it requires a lot of courage to start a legal process especially if the power dynamics are heavily tilted on the accuser's side.
- In such cases victims need an avenue where they can seek advice and help without getting into the legal hassle.

"Pervasive Concern"-The analysis on non-marital sexual violence in India led by Dr Anita Raj, Director of the Centre for Gender Equity and Health, University of California, in collaboration with the Mumbai - based International Institute for Popular sciences. The study concludes non-marital sexual violence is a "pervasive concern" affecting far greater number of women and adolescent girls than reported cases suggest. "More than 2 in 5 never tell anyone of this abuse. Adolescent girls 15-19 years are disproportionately affected and even less likely to report the crime to police. Most assailants of this violence are known to their victims, as partners, family members or friends. Stranger-perpetrated sexual violence against women and adolescents is less common," the analysis found. The study suggests only 5% adolescents reported the perpetrator to be a stranger. The study suggests that since in most cases the perpetrator is a known person, prevention strategies need to focus on "potential perpetrators". It is emphasized that mobility restrictions on girls out of fear of strangers will not work as a preventive measure. The study recommends reduction in stigmatization and improved police response can facilitate victim's disclosure. This prevalence was calculated for the population of all women aged 15-49 years and by age category

This clearly raises an alarm about underreporting of cases involving crimes against women.

✦ **Below mentioned steps may help in increasing reporting of such cases.**

1. Conducting crime victimization surveys to get a clear idea of crimes committed against women:
2. Generally, a crime victimization survey collects information on crimes reported or not reported to the police. Survey respondents provide information about



themselves (age, sex, religion, caste, marital status, education, income level, locality etc) and whether they experienced victimization. For each victimization incident, the surveyor collects information about the offender (age, religion, caste, sex, victim of offender relationship etc.), characteristics of the crime (e.g. time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, economic consequences etc.) whether the crime was reported to police, reasons the crime was or was not reported, and victim experiences with the criminal justice system.

3. Crime victimization survey helps the legal machinery see the crimes and criminal justice system from the victim's eye.
4. Such survey can increase victim's confidence in police and state as active solution seekers of their problems.
5. Victims may feel less hesitant in giving information in such survey as the victim doesn't have to get into the legal hassle after giving the information.
6. Victims especially feel fear or shame in reporting crimes which are sexual in nature or committed by family member or people known to the victims or which can reveal humiliating information about the victims. Legal reporting somewhat takes away the anonymity that such crime victimization survey provides.
7. Building and popularizing a public opinion that has zero tolerance against crime against women.
8. Crimes against women committed by their family members should be treated as crimes only and not a part of life or mistakes. Such attitudes can be encouraged with the help of the awareness of law, women's rights, available legal awareness etc.
9. Using media, Street plays and public awareness campaigns should be organized to reverberate the idea of immediate reporting of crimes against women and discourage victim blaming or cover up of crimes



6. PREVENTIVE STRATEGIES

As per NCRB'S data published in 2019, the registered crimes against women have increased by 7.3% over 2018. This shows increasing tendency of women to come forward and register crimes committed against them. Somewhere they have some hope that justice will be done. Police needs to develop on this hope to build some trust among the women. Police is expected to give its best to do qualitative investigation and to take effective preventive measures.

A. SITUATION BASED PREVENTION

In today's world, where technological solutions are transforming our approach for problem solving, law enforcement agencies should utilize such technologies to prevent crimes against women. Technological solutions can be used in 3 broad areas:

A-1 TRANSPORTATION - TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEW OF SOLUTION

The public transportation is not always considered safe for women. Nirbhaya gang rape case, a private commercial bus which was illegally ferrying commuters was used for the commission of such a heinous crime. The crisis of unsafe public transportation received sudden attention.

The prevailing perception of unsafe transportation system restricts women's right to freedom of movement, which is a fundamental right. This has the capability to affect their education, employment and eventually their physical, financial independence, damaging all the efforts of their empowerment. That's why safe public transportation for women requires urgent and highest attention.



In urban India, the entry of cab aggregators like Uber, Ola etc. have complicated the situation further. To stop the crimes against women by drivers of such taxis, buses and rickshaws - uniform standards such as showing the nameplate, email and phone number for any grievance, background check of drivers, CCTV in the vehicle and strict regulation need to be addressed.

Model transportation can be developed by equipping these vehicles with CCTV cameras, GSM internet connectivity, vehicle tracking device, panic buttons and GPS connectivity. Such system should be installed in all transportation vehicles including taxis, school buses, public buses etc.

The distress messages will directly go to the control room which will handle such calls and signals and forward such information to the nearest first responders. Substantial investment in and capacity building of control rooms is needed for it.

To immediately respond to the crisis, the first responder would be ready with vehicle tracking device, hand-held as well as fixed communication device, 24/7 connectivity with control room etc.

A command and control room at the center will be created to ensure smooth and efficient functioning of the entire system.

Such system will be able to inform law enforcement agencies about molestation, sexual harassment and can even prevent crimes like rape. But the biggest impact would be that it will instill fear in the minds of harassers and courage in the minds of women.

We need to use Video Surveillance as an effective tool thus wide coverage of area under CCTV surveillance is necessary.

Vulnerable location and public and private vehicles should be fitted with in-vehicle CCTVs (Front, middle and rear) and panic button with VTS (Voice Transmission System).

All first / mobile responders - Police vehicles (PCR Vans / Bikes) and ambulances should be fitted with GPS units.



GPS coordinates and video feed or snapshots of the pictures would be sent to control room via 2G/3G GSM network (based on bandwidth availability in that area) when the panic button is pressed.

Control room can call the GPS fitted vehicle and call will be answered automatically so that control room can hear and record the voice in control room and related agencies are dispatched.

Setting up of Command & Control Centre at one location in a state and addressing the requirement of whole state. Setting up of a dedicated quick response team (may be with some specially trained lady officers).



Next Generation Command & Control Center – GIS, GPS & Mobile Technologies



Figure 4: Command and Control Center

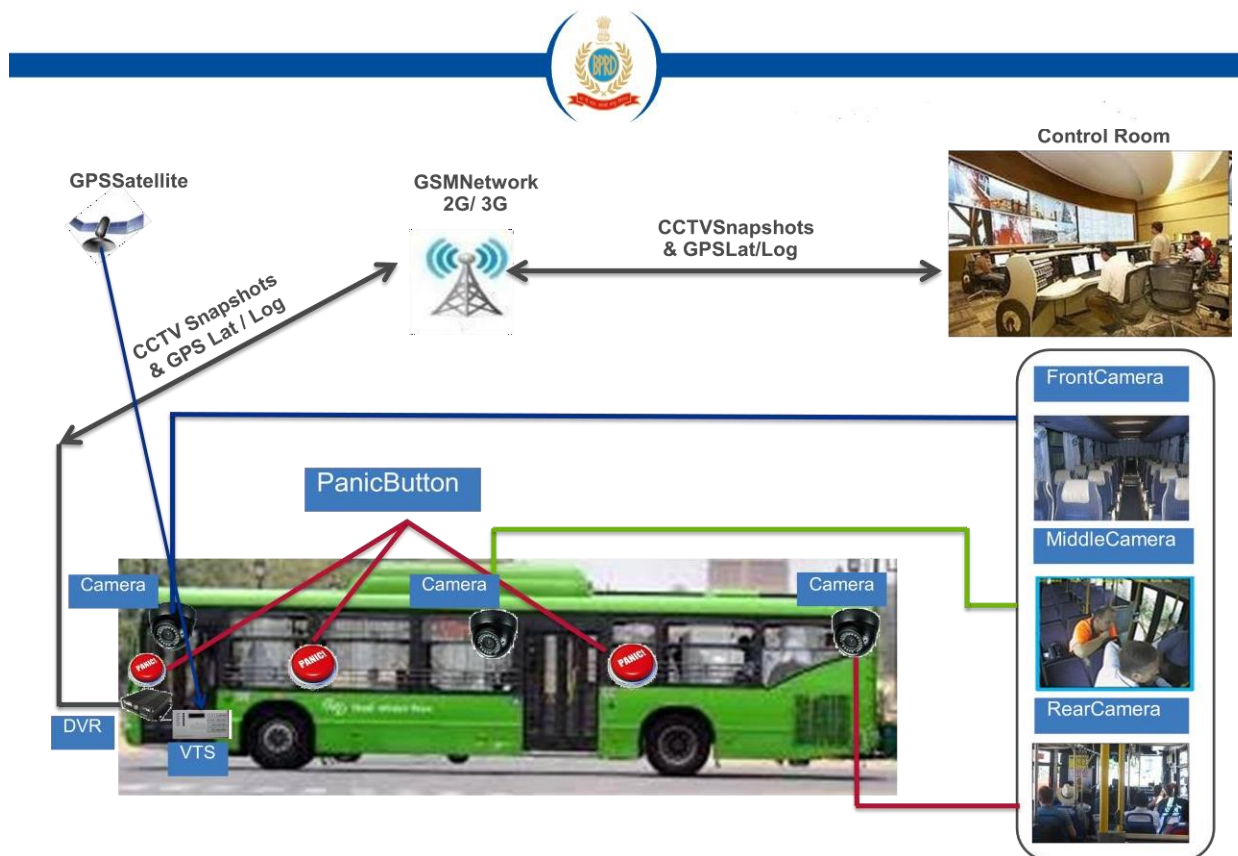


Figure 5: Transportation safety

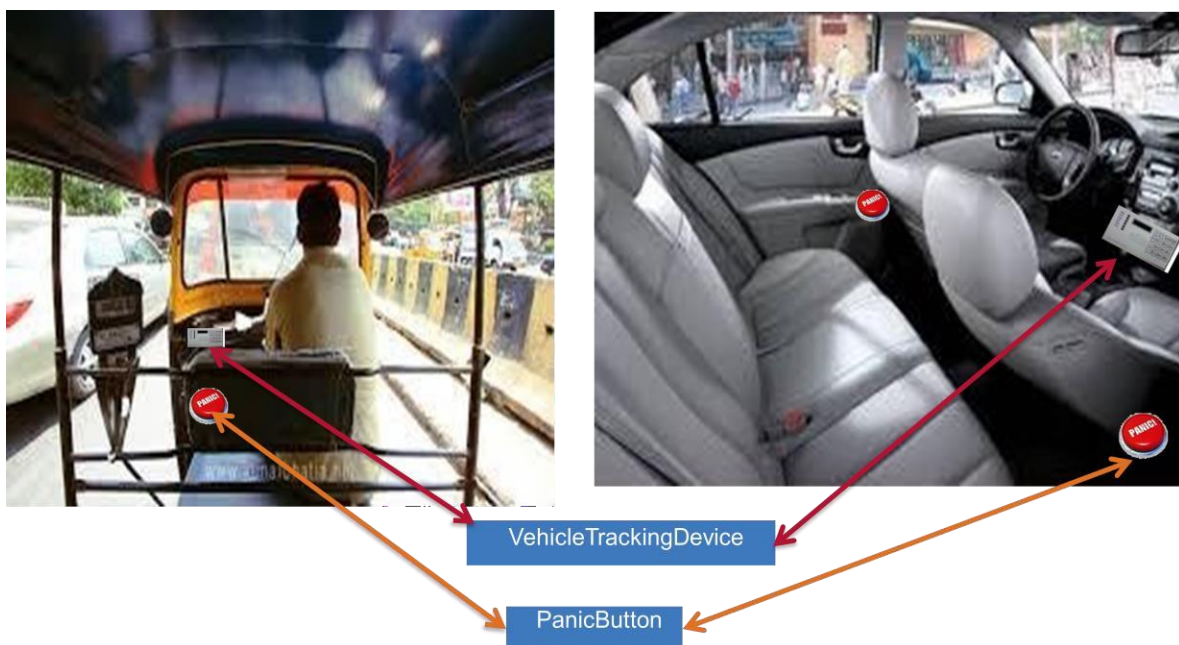


Figure 6: Public Transport Safety



❖ Probable Connectivity:

The connectivity of the entire system described above could be established in the following way:

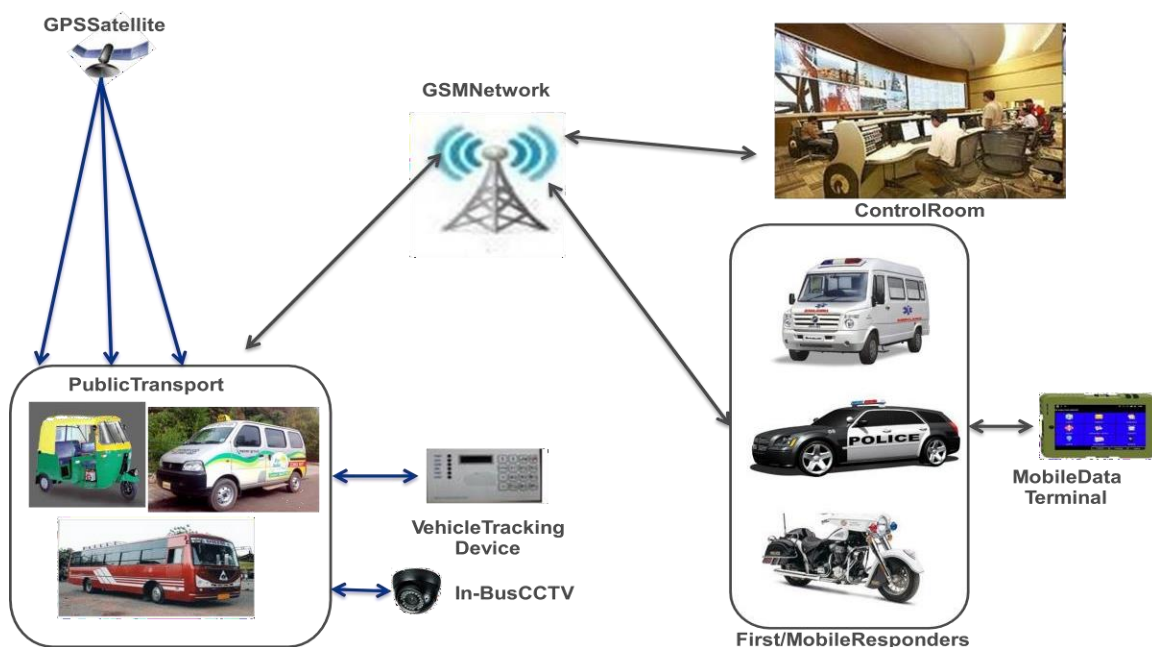


Figure 7: Probable Connectivity

❖ Responder's use of technology:



Figure 8: Responder's use of Technology



❖ Overall Scenario:

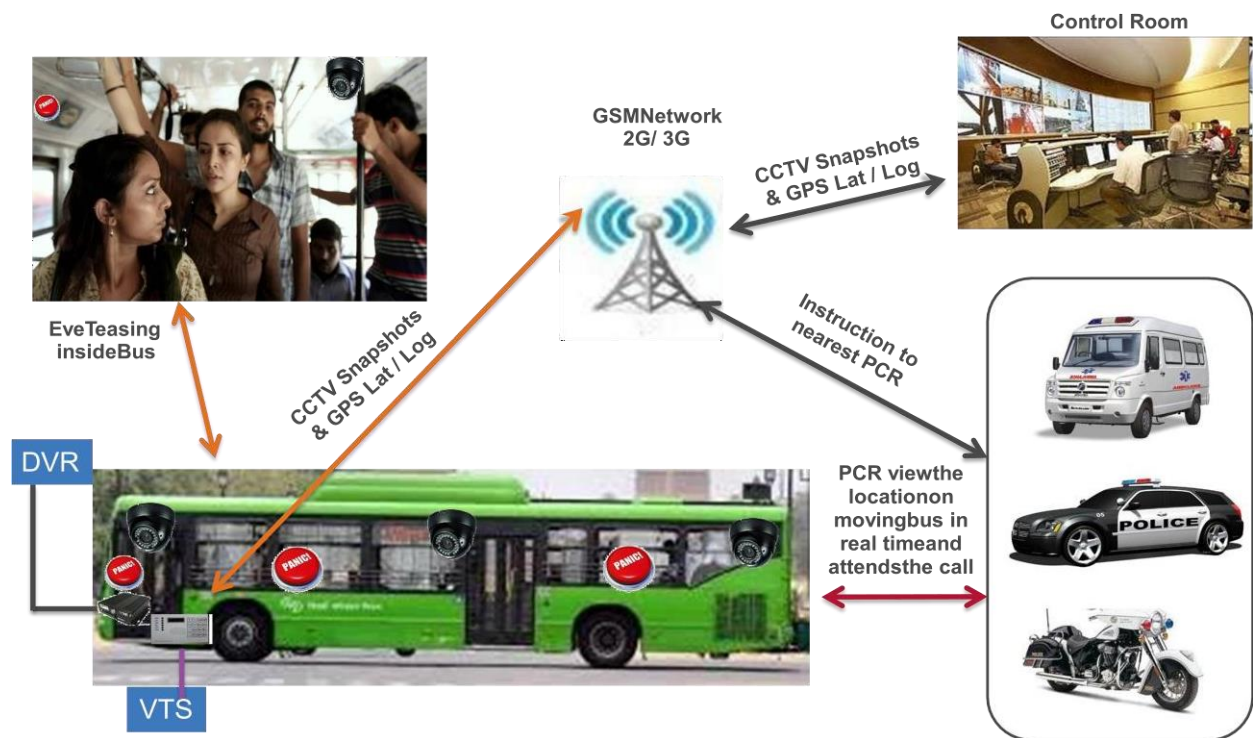


Figure 9: Overall scenario

In case of harassment inside bus, a lady passenger can press the panic buttons installed at strategic locations inside the bus (near entry / exit gates, ladies' seats etc.)

As soon as panic button is pressed, GPS device will send an SOS to control room with current position of the bus. Also, the in-bus CCTV cameras will start sending snapshots of bus at a pre-defined interval.

Control room will act on situational awareness and locate the nearest PCR van or bike to the bus & allocate the task to it.

Control room can also call the GPS and hear the voice and record that in the control room.

In the meantime, GPS device will continuously send latitude longitude positions to the control room along with the snap shots of the bus.



Police will track the vehicle in real time, resolve the case and will report back to the control room. As soon as incident is reported as closed, control room will send signal to GPS device to stop sending data and normal operations will resume.

❖ *Reporting and log of events:*

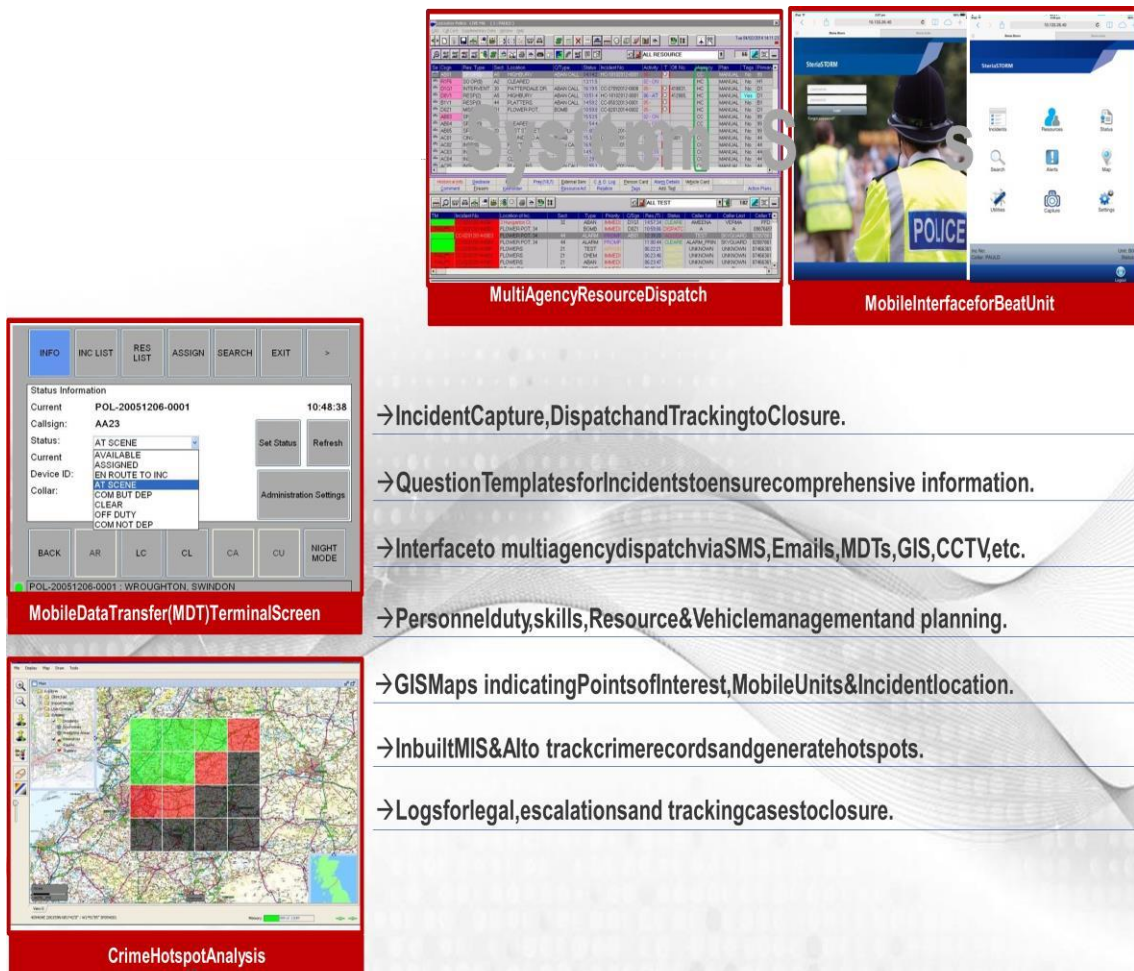


Figure 10: Reporting and Log of events



❖ Effectiveness of Technology Solution - Immediate Response:



Figure 11: Effectiveness of Technology Solution

A-2 VULNERABLE STATIONARY LOCATIONS

In order for society to function normally, people should not only be safe, but they should also feel safe. A single crime in an area creates the perception of vulnerability in the minds of thousands of residents living there. If an area or city is perceived to be insecure even the family members of women may not allow them to exercises even the best of educational and employment opportunities. Such restrictions are harmful even if they are put with the best of intentions. Vulnerable Stationary Locations must be identified and proper intervention should be done to create safe places.

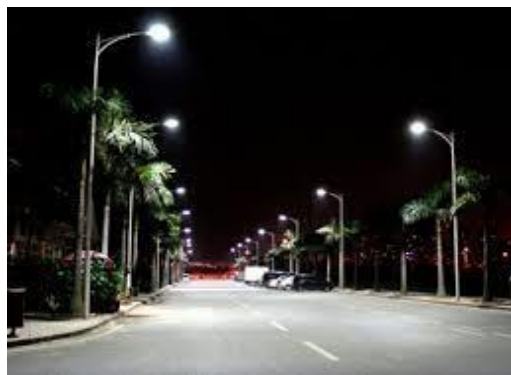


Vulnerable Stationary Locations

Vulnerable Stationary Locations can be identified after doing vulnerability assessment on basis of crime data and perceived threat to vulnerable section of society. Creating safe public places require some infrastructural investments.

A-2-1 STREET LIGHTING

Criminals feel safe to commit crime in the safety cloak of darkness and desolation. Public streets, residential colonies, markets, hostels, slums and the darker roads are more prone to crime and also perceived to be vulnerable.



Proper lighting in such zones would instill fear in the minds of wrongdoers. They already know that their acts are wrong and if they have fear of being seen by public, they will most likely refrain from committing such acts. It will also instill confidence in women.

A-2-2 CCTV Cameras

CCTV cameras have become crucial in crime detection and prevention, traffic management and building confidence in vulnerable sections. The CCTV cameras have helped in detecting crimes, apprehending suspects / criminals, identifying MOs, clearly identifying vulnerable areas etc.





Now Technologies integrating Artificial Intelligence and CCTV cameras have emerged. CCTV cameras themselves identify suspicious activities. The software does it after millions of similar images are fed into it.

CCTV cameras, capable of red light violations, detection, number plate identification; facial recognition, speed detection etc. are already installed functioning in Indian cities. More and more cities are installing CCTV cameras to cover the entire urban area.

Such initiative should not only be one sided. Different groups like slum- dwellers, destitute, women living in hostels and paying guest facilities, women working in night shifts or far away and sparsely populated areas are particularly vulnerable to crimes. In such areas government should come forward for installing CCTVs and Street lights. Government should do it after conducting proper vulnerability assessment on the basis of crime data and also taking into consideration of vulnerable sections.

A-2-3 Police Patrolling

No matter how well we create the infrastructure of public lighting and CCTV cameras, it can never replace the inherent assurance that the physical presence of a uniformed officer provides. Police uniform has the highest deterrent value. Increased police patrolling creates an environment of safety and credible deterrence.



Crime data specifically identifies crime prone areas, time period, type of crimes, vulnerable population and modus operandi etc. Police should take in to consideration crime data and perception of vulnerable section for organizing patrolling. Patrolling parties should include some female police officers.



B. Victim Focused Prevention

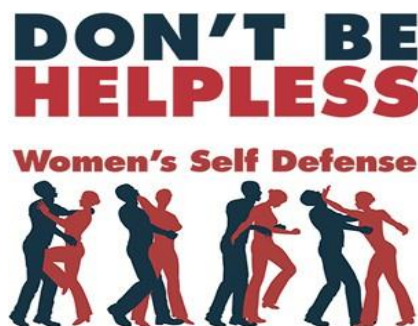
Empowering the potential victims by training them to deal with sexual assaults is the most important way of prevention. Potential victims like children and women should be trained in raising alarm, defensive combat etc. Additional defensive tools like pepper spray, stun-gun, alarm etc. should be either provided to them or they can be encouraged to buy them.

The learning of what is a "Safe touch" and what is a "Unsafe touch" should be made compulsory in school. Children sense some touch as uncomfortable but they are sometimes incapable of defining them. Teaching clear distinction between 'Safe touch and Unsafe touch' will help them identify and distinguish a particular touch.

Best practices done in some state should be adopted by other state for ensuring women safety. The Team of Telangana, Bharosa Kendra of Telangana, Effective Mahila help line of Uttar Pradesh is example of some of effective practices in providing women safety and security.

B-1 Self Defense Techniques

- Children and women should be taught self-defense techniques.
- Children can be taught self-defense technique in schools or colleges. It can be included in the curriculum of the school
- Women can be taught self-defense technique by NGOs or Government programs
- Self-defense techniques should be simple and can be used by any woman effectively





- It will instill confidence in women and they will be encouraged to raise their voice against such abuse
- Additional defensive tools like pepper spray, stun-gun, alarm etc. should be either provided to them or they can be encouraged to buy them.

B-2 Providing SOS devices and Panic buttons to women

Government should seriously consider making a panic button compulsory in every mobile phone. So that whenever anyone is in danger, just by pressing a panic button (situated separately on mobile phone) one can send distress signal directly to control room which can immediately send first responder to the spot.

Along with notifying the police, such distress signal will automatically be sent to the select people whom the mobile user has chosen. So that the family member or friends of the person can also take emergency safety steps in distress.

A separate SOS device is also useful to those who don't use mobile phones. Children are generally not allowed to use cell phones but they are highly vulnerable to sexual assault and other crimes.

Population living in mountainous regions, villages located far away, forests or islands should also be provided such SOS devices. So that when they have to go to areas with unreliable security, they can send distress signals to their families and police. Women and children should be specifically given such devices.

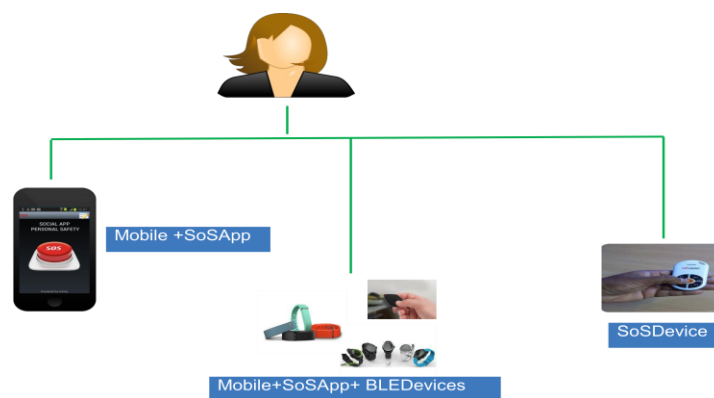


Figure 12: Safety Devices for Women



B-3 SHE Team of police with body worn camera



Figure 13: SHE Team Hyderabad City Police

Source: Asia net newsable

- ✦ She Team is a unit of Telangana police started by Hyderabad city police on 24th October 2014 for enhanced safety and security of women.
- ✦ Incident prone areas have been identified. These places include Bus stops, Railway Stations, Colleges, Schools, Ladies Hostels, Parks, and Hospitals in General.
- ✦ The Teams move to those Eve-Teasing prone areas for watch over, **recording the whole scene with the secret Cameras**. After observing the Stalker's behaviour, he is caught by the Team and brought to the Police Station with proper evidence of the offence. His antecedents are verified.
- ✦ Depending on the nature and gravity of Stalking, appropriate sections of law are booked against him. First time offenders are booked under petty cases



according to Section 292 BNS, earlier section 290 IPC, Sec. 70 © of Hyderabad City Police Act. These cases are booked when a woman is unwilling to give a written complaint.

- ✦ If they found to be habitual or if any complaint lodged in specific against the eve teaser, by a Woman/ Victim, cognizable sections of IPC will be filed against the offenders.

TEAM BUILT OF AND EQUIPPED WITH

- ✦ Each "SHE" Team consists of an Officer of the rank of Sub-Inspector of Police, a lady constable and 2-3 male constables.
- ✦ All the Team members work in civilian dress and carry the unidentifiable cameras with them to record what they produce for future evidence.

SHE TEAM - ENFORCEMENT

Year	NO. OF PERSONS BROUGHT AND COUNSELLED			NO OF PETTY CASES BOOKED			NO. OF PERSONS WARNED AND LET OFF		
	Majors	Minors	Total	Petty Cases	Fined	Jail	Major	Minor	Total
2014	58	16	74	39	39	0	7	12	19
2015	158	126	284	115	89	26	19	53	72
2016	439	111	550	141	126	15	278	111	389
2017	543	133	676	89	50	38	418	137	555
2018	625	99	724	109	37	72	459	99	558
2019	707	95	802	116	118	58	431	95	526

Detail of Petitions

Year	PETITIONS RECEIVED UP TO DATE								
	Red handed	Direct	email	Face book	Whats App	Hawk Eye	Twitter	Dial 100	Total
2014	12	7	08	00	00	00	00	71	98
2015	54	36	72	250	32	06	00	634	1084
2016	62	324	143	80	157	51	03	590	1410
2017	75	508	255	06	46	44	00	203	1138
2018	107	635	84	06	240	20	01	39	1132
2019	130	601	119	01	463	40	00	12	1340

[sourcehttp://sheteamhydpolice.telangana.gov.in]



- ✦ One can take the help of SHE Teams on WhatsApp, Facebook and Twitter.
- ✦ SHE Teams have helped a great deal in raising awareness and courage among women, fear among perpetrators and deterrence in the society in general.
- ✦ The tremendous success of SHE Teams has led to its extension to all districts and Commissionerates of Telangana and has been replicated the concept in 6 other states – Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh.

This successful unit may be replicated in all states for enhancing women safety.

B-4 Mahila Helpline

There was a great need of a common nationwide helpline number where women in distress could call to seek help. Thus, after the Nirbhaya episode, a nationwide women's helpline number 181 was launched in 2013. Another helpline, 1091 was already in Operation since 2004.

The success of any such helpline depends on the following crucial factors:

1. Wide scale publicity of the existence of such helpline and services available under it.
2. Constant improvement in the average response time and quality of response by the first responders. It is the efficiency and effectiveness of the first responders that determine the credibility of such help lines.
3. The follow-up actions by such helpline to redress grievance of aggrieved parties.
4. Confidentiality of information provided by the women to ensure their safety.

There are some inspiring success stories of such help lines like 1090 in Uttar Pradesh.

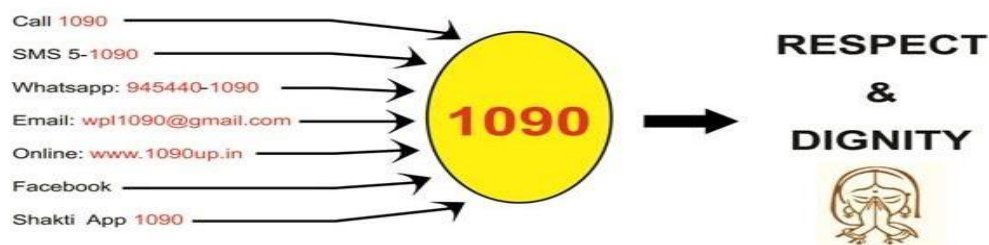
- Launched in 2012, this 'Women Power Line (WPL)' was mainly launched to raise awareness and a sense of safety among the women of UP.



- The standard operating procedure of this helpline is as follows:
 1. Any woman can register complain free of charge after receiving an obscene call or message.
 2. The Identity of the complainant is kept secret.
 3. Under no circumstances the women are called to a police station/office.
 4. Only Female police officers talk to and register complaints of the complainants.
 5. Female police officers provide the senior male police officers only as much information as can be helpful in the investigation.
 6. The call centre keeps working on such information as long as the action is not taken.
- In order to ensure its credibility, the police have taken following steps:
 1. Women attending such calls have been specially trained to talk to the victims with politeness and sensitivity and register their complaints.
 2. Understanding the victim's problem completely and make her trust that 1090 is the solution to her problems.
 3. The software of the helpline has been made effective and secure enough that no information can be copied to devices like pen drive etc.
- The Complaints on 1090 range from 21st century problems like harassment through mobile phone/social media, sending obscene messages to conventional crimes like domestic violence dowry harassment etc.
- The harassers are dealt with in the following manner:
 1. First step is counselling.
 2. If they don't stop, then their family members are informed.



3. If this still doesn't comply, then legal action is taken against them.
 4. Mostly the harassers get scared of police, but in some cases where they don't budge, FIRs are registered against them and the cases are handed over to the local police. In most such registered cases, the accused are middle aged men.
- 1090-WPL is 75 workstations based round the clock call centre to take complaints from all women of Uttar Pradesh via all possible ICT channels. It is state of the art internet-telephony & cloud computing based solution, very advanced yet user-friendly solution. It is run by the state police force, where the police use their law-enforcing function only as a last resort, and instead, help identify the perpetrator and counsel him into mending his ways



[source uppolice.gov.in]

- At present total strength of 162 police personnel are working in WPL out of which 124 are women police officers. There are three working shifts and transportation facility is provided by WPL.
- To build on 1090's success, a programme called 'Power Angels' has also been launched. Under this, Female police officers go to colleges to raise awareness to complaint about eve-teasing, molestation, sexual harassment etc. With the help of the educational institute's principal, some aware girls are selected as 'Power Angels'. They are also given ID cards after proper training. Their main job is to report the incidences of harassment taking place in their area to the 1090 helpline. Along with it, they also work towards reducing women's hesitation to speak against or report the harassment.



B-5 Bharosa Kendra

‘Bharosa’ is a one-stop support centre launched by Hyderabad police to provide legal, medical aid, counselling and rehabilitation to women victims and their children. This can be replicated in other states.

Services Offered under Bharosa Centre



(source <http://www.bharosahydpolice.org>)

1	Women Help Line	Receiving the calls, allocating the case to the concerned wing as per the requirement, transferring the Cases to concerned area centres
2	Registration of Cases	Each Case will be registered and a comprehensive Case Profile will be prepared online using software by the Socio – Counsellors (Case Workers), the cases will be categorized depending on the requirements of the victim and they will be directed accordingly to different wings of Centre. “Bharosa” –Support Centre will provide rescue and referral services to the women affected by violence



3	Police & Prosecution Services	The “Bharosa” –Support Centre will facilitate the lodging of FIR/NCR/DIR. Police officials of the concerned area Police Stations will register the cases and also help the victim in prosecution of the culprit. They will see that safety & security is provided to the victim and victim family / supporters, and do Follow up of the case until the case reaches the concerned Court by building the Evidences required for the case.
4	Medical	Complete medical help to the victim (Both Emergency & Long Term including follow up) will be provided by the medical wing. Medical Examination room is available in “Bharosa” –Support Centre. Women affected by violence would be referred to the nearest Hospital for further medical aid after preliminary examination at “Bharosa” –Support Centre, which would be undertaken as per the guidelines and protocols developed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
5	Counselling & Therapy	Clinical counsellors will provide psycho-social counselling to the needed victim. This counselling process will give women confidence and support to address the violence or to seek justice for the violence perpetuated. Psychological Counselling & Therapy will be provided by empanelled trained Psychologists and on call Psychiatrists and therapists
6	Legal	The Legal Officer will provide Legal Aid, Guidance, Counselling, Witness & victim support until the case is closed and victim gets justice. Analysis of Cases will be taken up by the Legal Volunteers. On call Advocates and professors of Law Colleges will help the cases which need expert advice along with National/State/District Legal Service Authority.



7	Victim Rehabilitation	Shelter (Short stay or Long stay) & Employment (Capacity Analysis, Training, Placement, and Linking with Banks for self – employment) services will be provided by linking the victim to the concerned Nodal officers of the different institutions and Government departments by the Case Workers. The temporary shelter facility to aggrieved women will be provided by referring to the empanelled NGOs. For long term shelter requirements, arrangements will be made with SwadharGreh/ShortStay Home (managed/affiliated with government/NGO).
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C. School-based Prevention

School-based interventions are helpful to address gender norms and equality early in life, before gender stereotypes become deeply ingrained in children and youth. In school, teachers are the role model for the students. They make impact on the personalities of the students. Education curriculum modifies the thinking pattern and changes the behavior. It helps in reducing the crime and violence.

C-1 Learning of "Safe & Unsafe touch"



- The learning of "Safe touch" and "Unsafe touch" should be made compulsory in primary school.
- Children should be made beware of strangers who try to get abnormally close to them.
- Children should be trained to say no and to refuse things from strangers with confidence.
- Children should be made aware that most crimes of sexual nature are committed by known people.
- Our culture puts stress on respecting and obeying elders. Instead, we should stress on respecting certain qualities and not just age. Children should be



taught to clearly say 'NO' to elderly people in case they feel unsafe around them.

- We, as a society cannot expect our children to be obedient to their elderly all the times, as most crimes against children are committed by the elders known to the children.

C-2 Counselor in school

When a person goes through a series of sexual abuse, certain changes in his / her personality and behavior become visible. Educational institutions should **appoint one counselor** who can provide basic counseling to students. Such counselors can play a crucial role in detecting mental / physical / sexual abuse in a student's life. Such counseling has the potential to save a child's life, if on-time intervention is provided. Parents and teachers should also pay attention to deterioration in a child's performance and signs of depression. By showing that the victim will be trusted and helped, we can encourage the victim to reveal the abuse and abuser.

C-3 Inclusion of sex education in curriculum



Inclusion of Sex Education in the curriculum is necessary now. It should focus both



on boys and girls. Imparting knowledge about various provisions of law would empower Girls and encourage boys to support women for their cause. Knowledge would instill fear in the mind of law breakers. It's not only girls but boys are also sexually harassed and boys should also be made aware about the fact.

- Curriculum should include menstruation, consent, age of consent, pregnancy, stalking, voyeurism, kidnapping, acid attack, outraging modesty of women, rape (BNS provisions under s. 118(2), 75, 76, 77, 78, 137(2), 87, 63, earlier s. 326, 354A, 354B, 354C, 354D, 363, 366, 375 IPC)
- The gist of Various provisions of Information Technology Act to curb cyber-crime like cyber stalking, cyber bullying, cyber harassment, breach and violation of privacy, voyeurism, revenge pornography
- The gist of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act which prohibits sex determination
- The gist of The Sexual Harassment of women at workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013
- It should include information about Dial 100, Mahila helpline 181, visit to a police station, interaction with SHE team



D. Community based Prevention

Sexual crimes are the biggest taboo in our society. It is so difficult to even recognize its wide scale of existence that many times, we as a society turn the other way instead of confronting it upfront. Community interventions to reduce gender inequality usually attempt to empower women, strengthen their economic position and change gender stereotypes and norms. Although most programs involve women, some community programs work solely with male peer groups focusing on masculinity, gender norms and violence. This reflects a growing awareness of the importance of engaging men and boys in interventions, not only to redefine concepts of masculinity based on dominance and control, but also to engage them in stopping violence against women. Community interventions aim to change not just the way individuals think and behave, but also to mobilize entire villages or districts in efforts to eradicate violence against women. Community awareness on the laws incriminating certain acts is necessary as domestic violence, cruelty by in - laws, dowry demands etc. have social sanctions.

1. If we want to stop this, we need to understand it. We as a society need to have a comprehensive understanding of why these crimes happen? To whom do they happen? By whom are they committed? Why such crimes so often go unreported? How to stop them? What can we do to stop them? We should use the government infrastructure like Anganwadi, Primary schools, PHC, Gramsevaks etc. to raise the understanding on above mentioned questions.
2. Many a times, victims are blamed for the crimes committed against them.
Through education, popular media, street plays and discussions we should propagate the message that,
 - ✦ It's not the fault of the women but it is the mentality of perpetrator. Rape happens to few months old girl child and on elderly women also.
 - ✦ The crime could have happened to any person you know and love.



- ✦ Don't assume that the consent was given. Failing to fight back or tell the perpetrators to stop is not consent.
- 3. The awareness of free legal services or NGOs which help poor victims go through criminal justice system is quite needed. Anyone who deals with the victims of child sex abuse, rape, sexual assault etc. needs a very high level of behavioral and psychological skills.
- 4. Social workers who are trained in dealing with the victims and their family members can help reduce their post-traumatic stress and help reduce the added suffering that is associated with having to go through criminal justice system.

While evaluations of community interventions indicate that they may help in reducing violence and changing gender attitudes and norms, more scientific evaluation studies are needed, particularly for programs focusing on male peer groups. Community interventions are more effective when facilitators are well-trained and have won the trust of a community. Their success is also linked to communities taking ownership of interventions, the concurrent use of a variety of methods and activities, adequate and sustained funding and the support of Government.



E. Media based Prevention

Media has become the most dominant tool of opinion formation. Attitude towards women are reflected by them. It can become a great tool to build a certain opinion which is needed to stop violence against women. Media interventions use television, radio, the Internet, newspapers, magazines and other printed publications to reach a wide range of people and effect change within society. They aim to increase knowledge, challenge attitudes and modify behavior. Media interventions can also alter social norms and values (e.g. the belief that masculinity is associated with aggression) through public discussion and social interaction.

1. Majority of population doesn't come across female victims of violence and its perpetrators. It is through media that we get to know about such acts, their victims, the suspects and details of such acts. So, the identities of victims and perpetrators are constructed by their portrayal in media.
2. Such portrayals of victims and perpetrators often create stereotypes. Sometimes crimes are considered a result of individual moral failings or dysfunctional families. Most criminals are perceived to be belonging to specific communities. Instead of underlying reasons like patriarchal societal setup, misogyny and inequity in resource distribution, such crimes are blamed either on individual or his/her immediate surroundings.
3. Media most often covers the cases of violence against women as individual episodes. Audiences who see episodic stories are more likely to determine that the event is random and not preventable and that solution lies within the individuals involved (child, family, perpetrator).

Instead, it should focus on thematic coverage of such crimes. It contextualizes the problem beyond the case. Those who see thematic stories are more likely to understand the broader social factors impacting crimes against women and view organizations and government as accountable.



Nirbhaya case was not treated just as an individual incident of crime but a case representing the crisis of women's security in India. That's why it had such a huge implication on our laws, institutions, society and thinking.

4. Media should stop focusing on sensational news pieces or 'news of the day'. Such treatments of crimes make them disappear fast from public memory. Sensationalization of crimes against women leads to public anxiety and fear. It produces short term moral outrage but not enough solutions or far-reaching results.

5. Social Media

WhatsApp, Twitter, Face book, Instagram and other social media sites should be made responsible to restrain fake hate messages and images - clipping related to child pornography.



F. Response of law enforcement agencies

Reporting gender violence is an extremely difficult decision for women. They are taking the risk of reporting crimes which might provoke violent backlash against them and their beloved. We live in a society where victim blaming is common. If they are not being blamed for the occurrence of the crime itself, they are blamed for reporting it. But still they report it to the police with the hope of Justice. Law might be one of the last institute in which they have some trust intact. So the law cannot afford to fail them. We need to encourage reporting so that the real picture of gender violence comes to light.

The response of the police and Judiciary is very important for victim to gather courage to pursue for justice and to realize that she has taken the right decision by reporting the crime. Proper behavioral training should be given to the police personnel who are given the task of complain registration and investigations.

In every district headquarter a Centre should be established which would focus on providing immediate and effective medical, psychiatric, legal assistance to the victims of sexual assault. These centers should also provide follow-up service to such victims to keep their morale high as seeking justice is a long-term process.

Such centers can become the nodal points to analyze different types of sexual and gender based crimes taking place in the district like molestation, sexual harassment, child sex abuse, domestic violence etc.

Such centers should work with police and Judiciary as sometimes investigation or recording of statements can become traumatic for victims as they have to live those moments again. Such center can also run a sensitivity training program.

Such rape crisis centers are already running in UK and other countries, where they have been proved quite helpful in victims' recovery and other assistance.



The entire criminal justice system has to work well to provide justice to crime against women. As in our society rape is considered a crime against the honor of not only the victim, but sometimes that of the entire community, the potential of such crimes to create societal disharmony is quite high.

Thus, the prevalence feeling of justice is as important as justice itself.



7. STAKEHOLDERS

7-A Police Department

1. Crime victimization survey- A crime victimization survey through neutral agency should be done to collect information on crimes reported or not reported to the police. Survey respondents provide information about themselves (age, sex, religion, caste, marital status, education, income level, locality etc.) and whether they experienced victimization and also about the offender (age, religion, caste, sex, victim of offender relationship etc.), characteristics of the crime (e.g. time and place of occurrence, use of weapons, nature of injury, economic consequences etc.) whether the crime was reported to police, reasons the crime was or was not reported, and victim experiences with the criminal justice system.
2. Liaison with Transport department and access to monitor system of vehicles to police control room to ensure to deter and control crime in moving vehicles like taxis /buses/vans etc.
3. Liaison with Urban and Rural department for vulnerability assessment on basis of crime data and vulnerable section of society for providing and maintaining adequate street light and CCTV installations
4. “She Team” is a successful unit of Telangana police started by Hyderabad city police for enhanced safety and security of women. It may be replicated in all states.
5. Mahila helpline should be made more effective by making necessary changes as per the UP model
6. Bharosa Kendra- ‘Bharosa’, a one-stop support center launched by Hyderabad police to provide protection, legal aid, medical aid, counseling and rehabilitation to women victims and their children. This may be replicated in other states



7. Police Patrolling-Police uniform has the highest deterrent value. Vulnerability assessment on basis of crime data and perception of vulnerable section of society should be done for planning routs of patrolling parties

7-B Education Department

1. Self-defense techniques

Children should be taught self-defense techniques.

2. Knowledge of Helplines

Children in school should be given knowledge about working of Mahila Help line, police help lines and important phone number must be displayed in school

3. Knowing of "Safe & Unsafe touch" or "Good and Bad touch" during primary education

- Children should be taught about "Safe touch or Good touch" and "Unsafe touch or Bad touch" compulsorily in schools.
- Children should be sensitized to be aware of strangers who try to get abnormally close to them.
- Children should be trained to say no and to refuse things from strangers with confidence.
- Children should be sensitized on sexual crime and that they are committed by known people.
- Cultural shift from respecting/obeying elders to respecting exceptional qualities and not just age. Children should be taught to clearly say 'NO' to elderly people in case they feel unsafe around them.

4. Inclusion of sex education in curriculum

- Curriculum should include menstruation, consent, age of consent, pregnancy, stalking, voyeurism, kidnapping, acid attack, outraging modesty of women,



rape (BNS provisions under s. 118(2), 75, 76, 77, 78, 137(2), 87, 63, earlier s. 326, 354A, 354B, 354C, 354D, 363, 366, 375 IPC)

- The gist of Various provisions of Information Technology Act to curb cyber-crime like cyber stalking, cyber bullying, cyber harassment, breach and violation of privacy, voyeurism, revenge pornography
- The gist of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (PCPNDT) Act which prohibits sex determination
- The gist of The Sexual Harassment of women at workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013
- It should include information about Dial 100, Mahila helpline 181, visit to a police station, interaction with SHE team

5. Counselor in school

Each school has to have a counselor to talk to children and ascertain if they suffer from any exploitation and if situation demands, seek police intervention.

7-C Transport Department

To monitor and prevent crime in moving vehicles like taxis/buses/vans etc.

1. The drivers of such taxis, buses and rickshaws must have uniform standards such as showing the nameplate, email and phone number for any grievance, background check of drivers and strict regulation need to be addressed
2. Install GPS system for live location, CCTV, VTS-Voice transmission system and panic button at strategic location in vehicle (with cautionary instruction to stop misuse) and it must be connected with police control room
3. Ensure that the above system is in a functional mode through regular checks and supervision

7-D Women and Child Welfare Department

1. Creating awareness among women about the use of SOS devices and panic buttons in mobile phones, Bluetooth watches etc to seek help from police and near relatives in case of need



2. Creating awareness among women on self-defense techniques and organizing training camps to impart such training.

3. Role of Aasha workers as changing agent

Through street plays and discussions with villagers, they should propagate the message that,

- It's not the fault of the women but it is the mentality of perpetrator.
- Rape happens to few months old girl child and on elderly women also.
- The crime could have happened to any person you know and love.
- Don't assume that the consent was given. Failing to fight back or tell the perpetrators to stop is not consent.
- The awareness of free legal services or NGOs, Mahila help line which help poor victims go through criminal justice system should be given
- Community interventions help in reducing violence and changing gender attitudes and norms, particularly the programs focusing on peer groups.
- Community intervention is more effective when facilitators are well-trained and have won the trust of a community.

7-E Rural and Urban Department

1. Street light (should be done after vulnerability assessment)

- Criminals feel safe to commit crime in the safety cloak of darkness and desolation.
- Streets, residential colonies, markets, hostels, slums and the darker roads are more prone to crime and also perceived to be vulnerable.
- Proper lighting in such zones would deter the wrongdoers.
- It will also instill confidence in women

2. CCTV

- CCTV cameras have become crucial in crime detection and prevention.
- Identification vulnerable area
- Different groups like slum- dwellers, destitute, women living in hostels and paying guest facilities, women working in night shifts or far away and sparsely populated areas are particularly vulnerable to sexual offences
- In such areas government should come forward for installing CCTVs and Street lights on priority basis after scientific vulnerability assessment on the basis of crime data and vulnerability of the weaker sections
- Already existing CCTVs for traffic regulations and at critical junctions should be used for women safety purpose also.

7-F Information and Technology Department

- Government should consider making a panic button compulsory in every mobile phone. So that in case of eventuality one can send distress signal directly to the police control room.
- WhatsApp, Twitter, Face book, Instagram and other social media sites should be made responsible to restrain fake hate messages and images-clipping related to child pornography.



8.CONCLUSION

Most crime against women is rooted in our social structure. Gender discrimination, which is a part of our way of life, is the genesis of violence against women. Such crimes are different from other violent crimes because of the deep rooted cause and huge implications that they have. The promotion of gender equality is an essential part of violence prevention.

The psychology, social and economic implications of such crimes are wide and long lasting. If such crimes are not prevented, they lead to normalization of violence against women and when such violence is accepted as a part of life, the onus of not attracting any violent attack starts falling on women. Such unsafe environment leads to women being bound to their homes without any scope of further development. In short, even a small number of crimes create a ripple effect for the entire society which leads to the self- perpetuation of the problem.

That's why those involved in preventing crime against women need to understand the huge impact of their smallest successes. We have enough constitutional provisions, laws, rules and schemes that intend to prevent violence against women. But it is their implementation at grass root level, on which their success depends. Thus, the preventive strategies mentioned earlier have to be seen in the context of India's journey for its socio-economic transformation.

We have to keep in mind the complex structure of Indian society that makes prevention of such crimes more challenging. Most of the time, we are protecting women from the ones they know and trust and from the crimes that have been institutionalized in their way of life. While doing so, we are breaking not only the illusion of 'safety at home' but also the social structure and status quo which have thrived on such practices.

Thus, the job of the Indian state is quite tricky, as far as preventing crimes against women is concerned. The state is supposed to dismantle the status quo, social institutions and vested interests which perpetuate gender discrimination and while it is carrying out such offensive, it also has to defend the progress made,



milestones achieved and all those involved in bringing such change from the violent backlash that any large scale change leads to.

So, even though the job of the state is tricky, it is absolutely crucial and necessary to create a safe society, especially for women. The state can't afford to fail in this task. The state can't deny its women the realization of the dream of freedom, rights, dignity and individual identity promised to them in the constitution. As it is this aspiration which grants legitimacy to the actions of the state, which intend to destroy the systems, which draw their own legitimacy from India's civilization, culture, history and society.

Only if we see our job of preventing crime against women in this comprehensive background, we will be able to garner enough will power, inspiration and clear direction which are quite necessary for sustainability of our efforts.



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