CHARTER ON WOMEN’S SAFETY IN JHARKHAND
AUGUST 2017

Deepening Perspective

- Focus on specific needs/voices of marginalized and vulnerable women, particularly tribal women, displaced women, women with disabilities, migrant women, women sex workers, domestic workers and construction workers.
- Address the “right to the city” of transient populations - including those from peri-urban areas
- Address economic independence as a key component of women’s safety
- Design interventions for women’s safety from a women’s rights perspective in Jharkhand; cultural spaces need to be created for all, especially migrants (women and men) towards building solidarities and
- strengthening understanding on safety, changing social norms (on masculinities)

Transport

- Advocate for bus shelters, bus stops with adequate lighting, gender sensitive sanitation and signage
- Focus on safety of women passengers and of women drivers (pink auto drivers)
- Expansion of routes of pink autos, particularly near schools, universities, women’s accommodations and hospitals
- Increase frequency of bus services and timings; regulate number of passengers in public transport.
- Include women in holistic planning and design of transport related infrastructure specifically in the Transit Oriented Development Policy (all forms of transport to be integrated; entire transport journey should be covered – sanitation services, signage, helplines and websites and feedback system)
- Issues related to walkability and cycling should be included in the transport policy
- Employ women equally at all levels in public transport institutions
- Gender sensitization trainings – for drivers and conductors and other staff including depot managers, engineers, etc.
- Build cooperation rather than competition between different groups of auto drivers with special reference to women drivers

A SAFE CITY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS IS...

- A city where women and girl s can enjoy public spaces and public life without fear of being assaulted.
- A city where violence is not exercised against women and girls in either the home or the street.
- A city where women and girls are not discriminated against and where their economic, social, political, and cultural rights are guaranteed.
- A city where women and girls participate in making decisions that affect the community in which they live.
- A city where the state guarantees the human rights of all people without excluding women and girls.
- A city where the state and local government take actions to provide attention, prevention, and punishment for violence against women and girls.
- A city where the state and local government guarantee women and girls’ access to justice.

[Source UN Women, Safe Cities Module]
Governance
• Ensure parity of women representatives in urban local bodies
• Advocate with government to ensure development of clear, transparent and sensitive rehabilitation policies, specifically in context of displacement
• Advocate for effective monitoring and implementation of government schemes concerning women

Women Workers in the Unorganized Sector
• Engagement with employers to address gender discrimination and sexual harassment at workplace
• Collectivize women and strengthen unions of women workers
• Advocate for adequate and effective provision of basic infrastructure and services (health, water, sanitation and social security, maternity entitlements, child care
• Regular legal awareness camps
• Maintain daily public records of employment to support contractual labourers
• Install CCTV cameras, advocate for visible policing and display of helplines at labour spots/chowks

Policing and Legal Support
• Gender sensitization of police personnel to continue
• Special Police teams for women and children’s issues
• Regular interactions with Police teams
• Advocate for a gender working group in the Police Department, with whom we can share expertise and work in partnership
• Strengthen supportive infrastructure for women – legal support, effective and sensitive policing, helplines for grievance redressal, OSCC (Sakhi Kendras) and shelter for urban homeless women

Gender Budgeting
• Include gender experts in urban local bodies who can give inputs and review policies and programmes from the inception itself

“Strengthen women’s movement in Jharkhand through regular conversations and dialogues”

AALI, CHSJ, CSS, Ekjut, ITDP, Jagori, MHT, Nirman
Pink Auto Unions, Ranchi University, Sewa Bharat, SHARC, ENSS, Srijan Foundation and community women’s collectives
With support from Oak Foundation