

Women Voices: Charter on Women's Safety

Hazaribag, Jharkhand

April 2018

The following charter of demands was agreed upon by 350 women and civil society organizations at Vinoba Bhave University, Hazaribag, Jharkhand on 6 April 2018.

Gender sensitive essential services

- Public transportation and related infrastructure needs to be inclusive and accessible, reaching all parts of the city, especially the peripheral areas and available at all times.
- Separate lanes for cyclists and walk paths for pedestrians
- Planning, training, allocation of budgets and financial infrastructure/services for women auto drivers.
- Short stay homes and shelter homes dedicated for women, especially near bus stands, railway stations and workplaces.
- Clean and free drinking water, toilets which are functional and have water, and can be used by disabled, pregnant and old women and children should be built in accessible distances and all public spaces.
- Essential services should be disabled-friendly like bank, ATM etc,
- Single window system for women
- Health and related stakeholder should be gender-sensitive to the needs of women
- Housing schemes for women
- Ration and Public Distribution System should be simplified for ease in accessing the services
- Proper lighting in all streets

Safety at the workplace

- Equal wages/pay for equal work
- Workplace should be safe and have zero tolerance policy against sexual harassment.
- Functional Internal Complaints Committee or Local Complaints Committee.
- Crèche/day-care facility for the children of working women, especially those in the informal sector.
- Working hostels for women.

Police and legal services

- Gender-sensitive police
- Women's helplines should be visible in public spaces, such as bus and auto stand, petrol pumps, marketplaces, schools and colleges, etc.
- Awareness campaigns and drives about services associated with women's safety, and these services should be fully functional and effective

Education

- Ensure effective grievance redressal mechanisms in colleges and universities
- Ensure basic infrastructure such as boundary walls, guards, functional toilets and drinking water in all government schools

Property

- Women's right to control over their income, their share of family income and property should be facilitated and ensured

