

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

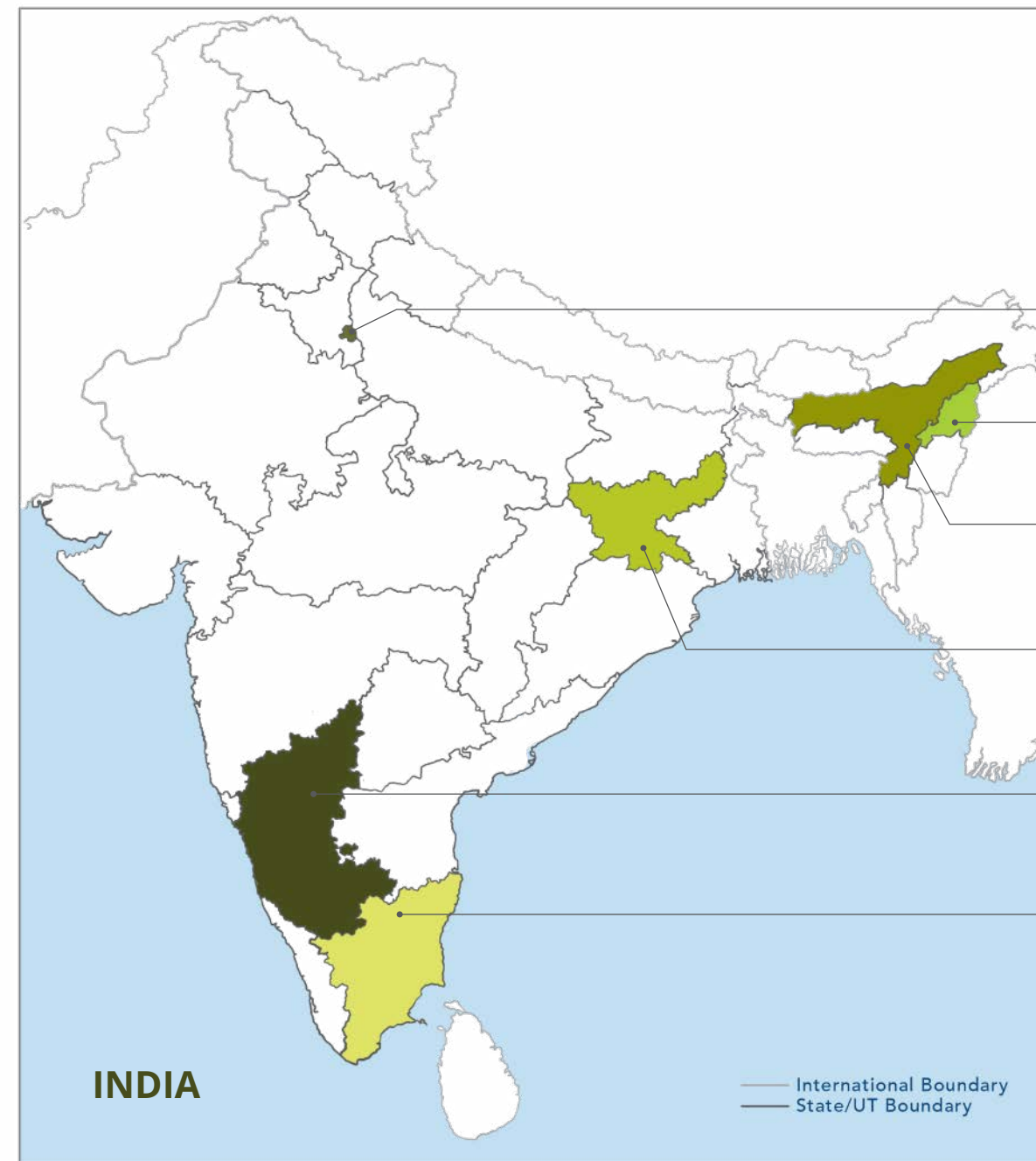
A Rapid Survey Series across
6 States on the Domestic Violence Redressal
Ecosystem during COVID-19 Outbreak

1/8

SYNTHESIS OF FINDINGS: ONE STOP CENTRES (OSCs)

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 OSCs
interviewed: 16

Delhi

3

Nagaland

3

Assam

3

Jharkhand

2

Karnataka

3

Tamil Nadu

2

* <https://scroll.in/article/857370/one-stop-centres-for-rape-survivors-in-india-are-now-resolving-marital-disputes>

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DURING LOCKDOWN

500

domestic violence cases (during the lockdown), as reported by 15 OSCs



“There is a 50 per cent increase in domestic violence cases. Loss of livelihood in many families led to frustration in both the husband and the wife. This resulted in physical and verbal abuse”.

OSC, Tamil Nadu

“During the lockdown, 181 helpline started functioning effectively. So, they and the police helpline in Bangalore referred cases to us. As a result, we received more cases”.

OSC, Karnataka

WHO IS THE SURVIVOR?

Mostly married women,
homemakers*

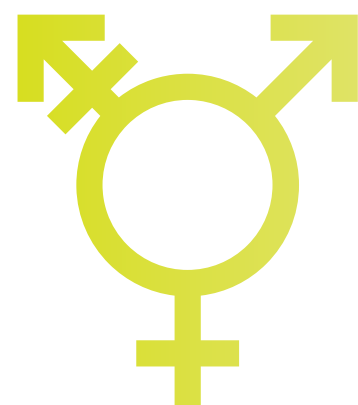
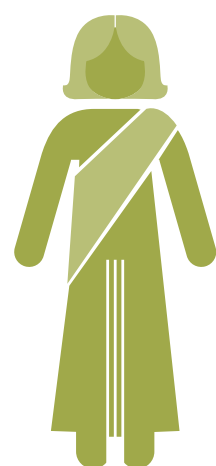
Women with physical and
mental disabilities

Elderly women

Transpersons

Domestic and factory workers,
daily wagers

* reported by 14 out of 16 OSCs



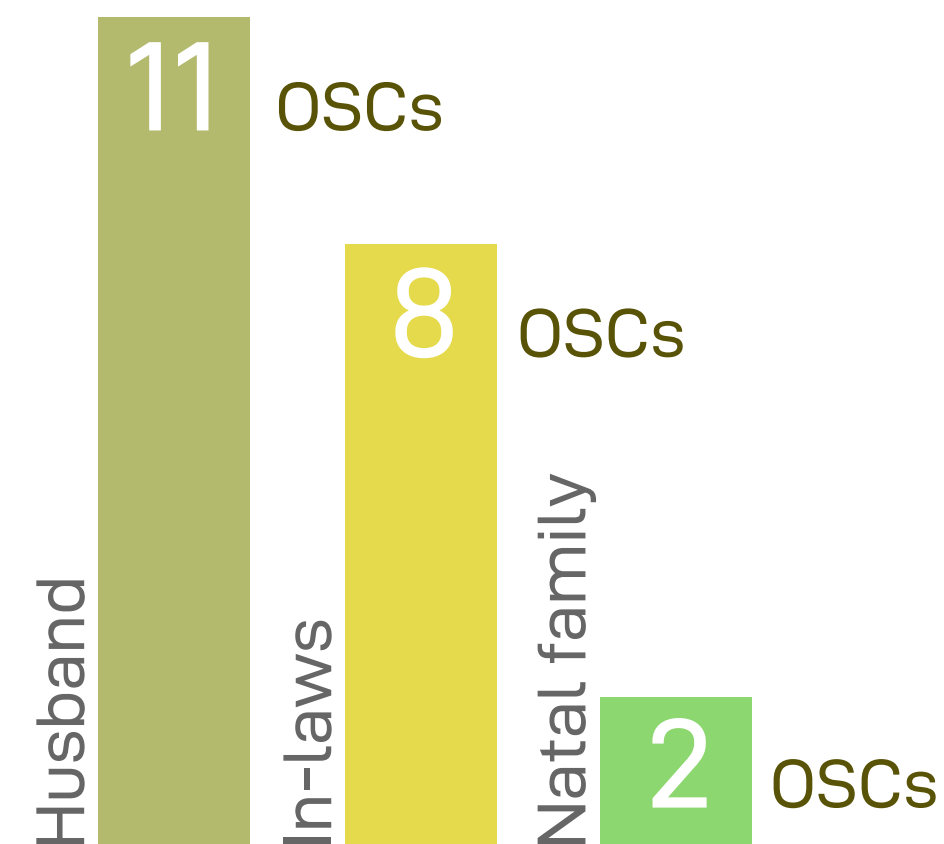
NATURE OF VIOLENCE

Mostly physical, economic,
psychological and sexual
violence

24 Abandonment cases

Tamil Nadu, Karnataka,
Assam

MOST NAMED PERPETRATOR*



* data from 12 OSCs

STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION

Out of 11 OSCs that contacted the Police



Out of 6 OSCs that contacted Helplines



Out of 16 OSCs



“During the lockdown, we were on our way in an auto rickshaw when the traffic police stopped us. I contacted the case worker who asked me to seek help from a senior government official. We received no support from the government functionaries we contacted. Only after I contacted a senior official from the traffic police did they release us”.

OSC, Karnataka

“A woman whose husband deprived her of money approached a women's police station. The SHO sarcastically asked the woman: ‘Should I give you money?’”

OSC, Delhi

STAKEHOLDER COORDINATION

Out of 5 OSCs that contacted shelter homes

14

received support

All 8 OSCs that contacted medical staff

8

received support

Out of 16 OSCs, 3 obtained court orders via online conferencing

3

received support

“Some shelters denied admission to women because of fear of contamination. Hence, with the help of the police, we decided to accommodate these women”.

OSC, Nagaland

“All the departments were active. We rescued around 20 women with police assistance.

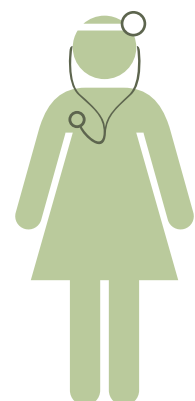
Doctors offered immediate medical treatment at the government hospital.

The police accompanied us all the way through; from the point of rescue, they took us to the hospital for registering Medico Legal Cases (MLCs). Then they dropped the women to the shelter homes and us to the OSC.

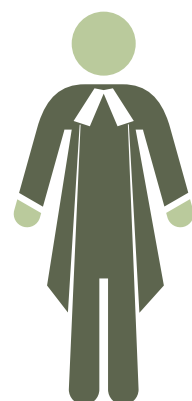
There were 10 cases for which the District Legal Services Authority also helped us promptly”.

OSC, Tamil Nadu

CHALLENGES FACED*



Limited availability of doctors and the police due to pandemic-related duties



Frequent transfers of legal advisors



Lack of PPE kits and sanitization

“Although the Ministry of Women and Child Development’s directive dated 25th March 2020 instructs the district administrations to take appropriate measures to ensure institutional and personal hygiene for the operation of the OSCs and women’s helplines, no PPE kits or sanitizers were provided by the administration”.

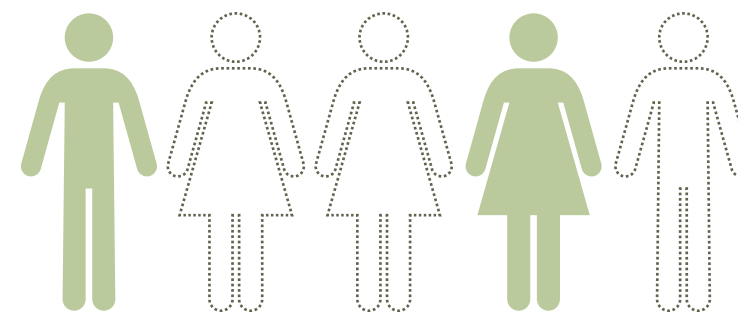
OSC, Assam

* data by 8 OSCs

CHALLENGES FACED*

“When the government announced the lockdown, there were no clear instructions from the Government on how to deal with women survivors of violence. Women were left without shelter or OSC accommodation when government departments dodged the responsibility to screen women for COVID-19”.

OSC, Assam



Inadequate staff



Shortage of funds

* data by 8 OSCs



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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