

Creating a Safer Delhi for Women: Strengthening Law and Order for Inclusive Urban Safety

यत्र नार्यस्तु पूज्यन्ते रमन्ते तत्र देवताः ।

यत्रैतास्तु न पूज्यन्ते सर्वास्तत्राफलाः क्रियाः ॥

*(where Women are honored, divinity blossoms there, and
where women are dishonored, all action no matter how noble remain unfruitful)*

Despite such high regard for women in our scriptures, our modern cities are not seen as safe spaces for women. Delhi recorded the highest number of crimes against women among the 19 metropolitan cities in India in 2022, according to the latest National Crime Records Bureau report.

Women face threats to their life and dignity from **‘cradle to grave’**. The threats to women’s safety range from female feticide to sexual harassment at workplace to stalking to dowry deaths to rape. On top of this, **‘victim blaming attitude’** of the society further demoralizes the women from reporting such cases. Unsafe cities present a hurdle in optimum utilization of our **‘gender dividend’** which is crucial in achievement of our goal of **Vikshit Bharat@2047**. In this light, this competition invites innovation solutions for a safer Delhi for women.

Policy interventions for women safety- From time to time, many measures have been taken by the state to ensure safety and security of women-

1. Data collection-

- a) NCRB
- b) Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and Systems

2. Laws-

- a) Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023
- b) Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Samhita, 2023
- c) Bhartiya Sakhsya Adhinyam, 2023
- d) The Sexual harassment of Workplace(Prevention, Prohibition, Redressal) Act, 2013
- e) The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961
- f) Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005
- g) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012

3. Reporting of crime-

- a) Women's Helpline (181): A 24x7 helpline for women in distress, providing immediate assistance and guidance.
- b) Pink booths
- c) She-Box of Ministry of Women and Child Development
- d) National Cyber Crime Report Portal of Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India
- e) Helplines for Women in Distress in Delhi of Delhi Government
- f) Himmat Mobile App of Delhi Police
- g) Special Police unit for women and children

4. Community participation-

- a) "Eyes and Ears" scheme of Delhi police

5. Others-

- a) **Safe City Project:** Installation of CCTV cameras, panic buttons, and GPS systems in public transport under the Nirbhaya Fund.

Problem statement-

What legal, technological, attitudinal changes including urban planning interventions can be introduced to enhance the effectiveness of existing policy initiatives for women safety?

Important links for reference-

- 1. National Crime Records Bureau: [Link](#)
- 2. UN Women: [Link](#)
- 3. Ministry of Home Affairs: [Link](#)
- 4. Ministry of Finance: [Link](#)
- 5. POCSO Act: [Link](#)
- 6. National Database of Sexual Offenders: [Link](#)
- 7. Women Safety Initiative of MHA: [Link](#)