

Theme 2

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

Creating a safer Delhi for women requires a holistic approach to strengthening law and order while addressing the root causes of gender-based violence and insecurity. Key measures may include increasing the visibility and accessibility of law enforcement through dedicated women's police units, enhanced patrolling in vulnerable areas, and deploying technology such as CCTV cameras and mobile safety apps for real-time assistance. Public spaces must be redesigned with safety in mind, incorporating better lighting, open layouts, and gender-sensitive urban planning. Community engagement is vital, with programs to educate citizens on gender equality and bystander intervention. Legal reforms and faster judicial processes are equally essential to ensure accountability for crimes against women. By fostering collaboration between government, NGOs, and community stakeholders, Delhi can work towards becoming an inclusive and secure city for women.

Possible Challenges

Resource Constraints: Limited manpower and funding to enhance law enforcement and maintain technological infrastructure like CCTVs.

Cultural and Social Norms: Deep-seated patriarchal attitudes can hinder progress in ensuring women's safety.

Underreporting of Crimes: Fear of stigma, harassment, or lack of faith in the system may prevent many women from reporting crimes.

Coordination Gaps: Inefficiencies in inter-agency collaboration, such as between police, judiciary, and social welfare departments, can delay justice and weaken enforcement.

Urban Planning Challenges: Retrofitting existing urban spaces for safety might be complex and time-consuming.

Digital Divide: Reliance on technology-based solutions may exclude women without access to smartphones or the internet.

Sustainability of Efforts: Long-term commitment to women's safety initiatives may wane without continuous political and public pressure.

Concerned Delhi Govt. departments for Theme 2

Delhi Police:

The **Delhi Police**, particularly its **Special Police Unit for Women and Children (SPUWAC)**, is primarily responsible for maintaining law and order, enforcing laws related to women's safety, and providing a response to crimes such as harassment, domestic violence, sexual assault, etc. The police also run various initiatives like **Women Helplines** and programs focused on women's safety in public spaces.

Delhi Commission for Women (DCW):

The **DCW** is an autonomous body that works towards protecting and promoting the rights of women in Delhi. They advocate for policy reforms,

monitor the implementation of laws, and provide support to victims of gender-based violence. The DCW also conducts campaigns, investigations, and public outreach to promote women's safety and rights.

Department of Women and Child Development (DWCD):

This department focuses on ensuring the well-being of women and children. It is involved in the formulation and implementation of policies for women's welfare, safety, and empowerment.

It works on creating programs for women's shelter homes, skill development, and addressing issues like domestic violence.

Department of Urban Development:

The **Urban Development Department** works on improving infrastructure with safety features like better street lighting, safer public spaces, and surveillance mechanisms (CCTV) to make cities safer for women.

For more readings follow the links below:

<https://dda.gov.in/tods>

<https://udd.delhi.gov.in/>

<https://dcw.delhi.gov.in/>

<https://wcd.delhi.gov.in/>

<https://spuwac.in/>