

## CROSSING BARRIERS - BREAKING DIVIDES PHASE II

### FINAL REPORT

## SAFETY OF YOUNG WOMEN AND MEN IN A RESETTLEMENT COLONY: Madanpur Khadar, Delhi

JAGORI
In partnership with
UN HABITAT, Nairobi

December 2010





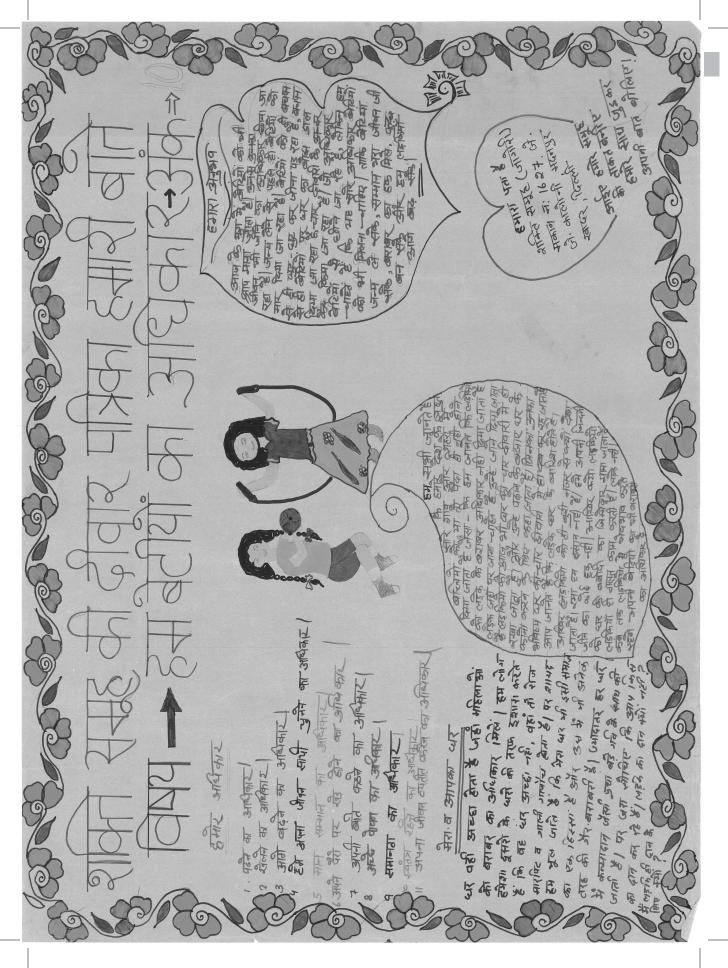
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# FINAL REPORT SAFETY OF YOUNG WOMEN AND MEN IN MADANPUR KHADAR, DELHI

This report captures the achievements and challenges of the second phase of the 'Youth and Safety" Initiative undertaken by Jagori in 2010 in 7 blocks of Madanpur Khadar, a resettlement colony of Delhi, comprising more than 8000 households. It builds upon initial work undertaken in 2009 with young women and men leaders in the community in creating awareness on gender and rights issues and highlighting concerns of women's safety in the community and family.

In the past two years of this focused work Jagori was able to reach out extensively to young people in the community, and enable them to critically analyse their environment to create and negotiate a 'different kind' of a space, where young women could feel that they were not being targeted or abused; that they could begin to think about a life free of violence and 'fear' of violence; that young men could work with families and community to create a supportive environment for realizing gender equality as well that the young people had stakes in shaping their community to ensuring a quality of life.

The process involved several steps - Mapping the physical/geographical area including analyzing the design and quality of the infrastructure through the Women's Safety Audit methodology; engaging in peer to peer learning processes; enhancing critical perspectives, leadership and self worth; and ensuring that their voices reach out to key stakeholders and decision makers in the community and local agencies so that they can begin to make changes.

The small initial steps taken through this programme were quite amazing; the young people were able to reach out extensively to a larger community (over 1.5 lakhs) and specially to over 2500 young people with their vision of change. They have reclaimed a neighbourhood park earlier infested with dirt and filth and the domain of men playing cards or sharing drugs. Today, young women and girls play in this park and have painted it with inspiring messages. Peer-learning was an effective approach in channelising positive energies and getting young leaders to teach similar others on how to challenge gender insensitive norms and practices and work towards prevention of gender-based violence.

The findings of the safety audits indicated that the design and maintenance of public infrastructure is very inadequate and needs upgradation including adequate lighting, availability of clean common public toilets and parks devoid of any menaces so that women and girls can feel more secure and have easy access.

The core group of 100 the young women and men who emerged as 'key change makers' have begun their journey of connecting their exclusion and marginalisation with the larger changes taking place in society as well re-examining their attitudes and behaviours and learning about how to assert and demand for their rights. Through participatory methodologies and effective communications technology, they were able to amplify their voices and express their agency.

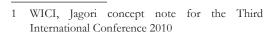
This Initiative has galvanized several stakeholders and the safety audit findings have fed into community dialogues, public hearings and advocacy with the local and state level government agencies, civic authorities and partner NGOs. The social innovation set out by this process needs to be taken to other community-led responses on enhancing safety for women and girls.

#### SECTION 1

### Women's Safety

### **Background**

Women's lack of safety is a serious obstacle to achieving gender equality as it curtails women's mobility and limits their right to participate fully and freely as citizens in their communities. It is an issue that affects millions of women and girls in cities all over the world. Both the causes and consequences of gender inequality and women's lack of safety are interrelated and multi-faceted, encompassing such diverse issues as violence against women, access to basic services and employment, good governance, urban planning, and political participation<sup>1</sup>.



Delhi continued to being unsafe for women recording highest rate of crime against the fair sex at 27.6 per cent as against the national average of 14.1 per cent. The alarming data, part of a report by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), include crimes such as rape, dowry deaths, molestation and incest. Delhi is followed by Andhra Pradesh which reported 26.1 per cent of such crimes. Among the 35 mega cities in the country, those having more than



Gender-based violence and safety are now being analyzed within a framework that extends beyond the immediate and the most discernible forms of violence, taking

10 lakh of population and above, Delhi alone reported 33.2 per cent (562) of the total 1,693 rape cases. The report further added that out of total number of 2,409 cases of kidnapping and abduction of women, Delhi recorded 37.4 per cent or 900 cases. Delhi has also topped the list of crime against children with 6.5 per cent as compared to national average of 1.4 per cent, NCRB said PTI.

Source: Hindu September 4 2006

### Major Highlights of the study: 2010

- O Women of all classes have to contend with harassment as part of their daily lives. School and college students in the 15-19 age-group and women workers in the unorganized sectors are particularly vulnerable.
- O Harassment occurs during day and night and in all kinds of public spaces, both secluded and crowded.
- O Public transport, buses and roadsides are reported as spaces where women and girls face high levels of sexual harassment.
- O The most common form of harassment reported is verbal (passing comments) and visual (staring and leering) and physical (touching/groping, leaning over etc.) This view was shared by women, men and 'common witnesses'.
- O Almost two out of every three women reported facing incidents of sexual harassment between 2-5 times in the past year.
- O Three out of every five women reported facing sexual harassment not only after dark but through the day time as well.
- O Higher proportion of men and

- 'common witnesses' that is almost nine out of every 10 respondents have witnessed incidents of sexual harassment of women after dark and during the day time.
- O Poor infrastructure (including poor or absent streetlights), unusable pavements, lack of public toilets, open usage of drugs and alcohol are major reasons behind the lack of safety.
- O The burden of ensuring safety remains upon women. They try to ensure their own safety by not visiting certain places, staying indoors after dark, maintaining a dress code, and carrying pepper spray and safety pins etc.
- O A high percentage of women, around 68 % resist harassment and deal with it in different ways; such as: confronting the perpetrator, seeking help from family and friends.
- O Concerted efforts are needed to sensitize people including the youth as partners in creating safer cities and conducive environments.

into its fold issues related to infrastructure, city planning, and governance<sup>2</sup>.

Recent studies have indicated that women in the national capital of Delhi feel unsafe in many public spaces, and at all times of the day and night.

Cutting across class, profession, women face continuous and different forms of sexual harassment in crowded as well as secluded places, including public transport, cars, markets, roads, public toilets and parks. School and college students are most vulnerable to harassment, particularly rampant in public transport, particularly buses. Despite public outcry over the lack of safety for women in the city, women continue to be vulnerable with a spiraling

increase in the number of reported cases of crimes against them<sup>3</sup>. These are findings of the recent survey released in June 2010 in Delhi with 5010 women and men undertaken by JAGORI and New Concept in partnership with the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of Delhi, UNIFEM, and UN Habitat.

Another study undertaken by Jagori (Understanding Women's Safety -- Towards a Gender Inclusive City: 2009-10) illustrates that gender-based urban violence can be attributed to factors such as poverty, discrimination, exclusion, and lack of gendered indicators in urban development and planning, leading to spaces and structures that exclude women and other vulnerable groups. It also reaffirms the male-dominated nature of public spaces and how women often have to

<sup>2</sup> Jagori, Report - Understanding Women's Safety, 2010 http://jagori.org/wp-content/ uploads/2010/11/gic-delhi-report.pdf



### **Understanding Women's Safety:**

Women's safety involves strategies, practices and policies which aim to reduce gender-based violence (or violence against women), including women's fear of crime.

Women's safety involves safe spaces. Space is not neutral. Space which causes fear restricts movement and thus the community's use of the space. Lack of movement and comfort is a form of social exclusion. Conversely, space can also create a sensation of safety and comfort, and can serve to discourage violence. Therefore planning and policy around safety should always involve and consider women.

Women's safety involves freedom from poverty. This includes safe access to water, the existence and security of communal toilet facilities in informal settlements, slum upgrades, gender-sensitive street and city design, safe car parks, shopping centers and public transportation.

Women's safety involves financial security and autonomy. Family income plays a powerful role in the cessation of battering. Resource accumulation and mobilization is a core strategy for coping with abusive relationships. Similarly, women's economic empowerment reduces their vulnerability to situations of violence as they become

less dependent on men and better able to make their own decisions.

Women's safety involves self-worth. In safe homes and communities, women have the right to value themselves, to be empowered, to be respected, to be independent, to have their rights valued, to be loved, to have solidarity with other family and community members, and to be recognized as equal members in society.

Women's safety involves strategies and policies that take place before violence has occurred to prevent perpetration or victimization. This can happen by improving knowledge and attitudes that correspond to the origins of domestic or sexual violence, such as adherence to societal norms supportive of violence, male superiority and male entitlement. Furthermore, women's and girls' full participation in community life must be promoted, partnerships between local community organizations and local governments must be pursued, and including a full diversity of women and girls in local decision-making processes must be promoted. Prevention efforts involve long-term, comprehensive strategic, initiatives that address the risk and protective factors related to perpetration, victimization and bystander behavior.

Women's safety means a safer, healthier community for everyone. This is a participatory process focused on changing community norms, patterns of social interaction, values, customs and institutions in ways that will significantly improve the quality of life in a community for all of its members.

This is a natural by-product of efforts that attempt to address issues such as family dynamics, relationships, poverty, racism and/or ending sexual violence.

Building a healthy, safe community is everyone's job.

(Source: UN-HABITAT, WICI et al. 2008: 10)

'manufacture' 'legitimate reasons to 'hang around' in spaces like parks, bus stops, etc. Their movements in these spaces are controlled by perceptions of safety and societal norms. The findings corroborate that violence has been normalized in a manner that now requires large sections of working and middle class women to contend with some form of harassment/ violence as they navigate different kinds of city spaces through the day. Delhi's dearth of basic infrastructure - such as clean and safe public toilets for women, well-lit streets, proper pavements –that becomes acute in the areas inhabited by the poor, is an important factor contributing to the lack of safety and exclusion of the vulnerable groups. The study findings stress the need to recast the city and its different spaces in order to make Delhi truly inclusive and violence-free for all its citizens.

The first of its kind safety audits were undertaken by Jagori in Delhi (2005, 2009 and 2010) further highlighted the

infrastructure-divide between the Delhi of the upper and middle classes and the areas inhabited by the poorer sections of society, especially those resettled in the far flung parts of the city. Focused group discussions (Jagori, 2009) with young girls in the resettlement areas revealed that they face continuous harassment in communities, have difficulties in using public transport, and have being pulled out of school as their environment has not been safe.



Jagori has over the past many years undertaken sustained efforts to highlight issues of safety of women and in girls in public places and has been partnering the Department of Women and Child Development, Delhi Government, UNIFEM and UN Habitat for the past year in scaling up a collective response to many of these above-mentioned concerns. This effort also includes the development of a strategic framework which is advocating

for policy and programme reforms in urban planning and design of public spaces, civic awareness, improvements of public transport, policing and expanding community participation in establishing effective responses to issues of ending violence against women and increasing safety of women and other vulnerable groups such as the elderly and disabled in public spaces.

#### **SECTION 2**

### **Youth and Safety Initiative – Phase II**

### **Key Project Components and Achievements**

In 2009, Jagori initiated the first phase of a Youth and Safety Initiative in Madanpur Khadar - a resettlement community in Delhi where it has been working for over five years<sup>3</sup>. It engaged the youth from the marginalized community and created a very positive response in the community and families residing in Block A of Madanpur Khadar. Building on this the initiative, efforts were made to upscale to seven additional blocks in the resettlement colony, building upoVn the leadership of the initial core group of young advocates.

Madan Pur Khadar - a resettlement colony in south east of Delhi is located on the river bed of Yamuna and people were relocated here in 2000 -2003

This project was undertaken in 7 blocks of Madanpur Khadar reaching out to more than 8000 households with the objective

<sup>3</sup> http://jagori.org/our-activities/youth-andsafety/crossing-barriers-breaking-divides/



NORTH WEST

NORTH

of mobilising young people on issues of ending violence against women and developing insights into how changes can be possible.

Nos.	Blocks	Households
1.	A pocket	900
2.	A1	1020
3.	A2	2143
4.	B1	1100
5.	B2	925
6.	С	270
7.	D1	1900
	Total households	8258

### **Key Achievements:**

### (1) Mapping and trainings:

## (2) A sensitive cadre of young people trained in women's safety audit methodology:

A team of 40 young girls and boys were trained to undertake safety audit walks, map public and private spaces in all the seven blocks of Madanpur Khadar colony and prepare safety audit reports based on principles of gender sensitivity (see attached tools). This involved walking

#### **Activities undertaken:**

- O Mapping and trainings on Safety Audit Methodology: A team of 22 young girls and boys from the community were trained to map both public and private spaces in their neighborhoods (including parks, streets, wastelands and dump grounds).
- O Developing competencies for leadership development through peer learning processes:

  Ensuring deeper engagement of the younger generation in the community with larger civic issues and critical actions that could transform the environment in the community.
- O Communications strategy:
  Using theatre, movement, radio
  messagingandcreativeexpressions
  to reflect and communicate ideas
  on gender equality and safety in
  the community.
- Critical sensitization key stakeholders: advocating for changes concsoiusness local transport with development and park management authorities, relevant local officials, community representatives, civil society and policy makers operating in the neighbourhood.
- O Monitoring, Evaluation and Documentation

through a defined geographical space and analyzing key factors causing unsafety. Built spaces and infrastructure (lighting, trees, pavements, and parks), exclusive male dominated spaces were examined, as well as the locations of police stations, public telephones, shops, and other vendors. They analysed if lighting was proper, if road views were clear or obstructed, if roads were broken or garbage strewn around as each of them may be a safety hazard. Observation walks were undertaken over a period of time at different times of the day and in the late evenings. They captured the magnitude of the risks and harassment that women and girls face every day in these public spaces. The findings of these audits were fed into advocacy efforts with

relevant authorities for improving gendersensitive infrastructure, mechanisms and programming.

# ii) Expanded access to public spaces and increased confidence of young women in the community:

The safety audits indicated, as mentioned above, that there is a very little public space available for recreation and social interactions particularly for women and girls. The need to expand access to such spaces was a critical felt need. Through this project, girls/young women earlier confined to their homes and/or at best within the lanes immediately outside their



### **Key Findings of the Safety Audits**

The residents of Madanpur Khadar have been forced to live in conditions marked by poor infrastructure and severe lack of basic civic amenities:

- The spatial layout of the area is marked by narrow streets, crowded, poor and mostly faulty street lighting, no presence of inner service roads, inadequate public phone services, drainage and sewage not provided for, poor upkeep of public toilets, overflowing garbage disposal places, no separate walkways, pollution, no public transport (except for the private RTVs), no allocated parking for public transport, no vegetation, no hawkers' zone, narrow streets and no public spaces for women and children.

There is much unused land belonging to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Slum Wing Authority and Delhi Development Authority. These are empty plots of land that were originally meant for parks, community centres, schools and health facilities which are unused and have become huge dumping grounds and places for untreated sewage, water logging, open defecation and garbage disposal.

In a small survey undertaken by Jagori in 2009 (as part of the phase I of the

project), 60% of the respondents of Madanpur Khadar never went to the neighbourhood park; as well more than 72% had never used the play-ground indicating lack of mobility of young women in the public space.

- Several girls/young women echoed the findings of the Delhi survey (Jagori 2010) regarding the perception of different aspects of safety and unsafety: that open usage of drugs, alcohol and gambling in public spaces such as public toilets, parks, roadside pavements are major reasons behind the lack of safety in the area.
- The safety surveys and mapping of the civic services in 2009 had indicated that more than 60% of the respondents had heard about violence taking place in public spaces like parks, play ground at Madanpur and around 28% of the respondents had faced violence/harassment in those places.
- During focus group discussions, women and girls narrated that they had to contend with harassment as part of their daily lives as well experience fear of violence while walking in the neighbourhood

market and streets and most often while travelling in buses to and fro Madanpur Khadar. There is an overbearing male dominance in public spaces and the insecurity faced results in restricted mobility.

- The inadequacy and poor upkeep of essential services in the community also resulted in concerns of unsafety. More than 50% of the public toilets were found to be either locked or unusable. Even when the toilets are in usable conditions, women found it difficult to pay the user fee of Rs. 1/- or 2/-per visit. They also narrated instances of harassment by men in the toilets as well when they go in the nearby fields to relieve themselves.
- The youth expressed their anger and frustration at the current situation largely due to lack of

- trust in the police, inability to leave their homes after a certain time and a feeling of being restrained. As one young man said, "I don't agree with those who harass, and I think women should be able to go where they choose, to do what they choose, when they choose. But what can I do? I am just one person".
- For boys, the presence of bullies/ hooligans in the neighbourhood created an environment of fear.
   Rampant practice of drug abuse was also articulated by the boys as a concern.
- The lack of government-managed helplines in the community and the need for a quick and efficient response to distresses and violence faced within the family and community was also highlighted.

### SEE MAPS ATTACHED FOR SPECIFIC DETAILS FACED IN EACH BLOCK

home could now play and move more freely around in the community. The project aimed to engage the community in efforts to reclaim and keep clean public spaces parks in their community. The youth group developed a collective system of being vigilant and monitoring these public spaces and civic facilities to weed out any form of misuse.

Many girls in the meanwhile learnt how to cycle, participating in public events and going out on field trips within and outside Delhi.

### Cycling: increased mobility

Due to poor transport connections and long distances to the secondary school in Madanpur Khadar, many girls dropped out of school after Class VIII. The provision of cycles to the girls enabled them a new sense of independence and mobility and an assurance to their parents for the need to rejoin school. More than 100 girls took to the cycle due to Jagori's efforts and they also take their mothers as pillion riders for grocery shopping.

### iii) Exploring notions of safety through innovative forms of communications:

The young people have painted the walls of the parks with slogans and messages such as 'Ho har kaam mein sajhedari, Yeh purushon ki bhi zimmevari' (there is need for equality and active participation of men). Bringing out wall graffitis and magazines and widening the outreach of the library has resulted in building creative spaces and discursive hubs for reflection attitudinal biases, and challenging gendered roles and norms and entrenched patriarchy. The young women brought out a wall magazine - Hamari Baatein - on a quarterly basis featuring issues of child marriage, anti-dowry, domestic violence, etc. The copies of these wall magazines

were pasted on the walls in different areas of the neighbourhood and evoked much community interest. They used the community radio for scripting new messages and theatre forms to explore themselves, their bodies thus addressing critical issues.

### 2) Developing Competencies and Leadership Development:

#### i) Peer learning processes:

The core group from the first phase of the project led the second phase in the subsequent communities. Two youth groups - Shakti Samooh (girls) and Dostana Samooh (boys) of 60 members emerged as young leaders. They engaged with other peers, transferred their skills and knowledge through community outreach and neighbourhood contact programmes, library services, campaigns, safety audits, field trips, skill building trainings and mentoring. Intensive household visits and area contact programmes were undertaken by the JAGORI community team in all seven blocks of Madanpur Khadar comprising more than 8000 households thus reaching out to over 2500 young people in the age group 13-20 years (see chapter 3 for more details). Discussions were held on relevant social and gender issues and information booklets on safety and prevention of sexual harassment were distributed. Through field visits to historical sites and museums they

### Weekly meetings with the youth

Every Wednesday the youth group met at the JAGORI office for a twohour workshop. They dealt with a wide range of issues - understanding gender, notions of masculinity and sexuality, anti-dowry, alcoholism and domestic violence, rights of dalits and minority groups.

Special sessions were held on body literacy, menstrual hygiene, reproductive and sexual health. Issues of disability were also discussed. Drug use and its



impact on health; and loss of one's control over oneself was another critical area.

Through creative forms - theatre, dance, movement, and poster making many of these issues were further analysed. Legal literacy workshops on women's rights and human rights were also held.

In one of the drawing workshops, participants depicted their daily lives with concerns about growing alcoholism, how to survive in a kuchha house or a temporary shelter and how to work towards greater security for their family members. They expressed keenness in having greener environment and protecting open areas.

It was also interesting to note that their aspirations included learning the computer and owning a car.

were able to imagine how a city could be shaped and become inclusive and respectful of diversity. They also began to question notions of citizenship and governance.

### ii) Increased self confidence and improved self esteem:

Following a deeper understanding of safety and harassment issues, boys/young

men reported that they had stopped such harassment. Most of them reported positive changes in their attitudes such as - respecting girls and women, not using gender discriminatory foul language, being more understanding towards their mothers and supporting and speaking at home for their sisters' increased mobility and freedom. The girls on their part indicated that they had become much more assertive,

### Boys and Young Men are re-defining their notions of manliness and multilayered masculinities:

Working with boys was indeed a challenge, but, well worth it!!

Establishing a relationship of friendship and equality was the only way to get them involved.

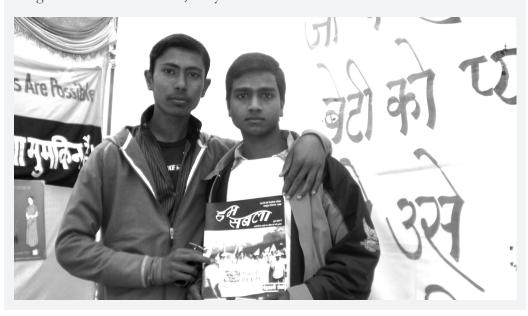
Earlier, boys used to carry blades and knives with them occasionally and neighbourhood fights were common. They admitted to whistling and passing lewd comments at girls, and said they did not know that this was a form of 'violence'.

Through this process, the boys valued the space created for their reflections and analysis. With a greater understanding of gendered discrimination, they are confident about sharing their new found understanding with other friends in the neighbourhood and school.

They do not want to waste time hanging around anymore, having learnt to respect others and be more sensitive as well as talk to people of all ages.

As far as changes in the community are concerned, they observed that harassment has reduced and girls can go out alone now.

Further, they also felt that with the increasing community vigilance, some streets/lanes are cleaner now and people are more careful about disposal of garbage in the bins and not on the streets.



open to ideas of negotiating life on their own terms, challenging and dealing with resistance within their families, pursuing their interest in higher studies, defying their parents against pressures of early marriage and taking up public stands in the community. The young people are now part of searching for a solution and raising their voices at home and in the community against prevalent notions of safety, security and mobility heightened by the differentiated gender experiences.

The process is still on... the work for changing and challenging normative behaviours related to gender roles and identities is a continuous and dynamic process. The momentum built during the project period needs to be sustained and they need further mentoring and support for maturing their processes of learning and acquiring competencies to deal with complex gender issues.

### Girls/Young Women now have wings and voices

The body language, articulation of desires and aspirations by the girls/young women has distinctively become assertive and rejoicing of their youthful vigour.

In an end review exercise, when asked to prefix an adjective to their names, almost all of them articulated empowering and positive changes such as - Samajhdar (wise) Sahista, Bahadur (brave) Kusum (sensitive) Simran, Natkhat (naughty) Nisha, (smart) Suneeta, (right) Rama, (superfast) Sunita, (intelligent) Reena and so on ...

Leadership competencies has grown by leaps and bounds: and they have unhesitatingly snatched opportunities that have come their way, whether in gaining legal knowledge and information on gender equality; going for inter-state exchange visits; taking leadership in organising cycle-rallies and other public events in the community; turning the image - of shy, unassuming girls, dispossessed of their rights and enjoying their public persona – on its head!



Two young women leaders Geeta and Lalita (both 17 years of age), have successfully completed their Class X studies from a distance learning open school programme, after being forced to discontinue earlier due to family circumstances with the effort of Jagori.

They are now undergoing a para-legal training by Jagori so that they can begin to support social and legal issues faced by the women in the community. They were also the first among the young people to learn how to undertake a safety audit and thereafter train others.

Last year, Lalita successfully managed to struggle against efforts of an early marriage proposed by her family. Through ongoing negotiations with her family she has continued to work as a researcher-activist in the Jagori project.

### Proud parents confirm positive changes

Focused group discussions with parents of youth and community members indicated that the confidence and knowledge levels of their children, especially daughters, had increased in the short span of time.

Almost all of them said that their daughters were more confident, able to move out alone and interact with boys/young men in the community.

Parents also noted the increase in knowledge and confidence of young people.

In particular, they mentioned that the radio programme training was a wonderful unique effort. They were keen that this process be continued.

Among the key issues identified by parents and the community was the need for a sewer line, well lit streets, cleanliness in the parks, clean drinking water and arresting sexual assault and violence in the public transport and public spaces in the community.

### iii) Campaigns and Public Advocacy

More than 175 youth and women from the community joined the Jagori team in the 2010 Delhi Half Marathon. The participants ran to raise awareness of the need to build safer, more inclusive cities and to end violence against women. This act of public advocacy was important because it demonstrated to a wide audience that women's safety is an issue in which members of low-income communities are crucial stakeholders. For young women from Madanpur Khader, participating in the marathon was important because it provided an opportunity to dialogue with family members about their role as highly visible advocates working outside of

their immediate community on behalf of women's safety.

# 3. Communication Strategies: Using multi media and technology for community action

### i) Use of Information, communications and technology

ICT is seen as a strategic intervention in building a repertoire of skills in traditional media forms such as theatre, wall writing, and reading clubs and through nontraditional media, such as community radio, community based film making and video documentation. With this wide repertoire





of tools, the youth experienced a sense of positive power and being in control of their lives. They were both subject and object; maker and influencer, actor and creator and all of this resulted in a great deal of enthusiasm facilitating their active engagement with development issues from the lens of an observer as well as that of an activist.

The young team were trained in street theatre, developing radio scripts, video documentation, film making, photography and learning to upload pictures and images on You-Tube.

With the support of One World Foundation, a communications strategy was developed using narrow-casting radio technology as well as via mainstream radio. A team of 15 young boys and girls were trained in the production of radio

programmes and digital stories in popular formats on key issues such as security in schools, carrying mobile phones, etc. They developed a vocabulary of gender, safety and rights. They also learnt to broadcast, narrowcast and cablecast them locally. Nine radio programmes were produced and aired on leading national radio and FM channels (HTTP://EDAA.IN/ATOWSA/ABOUTEDAA).

The feedback in the form of sixty SMS messages were received and indicated much appreciation for the programme (see feedback report annexed).

### ii) Video documentation and film making

One World Foundation organised a video camp for 7 days for the ten core group members to introduce them to the

video technology and media tools for advocacy. Four groups focused on issues of women's safety in the community such as, drug abuse, women's health, safety in community toilets and sexual harassment, scripted and shot a two-minute video. This was further reviewed and voiced over and edited for finalisation. These videos were reviewed by experts from One World, Jagori, Sangat and Anhad Media for final versions (see: CD annexed). A short film, titled, "Ek Nayab Koshish" (http://www. youtube.com/watch?v=66sqjzo7g0s) was also produced with technical support from Anhad Media Group and focuses on access to safe schools, safe water, health and sanitation services, public toilets, roads, etc.

#### iii) Theatre and movement:

Theatre exercises and voice modulation was a consistent activity undertaken since 2009. Through a four week theatre workshop 16 youth (boys and girls) were trained on different aspects of theatre. The young members gained new confidence and explored hitherto unexplored issues shrouded in silence. They explored the notion of spaces – how to be inclusive and respectful. They gained a new sense of identity and respect in the community, as they presented their plays before their audience during the March 8th - Women's Day celebrations. November 25th – International Day to end Violence



against Women in different blocks of their community.

Three short plays scripts were developed during the month long workshop covering issues of safety of girls and role of men/boys in ending against women. One final script, "Mera Faisla" was developed and performances held at different community platforms

### 4. Critical sensitization of key stakeholders:

### i) Building linkages and Alliances:

Partnerships were systematically built with a diverse range of stakeholders from the state and civil society agencies. The experience of the youth was widely shared at several national and international fora. Prof. Kiran Walia, the Hon'ble Minister of Health and Family Welfare and Women and Child Development, Delhi Government acknowledged at the Third International Women's Safety Conference (November 2010), the excellent work being done by Jagori in Madanpur Khadar for creating strong community voices from the ground on young women's safety and appreciated the changes being brought about.

- O A number of stakeholders from Department of Education, Delhi Transport Corporation, the Bhagidari cell of the Government Delhi, Delhi Development Authority (DDA), Delhi Slum Wing Department and the Delhi Police were consulted and briefed about the key issues and alternative solutions offered by the women and youth led initiatives of the project. Advocacy and communication materials along with safety audit survey reports from this project were also shared with the Commissioner Slum Wing of Delhi.
- O In addition, the experiences of the community, tools and safety audit methodology of this initiative were also shared widely with several civil society organizations comprising women's agencies, men's groups, legal and human rights groups, and other

- urban development organizations. A presentation was made on this project at the national training workshop held by Jagori in August 2010 and the recently concluded Third International Conference on Women's Safety November 2010. Representatives of the Huairiou Commission from about six countries, UN Habitat and Women in Cities International visited the project and interacted with the community and youth during the public launch of the community programme on November 25, 2010.
- Jagori also undertook a training with 50 Instructors of the Delhi Transport Corporation on Women's Safety and used the audit findings from this project and the earlier learnings with the youth to feved into the content development and to showcase changing nature of masculinities and changes possible (See: http://jagori.org/training-of-dtc-instructors-safe-delhi-for-women/'s).
- O The community youth team has become proficient in mobilizing public opinion and raising concerns regarding the lack of civic amenities in the area. The team has built good local level networking with the local authorities such as the police, local area legislators, civic health, water and sanitation agencies, local transport sector, state development and municipal authorities

in making them aware of the issues and taking appropriate actions. In this regard, regular interactions were held with the local Park Management Authorities, relevant district officials, community representatives operating in the neighbourhoods and local CBOs and NGOs, so as to ensure that they are held accountable and become responsive to the issues raised. Jagori established good working relations with the local legislator, members of the Resident Welfare Association, Gender Resource Centre, so as to engage them in this critical issue.

- O The youth group members participated in approximately 30 events and socio-cultural programmes organized by the local community leaders. Each one of them got a participation appreciation certificate and 5 of them have won prizes.
- O Khadar youth members were trained in computers by CASP Plan, another group 15 members trained in vocational and livelihood skill training conducted by ITASHA and 7 others trained by Agargrami on health issues.
- O Three networking meetings with the NGOs (Goonj, ITASHA, CASP Plan, Agragami, IFRA, Sahayog, Aurobindo Memorial, Aag and Mobile Creches) working in Khadar were held for

- deepening and unifying efforts of community development.
- On International Women's Day event on 8th March coordinated by Jagori all major local CBOs and NGOs participated along with more than 200 community members. For the November public hearing and public celebration event, more than 600 members participated.

# ii) An emerging model of grass roots advocacy for the public policy:

Jagori has been actively representing the young people's voices for improved urban planning and design of public spaces especially in congested urban spaces inhabited by the urban poor.

- O In a recent policy advocacy initiative, the Madanpur Khadar young leaders presented their key issues at a Thematic Consultation on the Approach Paper for the XII Five year Plan process of the Planning Commission.
- At another initiative, JAGORI joined hands with a Citizen Forum: CWG Nagrik Manch Rozi Roti Aavas Khel (Livelihood, Shelter and Play), and a state level civil society initiative: 'I want to Play Campaign', which was aimed at building a sporting culture

for the youth during the recently held Commonwealth Games in Delhi. The campaign also advocated with the government for a long term plan for sports and development facilities for the young people in poor urban sites in Delhi. A joint charter of demands was presented to the Chief Minister of Delhi in which the youth team members were also represented.

• As part of the 16 Days Campaign on Violence Against Women, a two day public event was organized in the community on 25- 26th November, 2010 where more than 600 women, men, young boys and girls from the community participated. On the first day, there were cultural and theatre programmes presented by the youth group and an interaction of the women's collectives with a visiting delegation from the Third International Safe Cities conference held in Delhi by Jagori and WICI. On the second day, an open public forum was organized comprising a panel of eminent personalities from the Police, (Ms. Geeta Rani,) Deputy Commissioner of Police, South East Delhi; Social Jurist, Ashok Agarwal; Secretary of Mahila Mandal, Khadar, Ms. Bano; Ms. Sunita Rani; a member from the Domestic women worker's group; Mr. Dunu Roy, a social activist working for the rights of the urban poor;, a local political

leader, Mr. Musharraf and a member each from Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the Park and Garden Society. The public meeting provided a good opportunity for a direct exchange between the community members and the civic and law maintenance authorities on issues of accountability and rights (see box for more details).

# 5. Monitoring, Knowledge building and Documentation processes:

The processes of the project were meticulously documented and reviewed on a daily basis by the youth team. They maintained reports of workshops, meetings, monitored maintenance of the park and the dispensary, garbage removal and drain cleaning patterns, and all relevant activities. An external reviewer monitored the progress and provided timely feedback on a monthly basis. Monthly Progress reports were maintained and monthly visits paid to the field area. Monitoring tools used were participant observation methods, focused group discussions and meetings with the field staff and interviews with some of the youth leaders.

Creative review exercises were undertaken using the following methods:

O Create a poster or collage to demonstrate the changes and learning

#### Mahila Suraksha Ki Ore Badhte Kadam

An Open Public forum for voicing concerns on public safety and lack of civic amenities in Madanpur Khadar, November 25-26, 2010

Take some time out and read what the law says. I will help you to read the laws. You are not begging from anyone; you are asking for your rights.

-- Dunu Roy, Coordinator, Hazards' Centre Does the government want to do anything? Or does it want us in a state of perpetual / permanent dependency?

-- Madhu, Youth Project Coordinator, Jagori

I request all school-going children to write a post-card a day for one month to me or the Education Department and I assure you things will be done to improve your situation.

-- Ashok Agarwal, Social Jurist

Why do we have such bad civic facilities when we are being forced to live in far flung poor areas?

Deepa, member,
 Youth Project, Jagori

The community members complained to the concerned civic and law authorities about overflowing open drains, insufficient, non-functional and unclean toilets, poor street lighting, poor garbage disposal facilities and ill-maintained roads. The women and men also voiced concern over security in the area. They were worried about petty crimes like thefts, drug and alcohol consumption-related fights, and fights with neighbours.

In response to a very articulate community members, the representatives of the civic and municipal bodies and the political leaders sought to assure that many of the genuine concerns were genuine and they would try to address some of the issues related to law and order problems in the area and provision of civic amenities which are safe and accessible for the women and girls.

- Perform a short skit and act out
- O Write a poem or song to demonstrate and create a story to describe
- O Developing youth profiles as case studies and individual life stories of the peer youth leaders.
- O Listing exercises of priorities and actions in the community.
- O Interviews with the team, coordinator and select NGO partners.

Fifteen profiles of the young leaders were developed after extensive one to one interactions based on a structured questionnaire. Video Documentation was undertaken of all major activities in the project. A 14 minute film, Ek Nayab Koshish was also produced by the community youth.

### Key Highlights of the Appraisal Process:

O 70 youth (40 girls and 30 boys) participated in various appraisal exercises. The participatory monitoring and evaluation tools were designed through a capacity-building effort and measured qualitative aspects of success and changes demonstrated in individual attitudes and norms.

- Three broad indicators were used for measuring project outputs: knowledge awareness building, capacity development and advocacy participatory tools used such as creative writing, drawing and collage making, theatre, listing and scoring interviews and focus group discussions. The following questions were raised: assess changes in understanding notions of safety; how it affected their lives in this period of time; changes in interactions between the boys and girls (specific to girls experiencing harassment); and changes in the physical infrastructure - usage of parks, improvements of lights and other basic services due to their activism. The SOAR (strengths, opportunities, aspirations and results) framework was used to gain insights into core factors and values.
- Three poster collages, a short story, titled "Nai Asha", a poem, "Jagori mein mila gyan" and two short skits were thus developed in this process. These creative outputs authentically demonstrated the changed perception in the youth due to increased knowledge and awareness. Their creative outpourings were aspirational, ambitious and forward-looking with a broader world view where they saw themselves as active and involved citizens in an informed and knowledge based society. Key words used by

# Poem created by the youth group "Jagori mein mila gyan"

Jab bhi Main Jagori mein Aaaya
Hamesha Apne ko naya Paya
Ghar mein maine vichaar lagaya
Jagori mein maine use bhidaya
Ghar- ghar ke batein hui anek
Jagori mein aakar hui ek

Radio programme chala kai mahine

Suraksha aura tam nirbharta ki batein karti behen

Cycle se cycle hamne chlaiye

Ek doosre ki himmat badai

Computer ka gyan mile

Awarenss se sanmaan mile

Chimney ke dhuen se deho bhara hua aakash

Paryavaran ka is tarah hua Naash

Andhere se leke nikle chiraag Gaye naye naye sabalta ke raag

- them related to joy, freedom, dignity, knowledge, equality, participation, friendship, and confidence.
- O Their creative expressions portrayed the changes in their understanding of the notions of safety, gender relations and making public spaces accessible and inclusive for women and girls. The ease with which the youth handled the creative tools indicated positive gains of the project and their new found confidence.
- appraisal The creative exercises highlighted sharp contrasts in the gendered perceptions of boys and girls with regard to prioritization of issues, needs and solutions. Boys identified with roles of rigid and powerful male decision makers in the family, portraying stereotypical gender attributes and the girls performed with ease the submissiveness and non-questioning attributes stereotypical of women. However, one of the girl protagonists decided to challenge this genderdivide and resisted her stereotyping in a passive role. Thus the hold of
- patriarchal and machismo attitudes of boys is still strong, even though they have seemingly become more gender sensitive and aware of discrimination faced by women and girls in their families and society. In their moments spontaneous expression, articulated their gender biases and girls revealed their fears and vulnerabilities. There is therefore much work needed to constantly nurture and sustain an environment promoting gender equality and equity, as the larger forces are always maintaining the status quo, and continue to offer alternate role models to boys/men as partners in prevention of gender based violence.
- O The skill building processes in communications remains at a nascent stage and it enabled the break-down of gender barriers between boys and girls and in gradual changes in behaviours. Friendships among boys and girls were viewed with healthier lens and not caught into narrow traps of sexualities and gender binaries, or the binary of hegemonic masculinities.

### **Excerpts from the review findings:**

Listing was designed as a small group discussion: The exercise brought forth the following:

- There was a marked difference between what men and women were doing in public spaces.
- The boys/young men listed men's work as selling merchandise, child labour, studying, playing cricket, ludo/ badminton, gambling, loitering, indecent gesturing, whistling, standing idly in groups, talking on the mobile and indulging in cigarette smoking or taking drugs.
- Most common activities voted by the group for boys/men included standing in groups, staring and whistling and passing lewd comments and engaged in smoking/ drinking/ drug abuse in public.
- Most common activities voted by the group for girls and women's use of public spaces related to bringing ration for the family, fighting at the common tap for collecting water, doing manual labour, selling vegetables, dropping children at the school and going to the public toilet.

The group perceptively commented that the list of activities in which the men engaged seemed leisurely, non purposive, non constructive and self indulgent, whereas women's work and presence in the public space seemed hurried, purposive and linked to either her family responsibilities or fulfilling economic productive role.

In listing solutions to the problems above, girls and boys were unanimous in having more toilets constructed exclusively for the use of women and girls, in addition to the better maintenance and access of the existing toilets for them.

In the decreasing order of importance, they asked for a greater role and presence of the police in maintaining the law and order and ensuring safety for all, thereafter, a self regulatory safety measure was given by the boys, of not standing idly on the road side.

Third in the list of safety measures was to increase awareness though public education and use of mass media such as showing films against sexual harassment and doing street plays in the community.

Source: Review findings, Jagori 2010

#### SECTION 3

### **Key Results and Impact of the Initiative**

This section outlines the key outputs and outcomes of the project. For quantitative measuring of the outputs of the project the following indicators were used:

- 1. Awareness and sensitization:

  Number of gender equal and safety messages given by the youth team in the community; number of youth reached out in the community, number of initiatives undertaken for sensitization of the key stakeholders.
- 2. **Capacity Building:** Number of youth leaders trained on safety audit methodology; Number of youth

- trained in using theatre, community radio, making films and video documentation.
- 3. Advocacy: Number of initiatives taken by the community stakeholders, other CBOs and concerned government authorities on safety, health and gender based violence; number of initiatives in policy advocacy and improving the implementation of the government programmes and services.

**Key Outputs:** As seen in the table below this was an intensive process with several learning, mobilisation and other sessions.

Activities	Number of youth reached	Age group 12-21 years	Girls Age group 12-21 years	Key achievements	Documents, A.V communication tools, and reports produced	
	Awareness and sensitisation building					
Area	2500	750	1750	Successful coverage of		
contact				geographical area comprising		
and				all 7 blocks of the		
outreach				resettlement area.		

Activities	Number of youth reached	Age group 12-21 years	Girls Age group 12-21 years	Key achievements	Documents, A.V communication tools, and reports produced
Galli (lane/ corner) meetings	137		137	House to house intensive outreach and mobilisation, specifically of girls/young women accomplished.  Informal neighbourhoods groups of girls formed. Every interaction was for two hours and included discussions and sessions on violence in the family, sexual harassment on roads, readings from the	Monthly monitoring reports
Library	550			books on empowerment, etc.  More than 250 Books, novels, newspapers, illustrated short story collections, classic Indian literature and poetry books read along with informative books and materials distributed on issues concerning sexuality, health and gender to add to their repertoire of knowledge.	Monthly library log book
			Capac	ity development	
Cycling	112	-	112	112 girls learnt cycling for the first time, enabling them to reclaim public spaces in the neighbourhoods and increasing confidence.	Monthly cycling log book

Activities	Number of youth reached	Boys Age group 12-21 years	Girls Age group 12-21 years	Key achievements	Documents, A.V communication tools, and reports produced
	15	7	8	Youth group members developed scripts for the national radio channel, Rainbow FM. Five of them undertook three live air programmes at the radio station on women and safety. 11 sessions held to develop skills for radio programming.	Consolidated process report - One World Foundation; CD ROM of radio scripts developed; SMS feedback reports provided by the radio channel
Theatre and	14	6	8	38 sessions held by theatre experts, on several gender related issues. One street- theatre script (21 minutes) prepared and two shows titled, "Mera Faisla" (It is my decision) performed in the community.	Consolidated theatre workshop report; Bound script of the theatre production, "Mera Faisala"
Gender	291	100	191	35 workshops held over this period covering a gamut of issues of multiple identities, urban poor, gender and sexuality, bodily integrity, menstrual health, HIV and dealing with addiction, and campaigns for 33% reservation for women in Parliament.	Monthly monitoring reports

Activities	Number of youth reached	Boys Age group 12-21 years	Girls Age group 12-21 years	Key achievements	Documents, A.V communication tools, and reports produced
Film making	15	6	9	Youth members conceptualized the film, prepared script for a 14 minute film depicting their work on issues of women's and girl's safety, inclusion and empowerment of the poor urban communities in partnership with One World Foundation and Anhad Media - " Ek Nayab Koshish" ( A Unique Effort).	CD of the film
Safety Audits and Maps	37			8 safety audit walks undertaken in 7 blocks. 5 training sessions held with an architect and 8 neighbourhood maps developed.	Safety audit reports and maps in printed form
	60	20	40	A core group of peer educators and motivators have emerged from this process, equipped with approaches/tools for community mobilization and communications.	Case studies of 15 peer educators profiled as motivational stories for leadership development

Activities	Number of youth	Boys Age	Girls Age	Key achievements	Documents, A.V communication tools,
	reached	group	group		and reports produced
		12-21	12-21		
		years	years		
	1	Α	dvocacy	and alliance building	
	15			Actively participated in	A charter of
				the advocacy campaigns	demands presented
				of civil society - "I want	to the Chief
				to Play " during the	Minister by the
				recently held Common	NGO Platform for
				Wealth Games in Delhi.	ensuring attention
					to the issues of
					marginalized
					including green
				A community public	spaces and parks.
				hearing successfully	
				organized in November	A report of the
				with community	public hearing.
				members, representatives	
				of the government	
				agenciesmore than 300	
				people, community	
				leaders, police and	
				renowned civil society	
				activists to highlight issues	
				of access to basic services	
				and rights and safety.	
				8th March celebrated in	
				the community led by the	
				youth.	

### **Key Outcomes**

The initiative has been successful in creating an enabling environment to advance the work on safer and inclusive cities for women and girls in Delhi. The project has resulted in large scale mobilization of people, especially youth, in an urban poor settlement of Delhi with a population of more than 1.5 lacs.

Peer to peer learning was an effective approach and the young girls and boys used the new acquired lens of safety and inclusion for analysing issues of marginalisation and discrimination vis a vis gender roles and relationships. They gained confidence to articulate their issues on public platforms and demonstrated that they too could deal with them at a personal level.

The project raised awareness amongst the community on:

- O Critical Perspectives of enlarging their right to safety and security in the city; willingness to take risks and move around more often in puble spaces and to go to work; the right to a city which they can hope to re-shape, participate and re-claim their sense of citizenship.
- O The formation of an active core group of more than 100 youth as

change makers, who have undergone a journey of reflection and learning, including negotiating equitable and non-violent relations. Deepening their understanding of rights based perspective and addressing sexual harassment and violence faced by the women and girls in the community.

- O Many young boys/men undertook a pledge of not using gender discriminatory foul language, being more sensitive and understanding towards their mothers and supporting their sisters' increased mobility and freedom of expression.
- O Girls/young women feel better equipped to deal with and speak out against sexual harassment on the streets and violence inside their families.
- O Community awareness has increased perceptibly and is demonstrated by the conversation and arguments around it and through breaking the silence and not being pushed to hide issues of violence against women.
- O In the context of growing urbanization, the initiatives in this project have been effective in catalyzing policy attention to the issues of negligence and apathy in the community and in enabling initial partnerships with many agencies to look into gender-sensitive

infrastructure, programming and political change.

#### **Conclusions**

Impressive strides were made in Madanpur Khadar with the youth and women in raising awareness to address gender based violence, sexual harassment and developing women-friendly spaces. A wide spectrum of young people has been reached out to through multi-faceted project strategies for crossing barriers and breaking gender divides. This Initiative has paved the way for building community-led responses for improved urban planning, access to public and civic services especially in congested resettlement areas inhabited by the urban poor. However, the insights gained from this journey points out to the need for a much deeper, long term, nuanced and comprehensive interventions at the community level to address issues of deeply ingrained notions of masculinities and femininities prevalent in society. There is need for much collective organising and synergy building amongst the various institutional efforts at the local level. A long term vision and plan needs to be developed by the community and local governance structures strengthened.

While the common perception of Delhi as a city of exclusion was shared by the community and the youth group, poverty and lack of opportunities clearly emerged

as an important axis intensifying their vulnerabilities. The alarming level of 'normalization' of violence experienced by women and girls at all times of the day and night, and virtually in all kinds of public spaces, underlines the flawed architecture of the community and city spaces and the gender insensitive attitudes of the governing institutions (Jagori GIC report 2010).

What emerges from the experiences of the girls and young women is not only the fear of violence, but the feeling of exclusion and lack of confidence in the agencies that are supposed to ensure their safety. The development of Delhi as a 'world-class city' has made their lives more insecure, as they see amenities focused in exclusive zones and outside the ambit of their area.

The audits in the community also brought to the fore a number of factors that play a role in creating safer spaces for women and girls. These include better planning and design of public spaces such as roads, bus stops, parks and public toilets. Some recommendations included proper lighting, better design of pavements, presence of vendors and designated spaces, and well-designed male and female public toilets. The glaring lack of public toilets for women and the sorry state of toilets in the community are a strong indictment of the state of services in the city and the community.

The research findings from the Jagori studies have clearly shown that a comprehensive set of interventions and programmes are needed to address the issue of women's safety and inclusion - such as urban design and planning, provision of services, policing and law enforcement, community involvement and awareness building for men, women and youth. Creating safer cities for women and girls needs to be put firmly on the agenda of a wide range of stakeholders including local and national governments, service providers, police, educators and communities. What the research has demonstrated is the wide range of issues involved and the need for a multi-strategic and multi-stakeholder approach.

The Safe Delhi Campaign undertaken by Jagori and Department of Women and Child Development, Delhi Govt. in partnership with UNIFEM and UN Habitat has identified seven broad areas for interventions in the short, medium and long term. These include:

- O Urban planning and design of public spaces
- Provision and maintenance of public infrastructure and services
- Public transport
- Policing
- O Legislation, justice and support to victims
- Education
- O Civic awareness and participation.

The findings of this initiative in the community along with other research and data, will feed into planning initiatives and interventions in partnership with other key stakeholders – both state and civil society – to ensure that women's safety and gender inclusion are addressed.

JAGORI ('AWAKEN, WOMEN') is a women's documentation, training and communication centre with the aim of spreading feminist consciousness to a wider audience using creative media. Established in 1984 Jagori is rooted in the experiences of the Indian women's movement with a vision to *help build a just society through feminist values*. It defines its mandate as building feminist consciousness through identifying and addressing the capacity-building, information and networking needs of women, particularly those belonging to oppressed groups in rural and urban areas.

**Mission Statement:** To deepen feminist consciousness with diverse stakeholders at the national and local levels through advocacy, perspective-building and supporting struggles against human rights violations of women and generating new body of knowledge.

### Our Objectives

- Action research and production of creative feminist materials
- Consciousness-raising and leadership development on women's rights and gender equality
- Supporting women's struggles against all forms of violence ensuring access to safety, dignity, justice and rights
- Creative campaigns and educational materials on key feminist concerns to respond
  to the programming and resource needs of women's groups, community and field
  organisations, media and development organizations
- Advocacy and Networking to enlarge and claim democratic spaces and strengthen women's movement building efforts

