

Population First

10th LAADLI
MEDIA & ADVERTISING AWARDS
FOR GENDER SENSITIVITY
SUPPORTED BY UNFPA

(Regional Awards)

Media Partner



laadli

Celebrate Her Life
An Initiative by Population First

Supported by



Friday, November 20, 2020
Live on YouTube

FOREWORD

The *Laadli* Media and Advertising Awards for Gender Sensitivity celebrate inclusive and sensitive media which promotes diversity. Here we are, once again, presenting you a glimpse of the regional award winners from 10 languages who have written and produced thought provoking, insightful and compassionate stories and content.

In these Covid-19 times, we were apprehensive about the response we would receive to the call for entries. But we were in for a pleasant surprise. We received 1200+ entries. I thank all those who sent their entries during these difficult times. I can understand how much effort it would have taken to send in entries during the lockdown period.

A big thank you to our jury members for taking the time out to go through so many entries meticulously to select the winners. What is heartening is the passion and commitment of our jury members who ensured that only the best are rewarded. Hearty congratulations to all the winners.

I am happy to share that 36% of our award winners are men which shows that men are equally interested and capable of writing stories through a gender lens. It is not the responsibility or prerogative of women journalists alone.

While there are many repeat winners, indicating that many winners are consistently writing from a gender perspective, there are many very young journalists writing amazing stories with lot of passion. This gives us hope.

Responding to the Covid-19 situation and the need to look at the crisis through a gender lens, this year we have granted 17 fellowships in 10 languages to journalists from 13 States for writing on Covid-19 pandemic through a gender lens. The stories written were amazing, providing insights into issues which generally do not get explored in mainstream media.

We are also happy to share with you that we have commissioned four short films to address the stigma and marginalisation of people during Covid-19 times. The films will be premiered soon.

The pandemic has brought to the fore the fissures in our social fabric and it is the responsibility of the media to identify, and expose those to ensure action to address them.

It was wonderful to have, Ms. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, National Commission for Women as our Chief Guest, who emphasised the need for media and the NCW to work together to stop stereotyping, violence, discrimination.

Our heartfelt thanks to Pandita Anuradha Pal for her special performance at the event.


We would be remiss if we did not say a big Thank You to UNFPA for funding the media advocacy initiative and our Media Partner PLUC TV for putting the event together.

The awards would not have been possible without the hard work and meticulous follow-up by my team- Malathi, Mrinmayee, Pooja, Sneha, Venu, Swathi, Shiny, Sangita and Asha. I also thank our regional coordinators- Ritu Motial and Harita Talati for their support.

Stay Safe, Stay Blessed.



Mr. S. V. Sista
(Executive Trustee)



Dr. A. L. Sharada
(Director)

NORTHERN REGION



PRINT | SERIES OF ARTICLES | HINDI

NEETU SINGH

'ANKAHI KAHANIYA' | GAONCONNECTION.COM

The print campaign by Neetu Singh portraying stories of women who inspire and who act as role models for others, is relatable. The wide range of topics covered, their topicality as well as their interest quotient makes Neetu Singh's work tremendously newsworthy.

PRINT | EDITORIAL | HINDI

JAHID KHAN

'MAHILAON PAR BHARI GANNE KI KHETI' | DAILY NEWS

Jahid Khan's editorial focuses on the exploitation of the women farm labourers of Beed district in Maharashtra who work in the sugarcane fields and sugar factories. These women are forced to undergo hysterectomy to avoid economic loss for both the labourers as well as the employers. Facilitating this inhumane practice are hospitals which have now come under immense public and government scrutiny.



PRINT | FEATURE | HINDI

MEENA

'RAP KI DUNIYA MAIN MAHILAYEIN' | JANSATTA

Meena presents an in-depth look at the profile of Indian female rappers, their journeys as well as aspirations. She highlights their contribution to represent the female experience in this art form which represents the voices of the marginalized and the oppressed. Meena's article is detailed with interviews and quotes from various female artists.

PRINT | NEWS REPORT | HINDI

PREMVIJAY PATIL

'DIVYA NAHI KAREGI AB MAJDOORI, PADHAI KARNE KI CHAH HOGI POORI' | NAI DUNIA

This is a story that touches upon the evils of child labour, and discrimination between the girls and boys in the context of education and nutrition. First and foremost, the responsibility of any nation is to provide its children with a purposeful and quality life and prepare them for a better future. Premvijay Patil's article presents all aspects related to child labour and discrimination.



WEB | ARTICLE | HINDI

NEETU SINGH

'AAP NE MAHILA DOCTOR, ENGINEER KE BARE ME SUNA HOGA, EK HANDPUMP MECHANIC SE BHI MILIYE' | GAONCONNECTION.COM

Treading the path of the male dominated workforce in the village of Raipura, Shivkaliya Devi faced everything – mockery from men to the community's mindset rooted in age-old traditions of gendered stereotypes – on her journey to become the hand pump mechanic. Neetu Singh weaves the tale of Shivkaliya Devi's odds and opportunities and the hope it represents to the rural women of Chitrakoot.

WEB | BLOG | HINDI
VIKAS TRIVEDI
'AURATEIN KIS EK CHEEZ SE AZAADI CHAHATI HAI? #DIGITALTRASHBIN' |
BBC.COM



Vikas Trivedi presents an in-depth look at what women want freedom from. He asks the pertinent question of what should be chucked in the trash bin and the answers are as varied as the women and girls he interviewed; from discrimination, catcalling, alcoholism, defecating in the field, rioting, terrorism to insistence on long hair, and cooking, domestic violence and narrow mindedness.



WEB | FEATURE | HINDI
JYOTI YADAV

'MOL KI BAHUEIN: HARYANVI MARDON KE EHSAN TALE DABI AURATEN JIN KI APNI PEHCHAN KHO GAYI' | THEPRINT.IN

A gut-wrenching feature on 'purchased wives' of Haryana – a state still known for its lowest sex ratio and shortages of brides. Jyoti Yadav's analytical perspective on trafficked women from outside for marriage in Haryana, depicts the drudgery of these women in their matrimonial homes – a place where language, cuisine, culture, customs are unlike their own. Through this article Jyoti Yadav also questions the hypocrisy of Khap Panchayats' long held belief and diktat of racial and caste purity.

WEB | INVESTIGATIVE STORY | HINDI
NEETU SINGH

'KHABAR KA ASAR: GANGRAPE KA AAROPI NAYEEM GIRAF TAR' |
GAONCONNECTION.COM



Neetu Singh's investigative report brings to the public the relentless pursuit for justice by the HarDOI gangrape survivor and her family and highlights the excesses of the powerful misusing their position. This story of pain and anguish written sensitively, invokes empathy. It has led to pressure from various sections of society forcing the authorities and police to take action!



WEB | NEWS REPORT | HINDI
RITIKA ROY

'CHILDREN OF WAR' KI YAAD DILATI HIBA NISAR' | NEWSLAUNDRY.COM

Through the story of Hiba Nisar, an 18-month old daughter of an apple orchard farmer, Ritika Roy presents an unbiased and factual reportage on the real life of Kashmiri children surrounded by conflict and uncertainty. Ritika Roy immerses the readers in the story of Hiba and Shahadat, her brother, thus informing and simultaneously creating awareness regarding the on-ground realities that could motivate the stakeholders into action.

PRINT | FEATURE | ENGLISH

SAURABH DUGGAL

'RUGBY GIVES WINGS TO TRIBAL GIRLS FROM IMPOVERISHED BENGAL VILLAGE' | HINDUSTAN TIMES



This human-interest story by Saurabh Duggal is full of ups and downs but the one that breaks all kinds of stereotypes especially of gender. The charming and compelling story of these young Adivasi girls from Saraswatipur reminds us that Rugby - a game of brute force played by men, can be nothing but a game if the right opportunity and desire is cultivated.

PRINT | INVESTIGATIVE STORY | ENGLISH

DIVYA GOYAL

'PUNJAB: THE INVISIBLE DRUG ADDICTS' | THE INDIAN EXPRESS



Divya Goyal has written a timely investigative tale of Punjab's notorious drug problem affecting women – as first-hand users themselves. From male partner influence, domestic violence to alcohol addiction, addiction to drugs while selling and sex-work, the reasons are varied. And Punjab's 'war on drugs' – a skewed approach to solving the drug problem by focusing on the male victims, is not helping either.

PRINT | NEWS REPORT | ENGLISH

NEHA SHARMA

'OSTRACIZED KASHMIRI SURVIVOR GETS JUSTICE AFTER 15 YEARS' | TIMES OF INDIA



Neha Sharma's detailed and dedicated reportage of a young Kashmiri woman's 15-year journey to convict her rapists in the high-profile 2006 Kashmir Sex Scandal case, presents an anatomy and landscape of what a rape survivor may go through to get justice. The report is factual, presented with clarity and responsibility and from various legal perspectives.

ELECTRONIC | NEWS REPORT | ENGLISH

RUNJHUN SHARMA

'BOY CHILD ABUSE IN GOVT. RUN SCHOOLS' | CNN NEWS 18



Runjhun Sharma's investigative piece has brought to the fore how schools – a sanctuary and safe space – have often become places for sexual abuse and harassment by seniors especially of young boys, thus, leaving them traumatised. This report is timely and well-crafted; and is likely to shake the school authorities, principals, and teachers out of their stupor of negligence and ignorance into addressing and responding to such incidents.

WEB | E-MAGAZINE | ENGLISH

LACHMI DEB ROY

'FAKING VIRGINITY: DO WOMEN NEED TO BLEED TO SHOW THEY ARE 'PURE'?' | OUTLOOK MAGAZINE



Lachmi Deb Roy's article highlights how products that allow women to fake an intact hymen and their virginity – are complicit in encouraging regressive attitudes around female sexuality and women's agency. This is an in-depth and bold feature that provides perspectives from feminists and doctors, on the conversation around virginity, notions of purity and honour associated with it, and women's right to bodily autonomy in India.

WEB | FEATURE | ENGLISH

NIDHI JAMWAL

'WHO MOVED MY VILLAGE?' | GAONCONNECTION.COM



A thoroughly researched feature on the rising tides and its impact on the lives of people across the Sundarbans in India. Loss of livelihood due to submergence of land forces men to migrate seasonally leaving women behind to bear witness to the inching tides every year. Nidhi Jamwal's detailed article is simple, precise and gives the full picture of the history of disappearing land in the Sundarbans, while touching upon the present and the future of its women.

WEB | INVESTIGATIVE REPORT | ENGLISH

NEETU SINGH

'FIRST INFORMATION REPORT DOES NOT MENTION RAPE: LUCKNOW HORROR' | GAONCONNECTION.COM



Neetu Singh's investigative report deals with the attitude of police in dealing with rape survivor from Lucknow. The story talks of revictimization that the survivor has gone through at the hands of the police while filing the FIR. The wrong filing of the case by omitting the actual crime of rape and trafficking, and registering only bailable offenses further added to the woes of the survivor.

WEB | NEWS REPORT | ENGLISH

FATIMA KHAN

'THEY SAID NO ONE SHOULD CRY, BUT THEN BROKE DOWN — HOW UNNAO VILLAGE MOURNED 'RAPE' VICTIM' | THEPRINT.IN



Fatima Khan's story is a detailed report of how the Unnao rape victim who fought to get an FIR registered against her alleged rapists was burnt alive and how her body was brought home amid massive politicization. This disturbing story describes how such crimes are often hijacked into political turbulences, rendering the victims and their families' incapable of successfully fighting for justice or mourning in peace.

WEB | OP-ED | ENGLISH
ANKITA ANAND
'TRAVEL & THE FEMALE BODY: WHY THAILAND IS A SAFE SPACE FOR MY SKIN' | THEQUINT.COM



Ankita Anand's op-ed is a personal account of her travels to Thailand. The absence of constant fear of being harassed, stared at, hear lewd comments, or face inappropriate touching during her travels in Thailand, reminds us of how far we are from attaining such freedom in our country. True freedom and emancipation of women can only be felt if women are able to travel without fear.



PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | HINDI
AMITABH PANDEY
'MADAT MAANGTI MAHILA HELPLINE' | LOKSAMADHAN

With the increasing incidences of violence and assaults on women, a stable and operational women's helpline and other efforts such as special women police patrolling teams become imperative. Amitabh Pandey's article explores the various attempts and interventions put in place to aid the safety and security of women in Madhya Pradesh and also critically analyses them, thus presenting a full picture.

WEB | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | HINDI
DAYA SAGAR
'YEH GAON HAI MISAAL, WI-FI, CCTV CAMERA AUR SHIKAYAT KE LIYE WHATSAPP GROUP' | GAONCONNECTION.COM



Daya Sagar's story is one of celebration and positivity! This is a story of Prakashini Jaiswal, a Gram Pradhan from Uttar Pradesh who has taken it upon herself to bring in technology to address the community development and safety issues of girls and women. From digitising schools, providing CCTVs, and creating WhatsApp groups for registering complaints to successfully accessing government run schemes and funds, this young woman has become a force to reckon with.



WEB | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | HINDI
SWATI SINGH
'LADKIYON KE LIYE AAJ BHI BURA SAMJHA JATA HAI NURSE BANANA' | FEMINISMININDIA.COM

Nurses in a small village in Bihar need to be married to undertake delivery cases or talk about contraception – at least that is the mindset of the villagers. Family and relatives of nurses do not really consider nursing as a worthy occupation. Swati Singh writes about women battling these misconceptions and stigmas attached to a noble cause of serving the people.

PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

ANKITA ANAND

'MEN, BE ALLIES, NOT APOSTLES OF EQUALITY' | DECCAN HERALD



This opinion piece takes further the conversation between women and men over equality for all sections of the human race. That sounds grandiose but as we see in life every day, patriarchy still rules. Ankita Anand argues for men to give up their chains of patriarchy and superiority, and speak to women and for women, not from 'imperious' heights but as equals, as one of all of us.

PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

LACHMI DEB ROY

FEATURES | OUTLOOK MAGAZINE



Lachmi Deb Roy has covered a range of topics sensitively, from gender pay gap in industries in India to Pink Tax, to future of gender studies in India as well as celebration of gender fluidity in the fashion industry, thus showing her understanding and wide perspective on gender attitudes and problems across various spectrums. She shows promise as a writer.

PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

MAJID MAQBOOL

'KASHMIR THROUGH THE FEMALE GAZE' | THE HINDU MAGAZINE



Majid Maqbool, in his *Kashmir Through the Female Gaze*, has brought the women photojournalists – a category of journalists all too often forgotten – in his frame, and for this, the feature gets a special mention. Travelling and capturing the lives of people across the state, these women have managed to tell stories that are not easily accessible.

PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

SAFIENNA NABI

'KASHMIR TRANSGENDERS: TRAPPED IN WOMEN BODY' | TEHELKA MAGAZINE



The transgender world is consumed by transwomen and their problems, but transmen are largely ignored. Safienna Nabi's feature breaks that trend and focuses on women in conservative communities in Kashmir who want to change their gender.

PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

TARA CHETTUR

'SEMI NOMADIC ANTI - CHILD MARRIAGE CRUSADER CHALLENGING STEREOTYPES' | THE HITAVADA



This short news report is compelling and heartening and thus receives special mention. The feature profiles not just a brave young woman but also one who takes on discriminatory and dangerous community practices of child marriage head on despite being its victim. People like Shabnam Angaria are the light for millions of such girls and women across India. Tara Chettur's profile highlights how these young women can make a difference and change the world!

WEB | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

ADRIJA BOSE

'BETWEEN MASAAN AND MOKSHA' | NEWS18.COM



A powerful feature on the Dom community of Varanasi who aided the process of moksha by burning the funeral pyres. While their job allows them to travel to the ghats of Ganga, the women are relegated to the insides of their home and community – tradition supported by women themselves. Adrija Bose's feature looks at the lives of the women from across generations and presents the contention between strongly held traditions and dreams of the new generation.

WEB | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

DITI BAJPAI

'NO. YOU CAN'T ABUSE IN THIS VILLAGE. YOU WILL BE THRASHED OR CANNED' | GAONCONNECTION.COM



This story tells us about a Sarpanch who has taken a sensitive step of banning cuss words denigrating women in order to de-escalate tensions and quarrels. He found great support from the women who implemented the ban vociferously every time a culprit is found. Diti Bajpai's identification of such a unique story from the hinterlands of Haryana reminds us that a desire to change is not limited by the privilege of education and class.

WEB | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

KANCHAN SRIVASTAVA

'JAL SAHELIS QUENCH THE THIRST OF PARCHED BUNDELKHAND' | INDIA.MONGABAY.COM



When a group of women came together to become 'Jal Sahelis' – friends of water, 200 villages across Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh revived water harvesting structures and traditional water bodies through community mobilization and participation which led to water and food self-sufficiency. Kanchan Srivastava's story of these women water warriors' highlights the untapped potential of empowering women through participation in developing a sustainable and secure life.

PRINT | FEATURE | HINDI
RAVISHANKAR UPADHYAY
 'BIHAR KE TRANSGENDERON NE APNI KABILIYAT SE BANAYI PEHCHAN' |
 PRABHAT KHABAR



Transgender community has been traditionally stigmatized, marginalized and excluded by the society and system, and still struggles to be recognized as an equal citizen by the constitution. The article presents the challenges and the success of transgender persons in Bihar, thus breaking the stereotypical presentations. Ravishankar Upadhyay's language adds dignity to the efforts of this community to create a space for themselves in the society and advocates for their rights.

PRINT | INVESTIGATIVE STORY | HINDI
GURU SWARUP MISHRA
 'AISE KHATM HO SAKTA HAI MANAV TASKARI KE KALE DHANDHE KA
 KHEL' | PRABHAT KHABAR



An investigative report on a serious issue in Jharkhand – human trafficking. The article is detailed and analytical, focusing on challenges and exploitation at source and destination points, lack of data regarding human trafficking and some key recommendations. Guru Swarup Mishra's article is sensitive and comprehensible to the key stakeholders engaged in combating trafficking and the readers in general.

PRINT | NEWS REPORT | HINDI
PUJA SINGH
 'YE DAAG JARURI HAI' | PRABHAT KHABAR-RANCHI



Menstruating women still face many social, cultural, and religious restrictions which are a big barrier in the path of menstrual hygiene management. The lack of focus on these issues in our newspapers and negligible coverage of Menstrual Hygiene Day also indicates the dearth of focus. Puja Singh's report presents menstrual hygiene issues with facts, figures and perspectives from healthcare professionals and stakeholders.

WEB | BLOG | HINDI
SAUMYA JYOTSNA
 'GANDE AUR BIN PANI KE SHAUCHALAYON KI WAJAH SE MERI DOST KO UTI HO
 GAYA' | YOUTHKIAWAAZ.COM



This is a story of Saumya and her friend and a story of many women in our country who still require one basic thing that makes life easier – clean sanitation facilities. The unavailability of such facilities leads to serious health issues and this article acts as another reminder. A good example of connecting larger issues with lived experiences and appealing for action.

WEB | FEATURE | HINDI

MD. ASGHAR KHAN

'BATTERY WALI GAADI KE JARIYE JEEVIKA TALASHTI TEEN MAHILAYEIN' |

BBC.COM

Asghar Khan presents an inspiring story of three women who made their livelihoods by driving e-rickshaws in Ranchi. The stories of Santoshi Munda, Janaki Munda and Suman Devi are varied but have one under current – a desire for better life for themselves and for their families. Their challenge includes disdain from fellow men e-rickshaw drivers.



WEB | INVESTIGATIVE STORY | HINDI

MD. ASGHAR KHAN

'BALATKAR KE BAAD JANMI BACHCHI KI KEEMAT 15 HAZAAR?' |
NEWSLAUNDRY.COM

This is a harrowing tale from Jharkhand of rape a survivor from a marginalized community who was left pregnant and her conspicuously missing daughter. The story is investigated with much responsibility and maturity by Asghar Khan. The silencing of the survivor by both the families – that of the accused and the survivor's, a pay-out by the family of the accused, the sale of the infant and silence on its fate, the inaction of the police and certain members of the community leaves many questions unanswered.



PRINT | EDITORIAL | ENGLISH

CHITRALEKHA BARUAH

'UNSCRIPTED MONOLOGUE' | **THE ASSAM TRIBUNE**

Chित्रalekha's topical editorial focuses on the pervasive criminal act of sexual harassment of girls. It explores perspectives from social and feminist angles, and also examines steps taken by regulatory bodies and policy makers. The editorial has deftly woven facts into its analytical insight.



PRINT | FEATURE | ENGLISH

ANURADHA SHARMA

'SILENT SHADES OF THE TEA LEAF' | **FOUNTAIN INK MAGAZINE**

A comprehensive, well-researched and insightful feature on the women working in the tea estates of Darjeeling. The article not only compiles facts related to the background, protests, living and working conditions of women, but gives thoughtful and sensitive insights from their perspective. Anuradha Sharma's feature is well-written and captures the ambience of the hills as well the women's lives.



PRINT | NEWS REPORT | ENGLISH

FARHANA AHMED

'ESCAPING SEX-SLAVERY IN ARUNACHAL PRADESH, WOMAN AWAITS JUSTICE!' | THE ASSAM TRIBUNE



Farhana presents a searing and heart-breaking report of a young woman who escaped from the clutches of her oppressor. The report stands out for revealing the startling condition of the young woman who was trafficked and made pregnant by the age of 13, the distressing details of her life, and the big picture of sex-slavery of young girls and boys especially from marginalized communities from Assam in the hinterlands and tea plantations of Arunachal Pradesh.

WEB | FEATURE | ENGLISH

RINI BARMAN

'WRAPPED IN THE POPULARITY OF ASSAM'S MEKHELA SADOR ARE STORIES OF LOST DIVERSITY' | SCROLL.IN



Rini Barman presents a feature on the women weavers of Assam, the history of the weaving tradition, the gradual increase in popularity of the traditional garb – Mekhla Sador, over the years, and the consequent decline in diversity of design and symbolism. She highlights the overall disappearance of the skills and mode of livelihood for the women of Assam.

WEB | INVESTIGATIVE SERIES | ENGLISH

URMI BHATTACHERYYA

'CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE' | THEQUINT.COM



Urmi Bhattacheryya's series of articles on Chhutki, the 8-month-old baby who was raped in Delhi are heart-breaking. These nine stories take us through the journey of the child and her parents. Represented sensitively and yet in a hard-hitting manner, the stories are a cry of the reporter to help the people in her story. This series led Urmi Bhattacheryya to do a second podcast series on now-adult survivors of Child Sexual Abuse.

WEB | NEWS REPORT | ENGLISH

CHERRY AGARWAL

'AN ANATOMY OF OP-ED AND EDITORIAL PAGES' | NEWSLAUNDRY.COM



Cherry Agarwal's op-ed is a research-based report on the lack of representation of women journalists on editorial and op ed spaces in leading and reputed newspapers. This report is also substantiated by leading voices of women in journalism. It is rare that journalists look at their own profession to ask difficult and uncomfortable questions. Cherry's piece holds up a mirror to her own profession.

WEB | SPECIAL EDITION | ENGLISH

RINI BARMAN

'CROSSING BORDERS AND SINGING EROTIC DESIRES IN BHAWAIYAA FOLK MUSIC' | ZUBAANPROJECTS.ORG



Rini Barman's essay on *bhawaiyaa* people is an exploration of the voice of *bhawaiyaa* women as they express their rebellion against patriarchal control over their bodies and their desire. Subversive in intent and expression, the songs range from themes of elopement, transgression of relational boundaries and an erotic sexuality. These songs are read both as control and resistance by the essayist.

PRINT | FEATURE | ASSAMESE

ALAKANANDA SREEKUMARI KOKATI

'MUKALI AKASHOR TOLOT' | AMARASOM



Alakananda's feature focuses on a group of rural women who are engaged in different income generating activities, which indicates their desire for financial empowerment. However, lack of information and knowledge on organising and mobilising resources to achieve financial independence presents the reality of our rural women across the country.

PRINT | NEWS REPORT | ASSAMESE

DIGANTA SARMA

'SAMAJIK BADHA ATORAI LINGA SAMATAR BHETI NIRMAN' | SADIN



Dignata Sarma's news report highlights the life and struggle of a group of women vendors who make their 80-90 km long journey to sell vegetables on the newly constructed Dhola -Sadiya bridge leaving early in the morning only to return after dark. Diganta's detailed report on women's unbreakable determination and support of their husbands and families, makes it an inspiring read.

RADIO | COMMUNITY RADIO | ASSAMESE

REETU GOGOI

'ANGANA' | RADIO JNAN TARANGA 90.4 FM



Reetu Gogoi's audio programme takes us to the remote village in Sibsagar district of Assam where Kalyani Gogoi is encouraging other women in her village to adapt the practice of rearing Muga silkworms of the acclaimed muga silk sarees. Muga silk has been facing multiple challenges from climate change and development activities to policy negligence. Reetu Gogoi weaves the tale of the efforts and struggle of Kalyani Gogoi with brilliance and nuance.

PRINT | FEATURE | BENGALI
ANWESHA BANERJEE

'SHARIR BECHBE STREE, TAKA PABE SWAMI' | EI SAMAY



This is a story of hereditary profession of women prostitutes in Dharampura located on the outskirts of Delhi. The feature provides an in-depth look at this practice and its people – their commitment to this tradition as well as the exceptions who have distanced themselves. Anwesha Banerjee's story tells us about many women who are not unhappy or dissatisfied with this custom, highlighting the extent to which they have internalized the social values.

PRINT | OP-ED | BENGALI
SUKANTA SARKAR

'AALOR POTHE JATRA BA RANGIYE TOLAR GALPO' | EISAMAY



Sukanta Sarkar presents a positive and empowering story from Bangshihari, buzzing with various activities through a women's organization called Aalo – an organization that imparts basic education and vocational training like tailoring, imitation jewellery crafting, and other handicrafts, to women. As a result of these small-scale businesses, the socio-economic status of the women is improving. A well-researched piece, Sukanta Sarkar's article is filled with optimism.

PRINT | BENGALI
JINAT REHENA ISLAM

'CONSISTENT WRITING ON GENDER ISSUES' | ANANDABAZAR PATRIKA



Jinat's range of stories include diverse portrayals of women. From depiction of women in films to the plight of Kashmiri women, she raises a number of critical questions despite having no connection to journalism and media in her profession. One example of her articles is about women police stations that refuse to admit complaints from women, highlighting the roadblock women face in getting justice.

PRINT | EDITORIAL | ODIA
RUDRA PRASANNA RATH
'JHIA JADIKALI' | DHARITRI



Rudra Prasanna focuses on the quintessential Indian obsession with fair skin. He has emphasized the point that while this mindset is common among both men and women, a man is not viewed with the same derision for being dark. Presenting the undeserving importance given to complexion and its influence on the marriage market especially for women, Rudra Prasanna's writing is a reminder to introspect.

PRINT | FEATURE | ODIA

RUDRA RANJAN SEJPADA

'KAHA PADE GHUNGURA, KAHA HATE TABLA' | SAMBAD



A story of proud parents, Rama Chandra and Swarnalata Puhan of Balasore and their Pancha Ratna (Five Jewels) – also an arts organization run by their five daughters – is a beautiful profile of a family that valued its five daughters, supported and brought them up as any child should be. This inspiring story by Rudra Ranjan is a reminder that many such positive stories exist in our country which should be celebrated.

PRINT | NEWSREPORT | ODIA

BIJAYA DWIBEDI

'BHABI SWAMYRA PHERIBA BAATAKU CHAHIN RAHIBAKU PADUCHI ABIBAHITA...' | THE SAMAJA



This story highlights the plight of girls from Dongria Kondh tribe of Niyamgiri Hills from southern Odisha. Betrothed to boys as soon as they are born as per centuries-old customs, often, they are left in a lurch in their adulthood when the boys choose another partner. Bijaya's depiction of the lives of these young girls and the age-old discriminatory tradition is a reminder that gender issues cut across every section of the society.

ELECTRONIC | TOPICAL ISSUE BASED PROGRAMME | ODIA

SUPRIYA DASH

"RAHA" KALA JHIA NUHEN KI SUNDARI' | NAXATRA NEWS



In a country fixated with fair skin, especially for girls, and a culture that endorses the popular fairness creams, the issue is rarely discussed in its entirety. This sensitive yet candid discussion of the issue by Supriya Dash explores the various historical, social, and cultural facets of the fixation with fair skin, the inferiority complex it breeds among dark girls and the consequent sense of low self-worth.

WEB | BLOG | ODIA

AKHAND

'AJANA SABA DAHA KAHANI, UDAHARAN RUTURANI' |
INDIAMEDIACENTER.WORDPRESS.COM



This is an inspirational story of Raturani Samal who entered the male bastion of cremating bodies despite many hurdles. What makes it even more poignant is that she was rescued by a good samaritan from attempting suicide as a result of marital discord. Akhand's lucid writing style takes the readers on a journey of Raturani's life as she breaks the gender barriers.



PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | HINDI

SAUMYA JYOTSNA

'IZZAT AUR MARDAANGI KE SAHI MAAYNE' | PRABHAT Khabar

A short yet poignant article that brings to light how patriarchal mindset often permeates into our language often to the detriment of both men and women. The article focuses on how patriarchal structure sanctions hegemonic masculinity and associate's family 'honour' to women and girls' bodies. Saumya's Jyotsna's article questions this deep-rooted patriarchal structure in a language that resonates across society.

ELECTRONIC | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ODISIA

SHATARUPA SAMANTARAYA

'MALISAH NA MAULA FALA' | ETV BHARAT.COM



This is a unique and important story that focuses on the lives of the sex workers past their prime. The story through the words of the sex workers themselves, depicts the pain, the neglect and contempt they endure after being forced out of the trade due to age. The personal accounts further humanize their ordeal. Shatarupa Samantaraya's story attempts to shed light on the further marginalized members of an invisible community.

WESTERN REGION



PRINT | HINDI | FEATURE

AMIT BAIJNATH GARG

'AAZAAD BHARAT MEIN SABSE JYADA 'GULAM' | KHUSHBOO DAILY NEWS

The feature focuses on the various forms of modern-day slavery that still exists in India. It underscores issues such as bonded and forced labour, sex trafficking, child marriage, and child labour. It highlights statistics published by the Walk Free Foundation stating India by far has a large number of 'modern slaves' and provides insights and analysis on the spectrum of modern-day slavery in India.

PRINT | HINDI | NEWS REPORT

VARUN BHATT

'PAHAADO KE BEECH PAHAD SI ZINDAGI, MAHI KE LAHRO SE BEHTI HAMARI MALALA' | RAJASTHAN PATRIKA



An inspiring report that explores the hardships faced by girls in accessing education and their aspirations to continue schooling despite the difficult geographical terrains in a remote village in Banswara. It provides a detailed account of the complexities related to girls' education and their aspirations to soar higher despite the challenges. The story also provides statistics on the increasing enrolment of girls in schools in this mountainous region.



WEB | HINDI | E-MAGAZINE
PREETI AGYAAT
'BHAAGTI HUI LADKIYAN' | HASTAKSHER.COM

Preeti Agyaat provides a complete picture of the social and cultural barriers faced by girls and their inability to articulate their concerns affecting their decision-making abilities. It is about girls who elope with their partners and the dilemma they face as they are unable to muster the courage to speak about their choices. By providing references of renowned sportswomen, the article motivates girls to get inspired and urges readers to provide girls with an enabling environment to express themselves freely.

WEB | HINDI | FEATURE
SHIRISH KHARE
'SUBAH HONE MEIN ABHI DER HAI' | PAHAL.COM

Shirish Khare highlights the discriminatory behaviour towards marginalized women owing to their caste, class and economic status. The sensitive narration of the stories of Rajau, Mira and Geeta brings to light the various dimensions of their vulnerabilities like, being subjected to violence and rape due to their socio-economic status as well as the fear and embarrassment associated with such incidents. It also emphasizes the fight of a woman against the patriarchal norms and the compromise of another fearing patriarchy and societal norms.



PRINT | ENGLISH | CAMPAIGN
AHMEDABAD MIRROR
'BIKER WHO MOLESTED GIRLS'

Through a series of reports, the campaign brings forth the misdeeds of a biker who groped unwary teenage girls. It emphasizes on the stigma associated with such incidents. Through the regular posts by its reporters, Ahmedabad Mirror was able to encourage other teenagers who were similarly molested by the man to come forward and lodge a complaint. It was also followed up with the authorities concerned to bring to book the perpetrator of the crime, and justice to the aggrieved.

PRINT | ENGLISH | FEATURE
RAKSHA KUMAR
'THE SUPER WOMEN FROM HIMACHAL SHOW WHY EMPOWERED WOMEN MAKE FOR AN EMPOWERED COUNTRY' | THE HINDU

An exciting narrative on how women of a far-flung village in a mountainous district of Himachal Pradesh could help themselves by balancing an all women enterprise making jams along with household chores. Bhuiira Jam Factory, a powerful and an inspiring story of women empowerment along with creation of flexible family and community structures, indicate social inclusion furthering gender equality. It subtly presents the nuances of the gendered roles being challenged and rewritten.





PRINT | ENGLISH | NEWS REPORT

JYOTI SHELAR

'A HARVEST OF CRUSHED HOPES: WHY NUMBER OF HYSTERECTOMIES ARE HIGH IN MAHARASHTRA'S BEED DISTRICT' | THE HINDU

The report highlights the plight of the migrant women labourers in the sugarcane belt in Maharashtra's Beed district and neighbouring state of Karnataka, where scores of women have been forced to undergo hysterectomies. The report analyses the rate of hysterectomies in Beed as compared to the rest of the country and the reasons for the same. The factors include long working hours in the fields without adequate sanitation facilities, mounting debt, and pressure from the employer. The restrictions these factors impose on child bearing and child rearing, forces women to undergo hysterectomies, compromising their health and reproductive rights.

WEB | ENGLISH | BLOG

SAGAR GALANI

'I AM A MAN AND THIS IS HOW 'KABIR SINGH' IS DAMAGING TO ME' | FEMINISMININDIA.COM

Sagar Galani brings forth the disturbing portrayal of the protagonist in the movie Kabir Singh, which normalizes toxic masculinity in the guise of dealing with love. Although the theme of the film is love and addiction due to loss of love which resonates with the youth, it depicts a violent, controlling behaviour by the male protagonist which promotes toxic masculinity. The blog challenges the stereotypical representation of misogyny in the film.



WEB | ENGLISH | FEATURE

JYOTI SHINOLI

'NO CRIME, UNENDING PUNISHMENT' | RURALINDIAONLINE.ORG

Jyoti Shinoli in her feature describes the plight of an invisible section of the society 'The Pardhi Community' who still carry the stigma of being branded a 'criminal tribe' and remain among the most deprived in terms of access to education, employment and other amenities. She highlights how despite the efforts of the government to denotify the tribes or some social groups working with them to overcome cultural biases and get them educated, the atrocities continue.



WEB | ENGLISH | INVESTIGATIVE STORY

ROLI SRIVASTAVA

'MISSING WOMBS: THE HEALTH SCANDAL ENSLAVING FAMILIES IN RURAL INDIA' | NEWSTRUST.ORG

Roli Srivastava unfolds the issue of higher prevalence of hysterectomies in rural India which are promoted by service providers. It sheds light on the various strategies used by the service providers that compel uneducated women to undergo the procedure. The nexus exploits schemes created to safeguard emergency health expenditures and lure patients into it even when medically unwarranted. The investigative rigor exposes the medical malpractices through several case studies and builds the case for urgent action.





WEB | ENGLISH | RADIO-FEATURES
KUNAL PUROHIT
'THE NIGHT SHIFT' | THESWADDLE.COM

The podcast series skilfully chronicles the lives of four women in Mumbai working at night – a cab driver, a bouncer, a bar dancer and a home guard constable. It draws attention to the way the women have been challenging the stereotypical norms and patriarchal mindsets as they go to work each night. The highlight of the series is the grit with which these women have ventured out despite the initial resistance and fear, and have asserted their will to continue with their jobs against all odds.

WEB | ENGLISH | SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN
#GROWNUPGIRLS
AGENTSOFFISHQ.COM

Agents of Ishq, through its innovative social media campaign #Grownupgirls, underscores a range of issues that girls reaching adulthood deal with such as love, exploration of sexuality, education and career dreams. The multimedia project motivates girls to speak about what matters in their lives. This has been done through the use of interactive and relatable messages instead of designing the educational campaign as merely preachy and moralistic.



PRINT | GUJARATI | COLUMN
HARSH MESVANIA
'SIGN-IN' | GUJARAT SAMACHAR

Harsh Mesvania in his column narrates several inspiring and heart-warming life sketches of women who defied societal norms to pursue their passions and dreams. He cites examples of Ada Lovelace – Mother of Modern Computers who emerged successful even after being abandoned by her father, Teejanbai, for singing Pandavini despite being from the Pardhi tribe, Rukmani Devi for pursuing her interest in dance and many others. The column provides an insight into the challenges faced by women and how they were overcome.

PRINT | GUJARATI | FEATURE - MAGAZINE
DR. MAHESH SHAH
'KINNARONI KARUN KATHNI' | CHITRALEKHA

Dr. Mahesh Shah draws from an academic research report by a student and unravels the issues in the lives of transgender persons. Through an interactive pictorial story 'Tale of the Third', the student tries to create awareness about the transgender community, and beseeches the society to be inclusive as well as create an enabling environment for them.





PRINT | GUJARATI | FEATURE - NEWSPAPER

AMITA A. MEHTA

'MAHILA SARPANCHO HAVE DORVATI NATHI DORE CHHE' | SANDESH

The article highlights the positive changes brought about by empowered Mahila Sarpanches in the rural areas of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Odisha. The elected women representatives in the story are no more proxies for their menfolk. They have defied the odds while changing the perception about women and their own sense of identity. The heartening stories depict their leadership skills in trying to improve the lives of others in the village.

PRINT | GUJARATI | INVESTIGATIVE STORY

VAISHALI DAVE

'AHMDAVAD NI MAHILA POLICE KARMIOMA NUTRITION NI MATRA OCHHI' | GUJARAT SAMACHAR PLUS



Vaishali Dave reports on a survey done by the Ahmedabad Medical Association on the health of the female police force of Ahmedabad. Although the force seemed healthy, iron deficiency was identified as one of the major issues that needed to be addressed. The story presents an insightful analysis on the specific health issues of women in the police force and builds a strong case to invest in their health.



ELECTRONIC | GUJARATI | SPECIAL EDITION

DR. MAULIK C. SHAH

'U-TURN' | YOUTUBE

Dr Maulik projects the deep-rooted mindset of son preference and underlines the struggle of a woman from an affluent family to exercise her choice during pregnancy. The feature depicts the intense pressure borne by a woman who is a gynaecologist, for a son from her family and the impactful portrayal of her fight against patriarchy, and her right to choose.

WEB | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH

RAKSHA KUMAR

'INDIAN WOMEN ARE ABANDONED BECAUSE OF MENTAL ILLNESS' | BBC.COM



Raksha Kumar elucidates the plight of women suffering from mental illness in India that includes abandoning by families, and lack of support due to the stigma associated. It highlights the abysmal state of mental health facilities, and the inability of the human resource at these facilities to care or treat mentally ill patients. It emphasizes the need for readily accessible mental health care. The article cites statistics related to the prevalence of mental illness in India and the reasons for abandonment of women.

SOUTHERN REGION



PRINT | ENGLISH

LAXMI PRASANNA AJAI

'CONSISTENT REPORTING ON GENDER ISSUES' | TIMES OF INDIA

Laxmi Prasanna Ajai strives to capture the diverse dimensions of gender issues ranging from child sexual abuse to short stay homes for transgender community, recognizing legitimate rights for the LGBTQ community, and gender justice for women and children through the Neetham campaign in Kerala. It also focuses on health issues such as neonatal mortality rate and steps to curb it. Additionally, the reports bring to fore some of the success stories on addressing gender issues as well in Kerala.

PRINT | ENGLISH | FEATURE - MAGAZINE

CHATURA RAO

'SCHOOL OF HARD KNOCKS' | CARAVAN

Chatura Rao portrays the realities and struggles of juvenile boys living in observation homes, (Umerkhadi observation home) either due to being in conflict of law, or having been abandoned, rescued or orphaned. Rehabilitation and reintegration into the society for boys staying in these homes becomes difficult due to the lack of social support and stigma associated. The feature emphasizes on the importance of behaviour change and understanding the circumstances of the boys as well as sensitization of those in the judicial system.



PRINT | ENGLISH | FEATURE - NEWS PAPER

URMILA CHANAM

'A COMMUNITY AWAITS ELECTRICITY AND HEALTHCARE FOR 39 YEARS' | THE PEOPLE'S CHRONICLE

Urmila Chanam sheds light on the pitiable living conditions of Ukhrul, a remote village in Manipur, which include lack of access to healthcare, electricity, education, and government schemes meant for women, girls and children. She exposes the government's apathy in providing basic amenities in this village. Women and girls' health are accorded least priority with Ukhrul having poor infrastructure and limited awareness regarding menstrual hygiene issues and water and sanitation hygiene practices.



PRINT | ENGLISH | INVESTIGATIVE STORY

SUMIT BHATTACHARJEE

'ARAKU VALLEY'S DARK SECRET' | THE HINDU

Sumit Bhattacharjee in his detailed reportage delves deep into the human tragedy of sex trafficking of tribal girls and women in Visakhapatnam district. Through personal narratives, he reports on the modus operandi of the criminal enterprise, and factors such as financial distress and the promise of employment leading to increasing vulnerability of women into sex trade. The report highlights the steps being taken by government authorities and NGOs to address this issue, and the need to look at it holistically.





PRINT | ENGLISH | NEWS REPORT

KRITHIKA SRINIVASAN

'CHILD MARRIAGE: WAKE UP TO CERVICAL CANCER RISK, SAY TAMIL NADU DOCTORS' | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Krithika Srinivasan underscores the issue of child marriages and its correlation with cervical cancer and other sexually transmitted infections in Villupuram, Tamil Nadu. The informative report captures stories of women who were child brides and the detrimental impact it has had on their health. The limited awareness on the need for regular screening for reproductive health issues adds to the increasing rate of cervical cancer prevalence. This report also illustrates the efforts taken by the government to address the same.

WEB | ENGLISH | BLOG

TANVI SINHA

'UNHAPPILY EVER AFTER: THE COST INDIAN WOMEN PAY FOR OUR LOWEST DIVORCE RATE' | WOMENSWEB.IN



Tanvi Sinha breaks the myth of the glorified Indian family, and provides an in-depth understanding of the social and cultural barriers for the low divorce rate in the country. The blog exposes the aspect of family's honour being built by the suppression of women in the family. It highlights the social stigma and the lack of support from the society which compromises the dignity of the woman when she chooses to live alone after divorce.

WEB | ENGLISH | E-MAGAZINE

SHRUTI SHARADA

'THE SEXUAL VIOLENCE OF FLASHING, AND THE PROBLEM WITH SAYING, "IT COULD HAVE BEEN WORSE!" | WOMENSWEB.IN



Shruti Sharada brings forth the issue of sexual violence of flashing in public places, and its deeper ramifications on the victims. It is a problem less talked about, yet it leaves a deep psychological impact on girls and women who also delay seeking help. The feature attempts to find out the rationale for such behaviour by men, which include claiming public spaces as male spaces, and considering it a sacrilege for women to exist in these spaces.

WEB | ENGLISH | FEATURE

GEETIKA MANTRI & SHIBA KURIAN

'HOW PATRIARCHY FORCES BOYS WHO SURVIVE SEXUAL ABUSE INTO YEARS OF TRAUMA, SILENCE' | THENEWSMINUTE.COM



The feature underlines the impact of sexual abuse on boys and the damage caused by patriarchy to both men and women. The social conditioning which forces male survivors of sexual abuse to remain silent, affects them deeply even later in life. It narrates the experiences of sexually abused survivors and its impact on their mental well-being. It urges the readers to acknowledge the issue and find ways to strengthen the existing systems. It also underscores the need for more research on the issue.

SOUTHERN REGION

ELECTRONIC | MULTILINGUAL | TOPICAL/ISSUE BASED PROGRAMMES

VASANTHI HARI PRAKASH

'KARNATAKA POLL EXPRESS: WOMEN DEMAND FREEDOM, WATER AND TOILETS' | YOUTUBE-THE WIRE



The video narrates the ordeals of women which include lack of access to basic amenities such as water, toilet and freedom from gender stereotyping in Karnataka. It tries to voice the concerns of women from minority communities and marginalized sections during the 2019 Lok Sabha election campaign, and narrates how elected representatives have failed them. It also depicts the apathy of the governing systems to understand the ground realities and challenges faced by women while implementing welfare schemes.

PRINT | MALAYALAM | FEATURE

NILEENA ATHOLI

'SAAKSHARA KERALATHILE BHARTH RUBALSANGANGAL' | MATHRUBHUMI DAILY



Nileena Atholi through her feature exposes the issue of marital rape and the associated patriarchal mindsets of the society in Kerala. It shares the narratives of marital rape, encapsulating the experiences of women, irrespective of their socio-economic status. The narratives are corroborated with statistical inputs while also discussing the issue of under reporting or non-reporting due to the blatant expressions of patriarchy. It calls to recognize marital rape as a legal offence and adopt a gender lens while addressing it.

PRINT | MALAYALAM | INVESTIGATIVE STORY

NIZAR PUTHVANA

'AYITHA KUDILUKAL' | MADHYAMAM DAILY



Nizar Puthvana's feature unveils the discrimination against women during menstruation in Kerala. The incorrect practices of a menstrual hut to quarantine women during their periods, or consumption of contraceptive pills to delay periods, compromise their health and safety. It depicts the existing societal prejudices that consider menstruation a taboo, and builds a strong case to work towards addressing these age-old beliefs and traditions.

PRINT | TAMIL | FEATURE

BRINDHA SRINIVASAN

'INNUM ENNA MICHAM VAITHIRUKKIROM KUZHANTHAIGALUKKU' | THE HINDU TAMIL



Brindha Srinivasan provides a detailed reportage on the sexual offences against children, corroborated by the NCRB data. She lists the factors responsible and steps that can be taken to prevent and protect children. The feature lays emphasis on redefining gender equations at home, while reinforcing the need for early sensitization of boys and girls to sex education to create a safer environment for them in the future.



WEB | TAMIL | FEATURE

NANDHINI VELLAISAMY

'THANNEER NOIMAIYAL ADHIKARITHU VARUM PAALINA ASAMATHUVAM' | HINDUTAMIL.IN

Nandhini Vellaisamy shines the spotlight on gender in the context of water fetching responsibilities and its impact on women in Tamil Nadu. Through first hand experiences of women from different age groups and regions, the story tells us the hardships faced by women which include losing out on education, opportunities to work, as well as economic independence, because of social conditioning that fetching water for the house 'is a woman's job'. It also makes a powerful case to change gendered mindsets, gendered roles and domestic prejudices.

ELECTRONIC | TELUGU | FEATURE

TV9 TELUGU

'BASIVINI DURACHARAM: ANAGANAGA OKA OORU'



The feature unravels the struggles of women (Devadasis or Basivanis) in the interior areas of Andhra Pradesh, who are 'married to God' when young and are sexually exploited by men of the village throughout their life. They are left to fend for themselves at the temple complexes on attaining maturity which also pushes them into prostitution. Opposing this tradition by women often results in abuse and violence from the family and the society; however there have been attempts to put an end to this injustice and superstition by the women.



ELECTRONIC | TELUGU | INVESTIGATIVE STORY

TV9 TELUGU

'PRADHAMIKA AROGYA KENDRAMA? PAATA SAMANULA DUKANAMA? KHABARDAR'

This investigative story highlights the challenges in accessing the public health system by women of the tribal communities, who resort to traditional methods of treatment with little guarantee of cure. Tribal pregnant women are most at risk due to the abysmal state of the health facilities, the reasons for which are lack of doctors, insufficient support personnel, and equipment which could lead to complications or even mortality. The story reiterates the need for better resource allocation by the government for effective functioning of the health system.

ELECTRONIC | TELUGU | TOPICAL/ISSUE BASED PROGRAMME

PRASANNA RAO KADAMANDLA

'ADDHE GARBHAM MARINTHA RAKSHANA' | ETV TELANGANA



The feature presents an informative and insightful perspective about surrogacy, the existing laws as well as its medical, social, and legal implications through conversations with experts including doctors, legal experts and social activists. It provides an in-depth understanding of the protective measures for the surrogate mother included in the bill passed by the Lok Sabha in 2019. It urges viewers to consider all the implications to take a position on the issue.

SOUTHERN REGION



PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH
DONITA JOSE
NEWS REPORTS | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Donita Jose through her news reports underscores a range of issues which include; the prejudice against trans-persons in jails due to the lack of sensitization of the judicial system regarding their identities. It also stresses on the challenges faced by young girls of Hajipur due to a transportation strike impacting their opportunity to access education and increasing the risk of sexual violence. The reports also point out the distress children face in POCSO cases in the absence of a separate, safe space for them in court.

PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | ENGLISH
PINTO DEEPAK
NEWS REPORTS | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

Pinto Deepak brings out diverse issues facing women which include their absence in top police posts due to the existing prejudices, as well as sexual harassment at brick-kiln sites with no established response mechanisms to ensure redressal. He also highlights the issue of new born children being abandoned, which also includes female children, either under family compulsions or due to the unmarried status of the woman. Through his news reports, he also points to the lack of detailed investigation into such cases.



ELECTRONIC | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | TAMIL
KG SUGITHA SARANGARAJ & TEAM
'THADAM PATHIKKUM 33% - 100-AVATHU SIRAPPU NIGAZHCHCHI' |
NEWS 7 TAMIL CHANNEL

The feature highlights the role of three women journalists in the male dominated Tamil news genre who present issues pertinent to women through a current-affairs based talk show. The themes discussed in the 100 episodes ranged from women in politics to women at work, gender mindsets at home, and at work, and many more. The show depicts diverse perspectives while also throwing light on myriad barriers existing between the society and gender equality.

PRINT | JURY APPRECIATION CITATION | TELUGU
NELLUTLA NIKITHA
FEATURES | VELUGU LIFE EDITION

Nellutla Nikitha in her feature series 'Velugu Life' disseminates findings of various research studies to wider audiences. She focuses on several gender issues, thus informing and initiating conversations on interesting topics such as men's participation in birthing, gender wage gap, so on and so forth. In her research, she also presents the opinion of women from the field to corroborate the points covered, which makes the reports interesting and relevant.





ANURADHA PAL - TABLA JUGALBANDI WITH HERSELF

One of India's leading and most innovative percussionists and composers, Anuradha Pal is a President awardee of the prestigious First Ladies award, an outstanding category musician of ministry of culture, ICCR and a top graded Vidushi of Prasar Bharati. Anuradha Pal is internationally acclaimed as the first female professional Tabla maestro in the world and is accredited as an outstanding torchbearer of Indian music & Tabla gharana.

Anuradha has a Masters in Music and has contributed to research. She has also taught at several prestigious IVY league US universities. She teaches online at the Anuradha Pal Cultural Academy. As a Founder - Director of Sur aur Saaz Music label & events, she releases diverse albums/caller tunes & organises 'Music for Wellness' workshops, and concerts/festivals.

PROGRAMME

- Curtain Raiser
- Welcome address by Mr. S.V. Sista, Founder and Executive Trustee, Population First
- Address by Dr. A. L. Sharada, Director, Population First
- Presentation of *Laadli* Media Awards - Northern region
- Address by Guest of Honour, Ms. Argentina Matavel Piccin, Representative UNFPA India and Country Representative for Bhutan
- Presentation of *Laadli* Media Awards - Eastern region
- Performance by Anuradha Pal - Tabla Jugalbandi with herself
- Presentation of *Laadli* Media Awards - Western region
- Address by Ms. Dolly Thakore, Coordinator, National *Laadli* Media Awards
- Presentation of *Laadli* Media Awards - Southern region
- Address by Chief Guest, Ms. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson of National Commission for Women



ANUJA GULATI

Anuja Gulati is a development professional with over three decades of experience of working on gender and rights issues. She is a part of the gender team at UNFPA, where she has worked for the last 21 years in different capacities.

DR. ARATHI PM

Arathi PM is currently an Assistant Professor at the School of Indian Legal Thought, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala. She was a WZB-ISSC Global Fellow at the Berlin Social Science Centre, Germany. She did her M. Phil and PhD from the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi. Her postdoctoral academic work and publications cover the areas of public health laws, political economy of new reproductive technologies, and the social determinants of women's health.



ARVIND SINGHAL

Arvind Singhal is the Samuel Shirley and Edna Holt Marston Endowed Professor of Communication and Director, Social Justice Initiative at the University of Texas. He is also appointed as the William J. Clinton Distinguished Fellow at the Clinton School of Public Service, Distinguished Visiting Professor 2, Inland School of Business and Social Sciences, Norway and Chancellor's Honorary Professor, Amity University. His work focuses on the diffusion of innovations, the positive deviance approach, organizing for social change, the entertainment-education strategy, and liberating interactional structures.



C. G. MANJULA

C. G. Manjula is a senior journalist who has worked with Prajavani, a leading Kannada daily for 36 years. She has written extensively on gender issues and a fortnightly column in the newspaper for more than five years. She received the *Laadli* Media Award for Gender Sensitivity in 2008 (Kannada).





C. VANAJA

C. Vanaja is an award-winning journalist, TV presenter and film maker. Her work focuses on the issues of development, social concerns and movements. She is the first Telugu journalist to get the prestigious Ramnath Goenka Award for journalism followed by many other awards in both journalism and documentary films. Her films have travelled across the globe by getting nominated in many prestigious film festivals. She is also a writer and translator for both fiction and nonfiction.

DR. DAYA KRISHNA MANGAL

Daya Krishna Mangal is serving as the Professor of Public health and Dean Research at IIHMR University, Jaipur. He is also a Senior Associate in the Department of International Health, John Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, USA. During his illustrious career of more than 40 years in public health, he has done extensive research in health care systems. His current research areas include health policy, health systems, epidemiology and nutrition.



DIVYA GUPTA

Divya Gupta, a Delhi-based development practitioner, communications specialist, and journalist, has almost 20 years of experience working with UN agencies, the World Bank and news/media organisations. She has served as the India coordinator for the UN Millennium Campaign. She is also a lead author of 'UN Women report, Hearts and Minds: Women of India Speak' aimed at shaping the sustainable development goals through a gender lens. She is a recipient of the 2012 UNFPA *Laadli* Media Award for Gender Sensitivity (English).

DR. GAURANG JANI

Gaurang Jani has retired as a faculty at the Sociology Department of Gujarat University and was a former visiting faculty at the National Institute of Mass Communication (NIMC), CEPT and EDI, Ahmedabad. He is also a member of the OBC commission, Government of Gujarat. He provides technical expertise to the Gujarat State AIDS Control Society. His research projects include – Child Labour in the Diamond Cutting Industry, Commercial Sex Workers in Ahmedabad and Land Alienation of Tribes. He is also a columnist in Phoolchhab and Gujarat Guardian.





GEETA SESHU

Geeta Seshu is an independent journalist engaged in reporting and analysing media issues, in particular on freedom of expression, media ethics, media ownership and working conditions of journalists. She has been tracking media representation of women in the mainstream media for several years. She was the Consulting Editor of The Hoot. She is a member of UNESCO's Media Freedom Committee. She has worked for popular media houses like The Indian Express and Soukurry.

DR. GITA CHADHA

Gita Chadha with a doctorate is a thorough academic. She has developed frameworks for feminist archiving at Research Centre for Women's Studies, SNTD; designed and taught first of its kind course in Feminist Science Studies at TISS, Mumbai. She has several articles published and books co-edited in her name especially focusing on science criticism, science studies, feminist theories and post-colonial studies such as 'Feminists and Science', 'Re-Imagining Sociology in India: Feminist Perspectives', 'Feminist Science Studies: Intersectional Narratives of Persons in Gender-marginal Locations in Science'.



GOKUL KRISHNAMOORTHY

Gokul Krishnamoorthy is a writer and an independent consultant who works at the intersection of brands, social impact and content. Over the last 15 years, he has handled editorial roles with independent responsibility at multiple publications including Top Of Mind (The Times of India Group), The Hindu Business Line, Eventfaqs Media and Impact (exchange4media Group). Prior to turning an independent consultant in 2017, he was the Managing Editor of Campaign India and the Editor of Campaign Middle East.

GOWHAR GEELANI

Gowhar Geelani is the author of Kashmir: 'Rage and Reason'; a broadcast journalist who has served as the editor at Deutsche Welle in Bonn, Germany. Geelani is also a Chevening Fellow, South Asian Journalism Programme Scholar, and Munich Young Leader. He writes on Kashmir affairs, human rights, gender issues, and sports. His work has been published by the BBC, DW, Telegraph (UK), Telegraph (India), Race and Class (London), Scroll.in, The Quint, EPW (Bombay) and many international media outlets including Defence Post (US). He is also a political commentator and appears on international and regional media as expert on Kashmir.





J. M. DIVAKAR

J. M. Divakar has more than two decades of experience in the field of journalism. He has worked with leading newspapers such as The Indian Express, Deccan Chronicle, and Newstime. He has been the former editor of Metro India (English daily) and Vijayakranthi (Telugu Daily). He has been the jury member for the *Laadli* Media and Advertising Awards since its inception.

JYOTSNA KAUR HABIBULLAH

Jyotsna Kaur Habibuallah is a social entrepreneur, philanthropist, leader of several forums and initiatives, advocate of sustainable livelihoods and founder of Lucknow Farmers Market – a first sustainable online community in India connecting our grassroot level entrepreneurs and farmers with consumers. It is also a space for learning and interaction. She is a strong believer of empowering women through inculcating self-reliance and leadership skills which reflect in her positions as a founder of FICCI FLO Lucknow, Kanpur Chapter and nominated to head Women Entrepreneurship Leadership Forum.



DR. K. BHARATHI

K. Bharathi is a retired History professor and a Tamil writer. She has written a book on gender discrimination and portrayal of women in Tamil Cinema. She is also the author of a number of short stories and articles in Tamil. She has authored a book on the famous writer R. Chudamani for Sahitya Akademi.

K. SAJAYA

K. Sajaya is an independent journalist, columnist, social analyst, translator, documentary filmmaker and feminism activist in Hyderabad. She is presently the publisher of 'Likhita Press', a publication venture in Telugu on social issues.





K. G. SURESH

Prof. K. G. Suresh has a rich professional career spanning three decades as a senior journalist, communication and public relations specialist and media educator. He is currently serving as the Vice Chancellor, Makhn Lal Chaturvedi National University of Journalism & Communication, Bhopal. He has served as the Director General, Indian Institute of Mass Communication, Senior Consulting Editor with Doordarshan News and is also a member of several advisory and academic councils' of pre-eminent universities, institutes and research centers on media, journalism and social sciences. He has won several prestigious awards and has represented the country in various commissions and committees internationally.

KANCHAN MATHUR

Kanchan Mathur is currently a Professor (Honorary) at the Institute of Development Studies, Jaipur. She has headed the UNFPA supported Women's Resource Centre at the Rajasthan Institute of Public Administration for three years. She has more than 35 years of experience in applied research, evaluation and policy analysis in the field of social and rural development, especially focusing on gender issues. She is the author of 'Countering Gender Based Violence: Initiatives in Collective Action' (Sage 2004) and has published extensively in journals of national and international repute.



KONDAVEETI SATYAVATI

Kondaveeti Satyavati, an active champion of women's rights, has been associated with the Anti-Arrack movement and has been working along with Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies. She started two feminist magazines 'Lohitha' in 1989 and became the founder editor of the first feminist magazine in Andhra Pradesh - 'Streevada Patrika' - Bhumika in 1993. She has been recognized for her contribution and awarded with the Dashaabdi Mahila (Women of the Decade) Award, Best Journalist and the *Laadli* Media Award for Southern region. Her dream is to work towards a violence-free society for all women.



KULDEEP KAUR

Prof. Kuldeep Kaur is a retired vice principal of G.N. Khalsa College of arts, science and commerce, Mumbai. She holds a rich teaching experience of 33 years at Khalsa College in the Hindi Subject. She is presently, working as a visiting faculty for eight years at Tata Institute of Social Sciences as a Hindi communication skills trainer for international students.



KUMAR KETKAR



Kumar Ketkar is a former editor and journalist and has been the Chief Editor of renowned newspapers like Maharashtra Times, Loksatta, Lokmat and Divya Marathi. He received the Padmashri in 2001 and the Rajiv Gandhi Award for Excellence in Media. He is currently a Rajya Sabha MP.

LALITHAIYER



Lalitha Iyer has been a journalist for over 30 years. During her tenure with one of India's leading newspapers 'Malayalam Manorama' and leading magazine 'The Week', she covered many issues related to Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. She is on the board of the TMI Group and is also an active member of the National Council of the Andhra Pradesh Union of working journalists. She is also associated and supports NGOs working with vulnerable children.

LOGANAYAKI RAMACHANDRAN



A brand ambassador for 'Creating extraordinary from the ordinary', Loganayaki is an award-winning writer, journalist, editor and social worker, inspiring millions of women across the globe. She is the recipient of several prestigious media awards, well backed by three decades of experience and expertise. Loganayaki continues to play a key role in empowering women towards economic independence by organizing and hosting more than 650 workshops in handicraft and embroidery.

MADHAVI KUCKREJA



Madhavi Kuckreja for the last 25 years has worked tirelessly on issues of Violence Against Women (VAW) and Communalism. In 1990 she began her journey in Chitrakoot, Uttar Pradesh working on women's rights. She founded a rural women's community-based organization 'Vanangana', focusing on building Dalit women's leadership enabling them to access their rights and work on issues of VAW. She is also a strong advocate of promoting cultural and artistic heritage and has established Crafts and Weaves Store. She is currently working with Muslim women to inculcate leadership qualities through technical skills like video and photography.

MADHURI HALWASIYA

Madhuri Halwasiya is the Chairperson of FLO Lucknow and has been closely associated with FICCI Chapter since its inception. She handles CSR activities for the Halwasiya Trust, one of Lucknow's most effective social change agencies; is currently the President of DWWF, an organization which empowers deaf women to become socially and financially independent; and serves as the Secretary for the Samvad Samajik Sansthan, an organisation dedicated to starting a dialogue in society with aim of upliftment of the downtrodden and the marginalized.



MALTI MEHTA

Malti Mehta is a faculty of Mass Communication, Communication Skills, Development Communication, and Film Production at various universities and media institutes. She has contributed significantly to the drafting of the Gender Equity Policy for the Government of Gujarat. She has been the Director and Producer at the Educational Multimedia Research Centre, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad. She is the founder member of the Media Women's Forum (Gujarat) and the former Regional Coordinator for the Network of Women in Media, India.



MANJIRA MAJUMDAR

Manjira Majumdar, with over 30 years of experience in print journalism, had initially worked with mainstream media like The Indian Express Group, Times of India. Later as one of the top freelancers in the country, she wrote extensively for Outlook, Man's World, The Statesman and The Telegraph. Her subjects have been wide ranging; development issues, gender and arts, to mention some. Today Ms. Majumdar is engaged in media advocacy and occasionally writes fiction for children, having published three books in this genre.



MEENA KARNIK

Meena Karnik started her career with a weekly called 'Dinank' and then moved on to work for various dailies and magazines. She has translated three books written by Pinki Virani from English to Marathi, one of which is based on the famous story of Aruna Shanbaug. She has also written a biographical book on Gautam Rajadhyaksha in Marathi called 'Gautam'.



MINAXI SHUKLA

Minaxi Shukla is one of the founder members and the Additional Director of Centre for Health, Education and Nutrition Awareness (CHETNA). Since 1980, CHETNA has been working on issues related to children, youth and women's nutrition and health issues. Currently, Minaxi is working on promoting learning for life, and rights of children, especially the right to participation, early childhood care, education and development as a consultant.



NARAYAN BARETH

A senior journalist with a career spanning nearly three decades before joining Haridev Joshi University of Journalism and Mass Communication [HJUJ]. He served as Professor Media Studies at HJUJ for three years and has served as Professor in University of Rajasthan for one year. He has worked with several news groups including Navbharat Times, Asian Age, BBC, Dainik Bhaskar, Deccan Chronicle, The Pioneer in a long journalistic journey.



P. SATHYAVATHI

P. Sathyavathi is a postgraduate in English and has been writing stories in Telugu since 1975. Her stories are translated into various Indian languages. She has co-edited the anthology 'Beyond the Backyard' published by the Sahitya Akademi. Along with many prestigious awards for her stories, she has won the Sahitya Akademi Award for her translation of 'The autobiography of a Hijra'. She worked and retired as an English lecturer.



PRATIMA JOSHI

Pratima Joshi is a senior journalist, writer and social activist. She has worked on various issues for more than three decades. She has received nine state level awards for her committed investigative journalism. She has penned several short stories and worked as an editor for two non-fiction books. She is also associated with several non-profit organizations and supports their activities.



DR. R. POORNIMA

R. Poornima is a journalist with forty years of experience and is the first woman editor in Kannada mainstream journalism. She has worked for newspapers including Prajavani and Udayavani as well as weekly magazines, Sudha and Taranga. She has won several awards, including Eve's Weekly Award for articles on women's issues.



RAJAT RAY

Rajat Ray has over three decades of multi-sectoral experience in the development sector, spanning healthcare & family welfare, agronomy & agribusiness, education & training, adolescents & youth, art & culture, environment, and water & sanitation. He has also handled mass media campaigns in the corporate sector. He led the launch of Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram and Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan campaign. He has worked internationally for UN agencies and civil society organizations across South Asia.



RAJENDRA TIWARI

Rajendra Tiwari is a writer & commentator with special interest in the developments in Jammu & Kashmir. He is the former Corporate Editor of Prabhat Khabar, Former Editor of Bhaskar Websites, Jharkhand Editor of Hindustan-Jharkhand and Resident Editor of Dainik Bhaskar, Indore and Amar Ujala, J&K.



RAMA S. MELKOTE

Rama S. Melkote retired as the Professor of International Relations and Political Science from Osmania University, Hyderabad. She is one of the founder members of Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies in Hyderabad and one of the authors of a bilingual textbook on gender 'Towards a World of Equals', prescribed by Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University, Hyderabad.





RANJANA DAS

Ranjana Das is working as the Lead Specialist-Private Sector Engagement in Oxfam India. Prior to this, she was the Regional Manager with Oxfam India. She led the programme of the East Indian states of Bihar and Jharkhand. She is involved in developing sustainable livelihood interventions at Oxfam and her career has extensively spanned across gender, livelihood and health issues. A Humphrey Hubert Fullbright Fellow with Cornell University, Ranjana has worked with various national and international organizations before joining Oxfam India.

RANJONA BANERJEE

Ranjona Banerji is an independent journalist with over three decades of experience in various magazines and newspapers; from Bombay Magazine to Mid-Day to The Times of India and DNA. She continues to write on political, social and gender issues. She has co-authored a book 'India 50: The Making of a Nation' with Ayaz Memon. She is currently a consulting editor with the media website, MxMIndia.com where she critiques the media twice a week and thus gains in unpopularity within the community.



RATNA BHARALI TALUKDAR

Ratna Bharali Talukdar, an independent journalist and creative writer, is the recipient of the Ramnath Goenka Award for Excellence in Journalism, 2005; Chameli Devi Jain Outstanding Women Media Person Award, 2004-05 and the *Laadli* Media National award in journalism, 2009. She is also a recipient of literary awards like Munin Borkataki Award and Eka Ebong Koyekjon Sahitya Sanskriti Samman. She has completed eight media fellowships undertaking rigorous field trips to the Northeastern region. She has published three collections of short stories, translated one book and has two novels under her name.

REVATHI SIVA KUMAR

Revathi Siva Kumar is an independent journalist, instructor and activist, who has contributed to national and global media publications, exploring social, civic, cultural, and developmental issues. She is also a writer of fiction and poetry.





RITU DEWAN

Prof. Ritu Dewan, is the Vice President of the Indian Society of Labour Economics. She was, till her retirement, the first woman Director of the Department of Economics, University of Mumbai, and the founder-member of the first Centre for Gender Economics in Asia. She has numerous publications to her name; her career is a rich tapestry of partnerships and collaborations with several UN and international agencies. She has conducted numerous workshops on gender budgeting and gender issues for the central & state governments.

RUPA MEHTA



Rupa Mehta, a trained Kathak dancer, has had an extensive career in broadcast and television since 1989 focusing on communication and use of education media to engage with children, youth and women in development. She has been a producer at Doordarshan (Prasar Bharati) and retired as the Assistant Director Programme & Head Programme at Doordarshan Kendra, Ahmedabad. She has published several books and articles on arts, music and dance cultures of India, and also received the Gujarat Sahitya Academy Award for her book 'Kathak Parampara ane Gujarat'.



DR. S. KRISHNASWAMY

S. Krishnaswamy is a renowned documentary and television filmmaker, who has devoted his attention primarily to making films on history, heritage and biography. He is a recipient of many coveted awards including the Padma Shri and other national and international awards. He has contributed to making 250 documentaries on a wide span of subjects in English and all Indian languages as well as a dozen fiction-based TV serials in Hindi and Tamil.

SAMPAD MAHAPATRA



Sampad Mahapatra has 37 years of experience in print, television and web journalism. He has worked as the editor of the leading Odia newspaper 'The Sambad' and founder-editor of Odia newspaper 'The Nitidin'. He was the Odisha Bureau Chief of NDTV for 18 years until his retirement in 2013. He was the head of an English news site 'odishasuntimes.com' and the editorial consultant for Odia news site 'odishareporter.in'. He has also directed documentaries, TV serials and two feature length films for Doordarshan.



SANDEEP SAHU

Sandeep Sahu is a senior Bhubaneswar based multilingual journalist with over 34 years of work experience across a host of top local, national and international media houses. He has been reporting for the BBC World Service from Odisha for over 25 years and recently for the 'Outlook' magazine. He has worked as the Editorial Director of OTV. Besides, he writes for national news portals like thequint.com, news18.com, firstpost.com and thefederal.in as well as has his columns in OTV site and 'Sambad'.

SAYED RAZA HUSSAIN ZAIDI

Sayed Raza is an out queer feminist with over six years of experience in working with youth in social development sector. He has extensive experience on issues of gender-sex-sexuality. He is also the member of Awadh Queer Pride Committee and started Aazaadi International which works with queer community, students, educational institutions, and individuals from socially excluded and marginalized sections of society such as female sex workers and transgenders.



SHAHINA K. K.

Shahina K. K is an award-winning journalist working as the Associate Editor of the news portal 'The Federal'. She has been one of the first-generation television journalists in Malayalam and has won several accolades including the coveted Chameli Devi Jain Award and the Kerala State government award. Her notable works include an investigative reportage on Rajiv Gandhi Assassination and an exclusive story on Thalaikkoothal, a ritualistic geronticide practiced in Southern Tamil Nadu.

SHAHIRA NAIM

Shahira Naim has been a journalist for over four decades working with various newspapers like the Patriot, the National Herald, the Times of India, and the Tribune. Writing on gender issues as it cuts across various development sectors, she took a short sabbatical from journalism to work on gender issues in education, health and law. She is a founder Trustee of HUMSAFAR Support Centre for Women in Lucknow.





DR. SHOMA A. CHATTERJI

Shoma A. Chatterji is a freelance journalist and film critic of 40 years' standing. She has authored 26 titles under prestigious imprints of which eight are on gender issues. She won the National Award for Best Film Critic in 1991 and for Best Book on Cinema in 2003 apart from other prestigious awards. Her illustrious career also includes various academic endeavours especially focused on representation of Indian women in television and media.

DR. SONAL PANDYA



Sonal Pandya is a professor and the Head of Department of Communication, Journalism, and Public Relations and the Executive Council member, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad. She has been a member of the programme advisory board, AIR and Doordarshan, Ahmedabad. She has been a consultant to projects implemented by UNICEF. She has been the jury for various awards including the *Laadli* Media & Advertising Awards as well as the Doordarshan Girnar Shiromani Award.



SUDHIR MISHRA

Sudhir Mishra has more than 20 years of experience as a journalist working with news-houses like Dainik Jagran, Dainik Bhaskar, Hindustan, Navbharat Times and many more. A recipient of the International Kaiser Health fellowship on HIV AIDS and first CSE Media Fellowship for the South Asian Region (Climate Change in South Asia), he has also worked as Executive Editor at Dainik Bhaskar, Udaipur and is currently working as the Senior Editor in Navbharat Times handling Lucknow & NCR units.

SUNIL JHA



With an experience of more than two and half decades in journalism, Sunil Jha has extensively covered political news and understands the implications of the same on the society. He has held various editorial and managerial positions in both print and electronic media during his tenure. He is among the few journalists in India who has experience in TV, radio, news agency, newspaper, digital and now is using social media as an effective form of news dissemination.



SUNNY SEBASTIAN

Sunny Sebastian is a senior journalist and the founding Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan's state university, Haridev Joshi University of Journalism and Mass Communication. Sebastian has worked with 'The Hindu' and the leading local Hindi daily, 'Rajasthan Patrika', for the past 36 years. Sebastian has been actively campaigning for the causes of Right to Information and Right to Food, besides various environmental issues. Sebastian considers himself as a people-oriented media person, a development journalist and a media educationist.

TERESA REHMAN

Teresa Rehman is an award-winning journalist, author, and media educator based in north-east India. She worked for India Today, the Telegraph and Tehelka before she began editing the Thumb Print. A recipient of several prominent journalism and literary awards such as the Ramnath Goenka Excellence in Journalism Award twice, she also won the *Laadli* Media Award for Gender Sensitivity, 2011. She was also featured in the Power List of Femina magazine in 2012. She has written three books that includes 'The Mothers of Manipur and Bulletproof'.



DR. UTHRA DORAIRAJAN

Uthra Dorairajan is an associate professor and Head of the Department of Physics at D. G. Vaishnav College in Chennai. She has been a teacher, trainer, mentor and a subject expert in many areas including pedagogical tools and designing curriculum. She is a recipient of many awards and fellowships and has publications to her credit in peer reviewed journals. She has appeared on radio shows, and has written many articles, non-fiction stories and blogs on scientific facts.

DR. VIBHUTI PATEL

Vibhuti Patel worked as Professor, Advanced Centre for Women's Studies, School of Development Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences as well as SNTD Women's University, Mumbai. She has been actively involved with the women's rights movement since the early 1970s. Currently, she is associated with Vacha (Mumbai), Olakh (Vadodara) and Women Power Connect (Delhi). Recently, as a member of the Working Group of United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), she contributed for preparation of 'The Report of the Working Group on Discrimination Against Women and Girls (2020)'.





VIDHU PRABHA

Vidhu Prabha, is a gender expert with 18 years of experience of developing results-oriented programs and designing advocacy strategies to advance gender justice, promote leadership, education, and access to water and sanitation services for women and girls. She is India Representative of Rise Up, a program of the Public Health Institute. She has steered policies influencing women's empowerment and developed strategic partnerships with government departments, NGOs, educational institutions, and media. She has also researched and co-authored *Withering Flowers, a Criminal Tradition in India*, about caste-based prostitution.

VIJAY PRATAP SAHI

Vijay Pratap Sahi is a visionary media professional with rich corporate and academic experience of more than 45 years. He was the General Manager and Branch Head at the Times of India. Having worked across media, advertising and academics, he is now focusing on philanthropy as a Chief Advisor at Sarthak Foundation, Lucknow. He is also the Founder Secretary of Lucknow Connect and is a life member of the Lucknow Literary Festival through which he wishes to promote culture, ethics and the flavour of Lucknow.



VISHWANATH SACHDEV

Vishwanath Sachdev is an author, senior columnist and former editor of 'Navbharat Times'. He was the pioneer of the literary magazine 'Vauthan' and has written in various papers and journals on socio-political issues. He has also been a recipient of various awards for his work in journalism and in Hindi literature, including the Maharashtra Hindi Sahitya Akademi Award and the Padmabhushan Jhabbarmal Sharma Journalism Award.



VOMMY RAMESH BABU

Vommy Ramesh Babu is a short story writer, poet and has been working as a journalist for 31 years. He was the recipient of the prestigious Nandi Award from the United Andhra Pradesh state government in 2008 for his outstanding contribution and design of Telugu language program.





UNFPA India is proud to work with Population First to challenge stereotypes that perpetuate gender discrimination. We recognize the important role of the media in altering public perceptions around valuing women and girls, and being champions of change. We are therefore delighted to support the 10th edition of the *Laadli Awards* for Gender Sensitivity.

Argentina Matavel Piccin
UNFPA India Representative



ABOUT UNFPA :

UNFPA's mission is to deliver a world where every pregnancy is wanted, every childbirth is safe and every young person's potential is fulfilled ensuring rights and choices for all.

UNFPA works towards achieving the following three transformative results that promise to change the world for every man, woman and young person by 2030:

- Zero unmet need for family planning
- Zero preventable maternal deaths
- Zero gender-based violence and harmful practices

POPULATION FIRST

Population First is a 'not for profit' organization registered in March 2002 under the Bombay Public Trusts Act, 1950. Our key objective is to work towards gender sensitive and social development oriented health and population programmes.

We promote gender sensitivity and gender equality through:

- Awareness programmes on gender, health, population and social development issues
- Mobilising community participation in population, health and social development programmes
- Building Public-Private Partnerships for programme and policy development and implementation
- Working with influencers in media and advertising to change mindsets related to girls and women's rights and gender equality.

ABOUT LAADLI MEDIA INITIATIVES

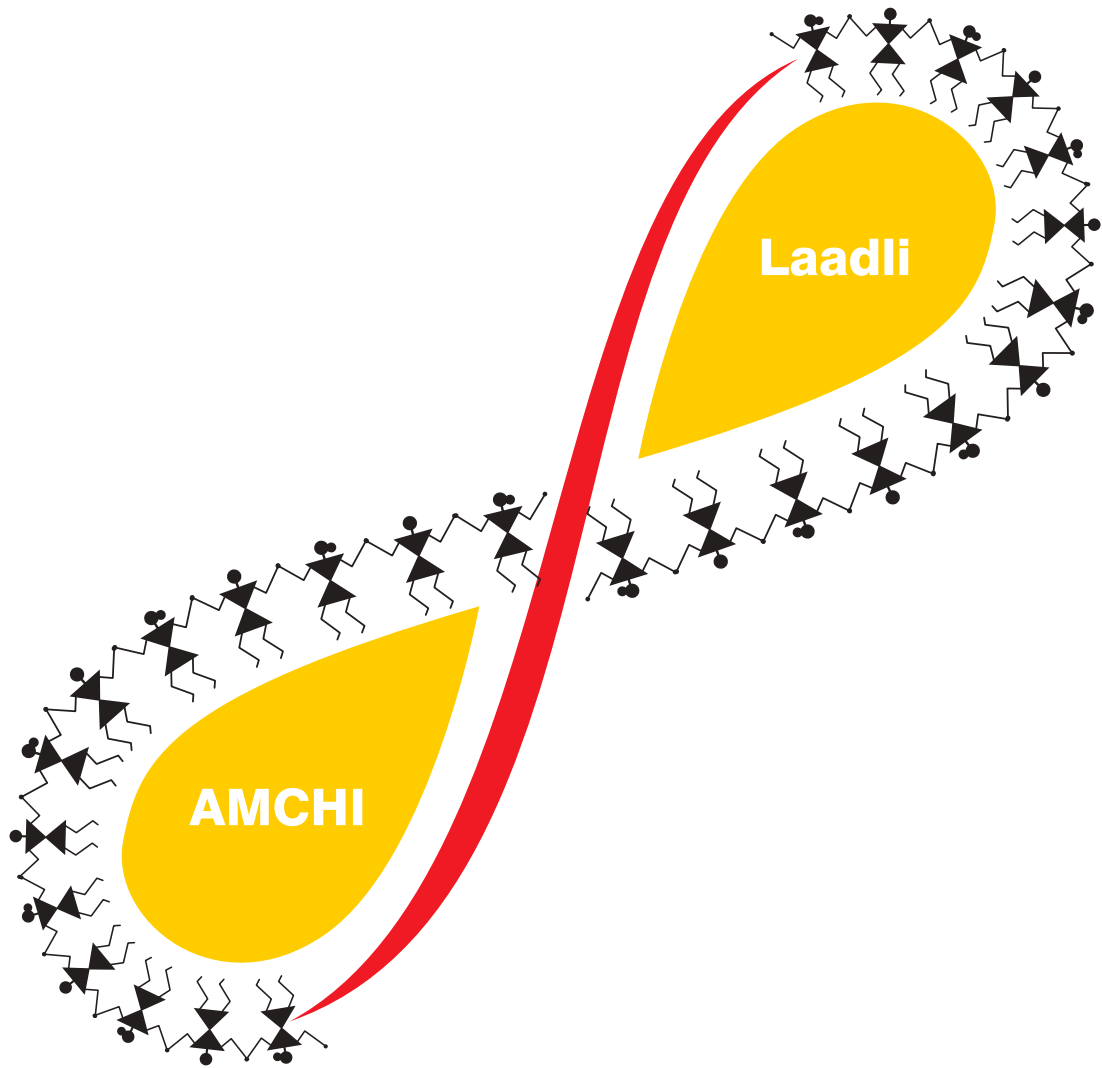
The *Laadli* Media Advocacy initiatives focus on promoting gender sensitivity in media and advertising to build a gender just society. Population First is committed to building such a society by engaging the media and advertising professionals in discussions on how they can shape and change such mindsets. This year, considering the Covid19 pandemic, 17 journalists were given fellowships to report on the pandemic and the subsequent lockdown from a gender perspective. The events had to be organised online because of the pandemic. These included a five day workshop for media students, a roundtable on 'Reporting the pandemic with a gender lens', a webinar on 'Gender sensitivity in communication curriculum', a webinar with IAA on 'Gender Equations - Communication In The Covid Era', the National Creative Excellence Awards and the *Laadli* Media and Advertising Awards for Gender Sensitivity 2020 (Regional and National), among others.

ABOUT LAADLI TROPHY



The *Laadli* Trophy extends the same analogy, with a red ribbon engraved with the words 'Celebrate Her Life'. The trophy captures movement, free spirit and reaches out to the sky denoting unlimited potential.

The Trophy is designed by Arzaan Khambhatta.



Laadli and *Amchi* are Population First's flagship programmes addressing gender inequality and poor social development.

Contributions to Population First are exempt from tax under section 80-G (5) of the Income Tax Act. Population First is registered under Foreign Contributions (Regulation) Act 1976. Cheques can be made payable to Population First and mailed to: Bungalow no. 3, Paramhans CHS, Near new RTO, Next to Hotel VITS Sharanam, Eastern Express Highway, Thane (W) Mumbai - 400604. India.

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