



EKAM NYAAY

Equal Rights • Equal Justice



2025

ANNUAL REPORT

2024-25 | Ekam Nyaay Foundation

www.ekamnyaay.org



Hi Deepika Maam
Last year I was in stress and
was about to kill myself!
You have given me confidence
to fight back.
Your videos and work have
slowly made me believe that, I
can overcome this no matter
what!

Here today I am after 1 year.
Doing great and all credit goes
to you!

19:42

SAVING
LIVES
EVERYDAY



Ekam Nyaay
Foundation

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About Ekam Nyaay Foundation

Ekam Nyaay Foundation is a pioneering non-governmental organization (NGO) founded by renowned equal rights activist Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj. Established with a steadfast commitment to upholding justice and equality, Ekam Nyaay Foundation is dedicated to promoting gender equality and addressing the pressing issues faced by men in society. Driven by the vision of a world where every individual is treated with dignity, respect, and fairness, Ekam Nyaay Foundation endeavors to bring about positive change through its multifaceted initiatives.



Our work is guided by a set of core values that include integrity, compassion, and inclusivity. We strive to provide a safe and supportive environment for individuals affected by false accusations, wrongful convictions, and other human rights violations, offering legal aid, emotional support, and counselling services. Through our research initiatives, we aim to shed light on overlooked issues about men's rights and gender injustice, advocating for legislative reforms and policy changes that promote fairness and equality for all.

Ekam Nyaay Foundation is committed to challenging harmful stereotypes and promoting positive masculinity, while also raising awareness about the importance of mental health and well-being among men & Women.

By championing equal rights and responsibilities, Ekam Nyaay Foundation seeks to create a society where every individual has the opportunity to thrive and contribute positively to their communities.

*Join us in our journey towards a more just and equitable world.
Together, we can make a difference.*

Our Mission



At Ekam Nyaay Foundation, our mission is to build a just and equitable society by promoting gender equality and human rights. We focus on addressing injustices faced by men and their families, including false accusations, wrongful convictions, and societal stereotypes, while championing broader human rights. We advocate for legislative reforms to establish gender-neutral laws and eliminate judicial biases, ensuring due process and protection for all.

We provide empathetic legal and emotional support to those unjustly implicated and presumed to be guilty while upholding the ethos of justice and fairness. Our commitment includes raising awareness about gender injustice and human suffering through educational content and public outreach. By challenging harmful stereotypes, we promote equal rights, dignity, and justice to all.

Recognizing the importance of mental health, we strive to increase awareness and support for men's mental health issues. We also advocate for equal parental rights, workplace protections, and economic opportunities, ensuring fair treatment and support for men.



Join us in making a meaningful difference and creating lasting positive change.

Our Vision



At Ekam Nyaay Foundation, our vision is to cultivate a society where every individual, regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, or socioeconomic status, enjoys equal rights, opportunities, and protections under the law. We envision a future where harmful stereotypes and biases are dismantled, and where legal systems are fair and just.

Our foundation is founded on the belief that every human being deserves to be treated with dignity, compassion, and empathy. We strive to foster a culture where discrimination, harassment, and violence based on gender or any other factor are unequivocally condemned, and where perpetrators are held accountable for their actions. Our commitment to human dignity guides every aspect of our work, from advocacy to service delivery. We are dedicated to promoting gender equality and addressing the pressing issues faced by men in society.

Central to our vision is the establishment of legal systems that uphold the principles of fairness, impartiality, and accessibility. We advocate for legislative reforms aimed at eliminating gender-based discrimination and ensuring equal treatment under the law. This includes addressing systemic disparities in sentencing, custody arrangements, and access to justice. We aim to have gender-neutral laws in the country so that access to justice isn't denied based on gender

Moreover, we recognize the importance of protecting the innocent and ensuring due process for all individuals involved in legal proceedings. This entails addressing issues such as false accusations and wrongful convictions, which can have devastating consequences for individuals and their families.



What We Do

Ekam Nyaay Foundation is dedicated to promoting gender equality and addressing the pressing issues faced by men in society. Our work is guided by a set of core values that include integrity, compassion, and inclusivity. We strive to provide a safe and supportive environment for individuals affected by false accusations, wrongful convictions, and other human rights violations, offering legal aid, emotional support, and counseling services.

Counselling

At Ekam Nyaay Foundation, we recognize that legal issues can take an extreme toll on an individual's emotional & mental well-being, especially those men who are accused of crimes they haven't committed. Many men caught in these situations feel suicidal. We aim to provide a shoulder of support, and an empathetic ear to such victims to help them in their challenging times.

Our counseling services are designed to offer a safe and supportive environment where individuals can express their feelings, process their experiences, and develop coping strategies.

Our team of counselors with backgrounds in social work and law provides compassionate and effective support, guided by our core values of integrity, compassion, and inclusivity.

Through our counseling services, Ekam Nyaay Foundation has helped numerous individuals regain their confidence, rebuild their lives, and move forward with hope and resilience.



Content

At Ekam Nyaay Foundation, we harness the power of media to drive social change and advocate for men's rights and gender equality. Our content is designed to raise awareness, educate the public, engage our audience, and advocate for policy reforms. We create compelling posts, stories, and videos that inform and inspire action on key issues.



Through our documentary films & independent journalism, we delve deeper into issues concerning men and their families telling stories that are important and compelling in a way that moves people.

By leveraging social media and visual storytelling, we aim to foster a supportive community and create a just and equitable society for all individuals.

Intervention

In cases of larger public interest, Ekam Nyaay Foundation works with victims on the ground to get them justice.

Our interventions so far have involved exposing dating app scams, working with police to nab honeytrap gangs, exposing and getting serial rape accusers arrested, meeting higher police officials to seek proper investigations in false dowry & rape cases, preventing arrests of innocents through legal & police support, crowdfunding for male victims who don't get any compensation from the system & more. We constantly try to bring as much relief as possible to people who come to us with hope.



Our interventions mean actions on the ground to bring real change.

Research

Ekam Nyaay Foundation focuses on bringing to light research reports on various issues faced by men in society. Despite the reluctance in the country to acknowledge these statistics, our foundation is dedicated to highlighting how many men have died, committed suicide, or been murdered by their partners.

At Ekam Nyaay, we take proactive steps to research these often-ignored issues, shedding light on how men are victims, the mental trauma they endure, and the impact of these traumas on their lives.



[GURUGRAM] 236 F.I.R.s CANCELLED IN LAST 5 YEARS

43.6% rape cases cite false promise of marriage: RTI

Leena Dhanekar
Reporters@hindustantimes.com

GURUGRAM: An RTI query filed with the Gurugram police has revealed that 43.6% of all rape cases registered between 2020 and 2024 were linked to allegations of "false promise of marriage", which is classified as rape under Section 376 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC). The data also shows that one in four rape FIRs was later cancelled by the police as false or unsubstantiated.

Between January 1, 2020, and December 31, 2024, Gurugram police registered 955 rape cases, of which 417 involved false promise of marriage, according to a reply received by activist and documentary filmmaker Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj. HTI accessed a copy of the RTI response.

Of the total, 236 cases were cancelled, suggesting the allegations were found to be untrue during investigation. However, police initiated legal action in only 96 of these cases, according to Bhardwaj and other activists, raising concerns over the lack of deterrence.

"We are seeing a pattern where consensual relationships that later sour are weaponised as rape allegations under the false promise of marriage," Bhardwaj said.

"This is not only an abuse of the law but is also harming genuine survivors and overburdening the justice system."

Misuse of law
Legal experts said the data calls for a dual-framework approach—one that provides robust support for survivors while also enforcing accountability in cases of proven misuse.

In a memo dated June 19, 2024, the Director General of Police (DGP), Haryana, directed all police commissioners and superintendents of police to take "necessary action against complainants who have filed multiple false rape cases," citing growing concerns about the misuse of rape laws by repeat complainants.

Susheela, assistant commissioner of police (ACP), headquarters, crime against women, said that there has been a shift in the nature of complaints compared to a decade ago.

"Now, laws are being misused blatantly, due to which we have changed our investigation pattern in such cases. Social media often provides enough evidence to expose a truth," she said.

Bhardwaj, who heads the Ekam Nyaay Foundation, said that her group recently uncovered a woman in Gurugram who had filed nine rape complaints against different men within a year.

"She was arrested last year. In another case, a honeytrap gang tried to frame a police officer," she added.

Policing challenges
ACP Susheela said that officers maintain a balanced approach during investigation to safeguard the rights of both complainant and accused.

"We strictly follow Supreme Court guidelines and allow the accused to produce all forms of evidence—WhatsApp chats, photos, and more. If allegations don't stand, we don't register the case or move for FIR cancellation."

In several such cases, we have urged the court to act against the complainants," she added.

Bhardwaj said the intention is not to discredit real survivors.

"It's about ensuring the law isn't weaponised to destroy innocent lives under the guise of justice," she said.

REPEAT F.I.R.s UNDER WATCH

- 955 rape cases filed in Gurugram (2020-2024)
- 417 (43.6%) under false promise of marriage
- Only 96 saw legal action under IPC 182
- Haryana DGP flagged repeat false complaints in June 2024
- Less than 40% false cases lead to prosecution
- Police using digital evidence to verify claims, officials said

Our team of dedicated researchers works diligently on these critical topics, and we also support other researchers who are committed to studying these issues.

Our goal in publishing this research is to raise awareness in society.

Message From Our Director - Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj

“As I pen this note, I am filled with emotions of happiness, gratitude, immense satisfaction and pride. I started my journey in 2012 with a simple dream of making **“Martyrs of Marriage**, a documentary film, to highlight misuse of dowry laws in the country and to spread awareness on this issue so that we could save some lives from suicide. I still remember that I had asked my former boss for a sabbatical of just one year to make this film but it has been 13 years since then working on men’s issues everyday.

It feels surreal to look back and see what all has been achieved since then. Martyrs of Marriage received global release on NETFLIX, it got screened in 22 cities in India and abroad and even got screened at Judicial Academies during training of Police & Judges.



After that it was **India’s Sons** - our documentary film on lives of men falsely accused of rape - which became the only Indian film to be screened at Taiwan International Innocence Film Festival and also won Jharkhand International Film Festival Award. The film has now been screened at Haryana Police Academy, Police Commissionerate Ghaziabad and we continue to take it to more forums to sensitise people on impact of false accusations of Rape. These films have now been watched by millions & initiated a much needed dialogue - that **Justice should be for all irrespective of Gender & misuse of laws has to be nipped in the bud.**

Martin Luther King Junior in his 1963 letter from Birmingham Jail wrote **“Injustice anywhere is a threat to Justice everywhere.”** It means that all of humanity is interconnected, and an injustice against one person or group affects the justice of all people. The statement highlights how a society that allows injustice to stand unchecked in one place is ultimately undermining justice everywhere else.

These lines define the work we do. Our fight is against injustice and not any gender. The Constitution of India guarantees **equality before law** and **equal protection of law** to all citizens but several of our laws today are unequal, provide protection only to one gender and are being inhumanly misused

without any repercussions. The equality envisaged by our constitution has to be restored and all genders should have an equal right to live life of respect and dignity. With a vision for a nation that grants equal rights to all and ensures equal justice for all, I founded Ekam Nyaay Foundation along with my father Sh. Satya Narayan Bhardwaj in February 2024.

Focusing on Four domains - **Content, Counselling, Interventions & Research**, Ekam Nyaay Foundations is -

- creating content on issues that impact men & their families, reaching millions.
- providing counselling to men and their families in distress
- going on-ground to intervene in cases of suicides & extortions and
- undertaking research to initiate dialogue in academia on these issues.

With just 3 full time employees and a part time resource, we have counselled more than 2000 individuals in person, responded to thousands of queries in our email and DMs, grown to a 30K+ community of Ekam Nyaay Foundation on social media and together through my handles and of organization have 700K+ followers garnering 700M+ Views. We provide not just legal guidance but emotional cushion to those going through one of the toughest times of their life facing not just legal ordeals but betrayal by those they once loved the most. We live in a society where "Men Don't Cry" is a common phrase and it is easy for people to expect men to not cry no matter how much pain they are in, but we at Ekam Nyaay provide a safe space for these souls to open up without being judged.

While our counsellings are non judgmental, we ensure that we thoroughly investigate the cases in which we intervene in organizational capacity and follow high standards of evidence collection. We are conscious of the fact that women are victims of very violent crimes in society even today and hence do due diligence in all our capacity before taking up a case for personal intervention. Our balanced approach in our work has gained us the trust of not only those who support our work but also of authorities who step forward to fairly investigate the cases we approach them for and do justice.

I am proud to share that since we began our operations we have got 35+ criminals arrested, helped victims who were not getting heard by police get an FIR lodged in more than 18 cases and prevented arbitrary arrests in multiple false cases through personal interventions or social media impact. We have provided on ground support in several cases of suicide, arranged pro bono legal support for many who could not afford and hand helded many men who became victims of extreme violence or injustice. Testimonials we have received from endless people is a testament to our commitment to selfless social service and blessings we receive everyday are a priceless payment of our relentless efforts.

It is my honour to present to you **ANNUAL REPORT of EKAM NYAAY FOUNDATION**. We have tried to capture all the major developments, cases and results we have achieved since we began operations but there is a lot more we could not cover in this report. Our website www.ekamnyaay.org is a storehouse of our work, important judgments, inspiring stories, tales of our impact, media coverage and a lot more. I am inviting you to explore the world of Ekam Nyaay Foundation and if you believe in our work, come join us as an ally.

Last but not the least, none of this could have been possible without my parents, my family, my loved ones, my friends, my dearest colleagues Rohit, Harsh, Shiv, our amazing volunteers and above all, the DONORS to this organization without whom we are incapable of doing anything.

This report is dedicated to every soul who has believed in Ekam Nyaay.... ”

-Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj

Founder, Ekam Nyaay Foundation



Highlights of The Year



Captain Rakesh Walia Case: A moment that is etched in memory for all of us at Ekam Nyaay Foundation this year is that of standing alongside Captain Rakesh Walia in Supreme Court of India as a false rape case lodged against him got quashed. It was an honor to work with him in his fight for Innocence. A decorated former Indian Army officer, he was implicated in an absolutely bogus rape case by a woman who has filed 9 similar rape and molestation cases on 9 different men in Delhi alone. We had tears in our eyes as the apex court found him innocent and called this case an abuse of process of law.



The Ekam Nyaay Show: We created a platform for people with extraordinary stories of grit, resilience, perseverance and a zeal to fight against the wrong. The show brought forth untold stories of men who fought hard against false accusations, extremely adverse circumstances and won, inspiring countless like them to not give up. A platform where issues impacting the lives of men and their families are discussed, empowering them with knowledge and information that makes a difference to their lives.



Protest Against Section 69: We protested against Section 69 of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, a new criminal provision introduced by lawmakers which is biased, discriminatory and extremely prone to misuse. Our petition questioning the law gathered more than 75000 signatures and our on ground protest initiated meaningful debates around this provision both in mainstream media and social media.

Dating app scam arrives in Mumbai

Some women befriended by men on apps ordering expensive drinks, food and then fleeing on pretext of going to washroom, with men realising they've been duped when presented hefty bill, claim victims, activist



Jolt to The Dating App Scams Industry: Our expose of several clubs running dating app scams in the country & defrauding thousands of men, led to shutting down of many of these clubs and arrest of such scammers in various cities. The impact was such that kingpins of these scams went underground, their operations stopped and fear prevailed amongst all scammers for being the next one to be exposed.



Study on Parental Alienation Impacting Fathers in India: Our study analysed responses by 108 fathers who have been separated from their children following matrimonial disputes. It shockingly revealed that only 25% of fathers who applied for visitation rights in courts were granted the same. The study got mainstream coverage in Times of India & The Hindu, bringing forth pain of fathers who are unable to see their own kids & systems apathy



Release of Report on Husband Murder

& Suicides: A first of its kind study, Ekam Nyaay Foundation diligently documented more than 850 cases of murder of husband by their wives or intimate partner and suicides by men because of false cases, threats of false cases and matrimonial disputes.

The study was discussed in detail in a half an hour special show on NDTV and got covered in various media platforms across the country.

Awards & Recognitions



Shrimati Sushma Swaraj Stree Shakti Award

"Sambhashan Samman 2024" for having been at forefront of creating a wider awareness about wanton abuse of protective laws pertaining to Stree Shakti by producing authoritative documentary films like

#IndiaSons & #MartyrsofMarriage "



Shakti Award by NewsX Channel at We Women Want conclave in recognition for excellence in "Gender Activism"

Numbers At a Glance

2K+

People counselled

37

Arrests enabled

24

FIRs enabled

123

Articles in media

16

Podcasts

03

Researches undertaken

700M+

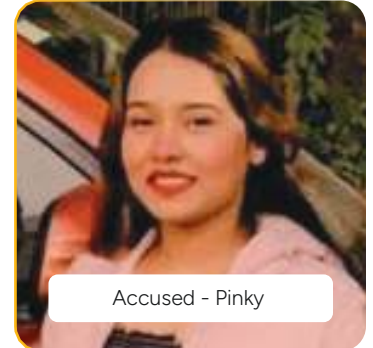
Social media outreach

(Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj & Ekam Nyaay Foundation)

Impact Stories

Framed by a Friend: How Dheeraj Fought Back against a False Rape Case

In July 2023, Dheeraj from Delhi, was falsely accused of rape. An FIR under charges of rape was registered against him at Women's Police Station Faridabad by a woman claiming that Dheeraj had raped her in December 2022 inside a car in the basement of a Mall. Shockingly, Dheeraj had never met or even seen the complainant before. Out of nowhere his friend Mukesh Narwat appeared claiming to know the woman and asked Dheeraj's family to pay ₹50 lakhs to settle the matter.



Accused - Pinky

When Dheeraj refused, he was immediately arrested. As his wife was pregnant that time, his family paid 33 Lacs in desperation after which the woman changed her statement signing an affidavit that he never did anything wrong with her. Despite this, Dheeraj spent 5 months in jail. During his incarceration, his pregnant wife endured emotional trauma and public humiliation.

After securing bail, Dheeraj reached out to Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, founder of Ekam Nyaay Foundation, for support. He broke down profusely when he spoke to her for the first time. Understanding the gravity of the case, she promised to get him justice. She approached the office of Mr. Anil Vij - former Home Minister of Haryana and requested formation of an SIT in this case providing ample evidence that this was a case of extortion as Mukesh Narwat had done the same to multiple men before.

Directions were issued from the Ministers office to DGP Haryana leading to an SIT being formed in the case. It was proved that the rape case was totally false as the woman Pinki who claimed that Dheeraj raped her was not even at the place of incident on that day and time. Eventually an FIR was registered against Mukesh Narwat and Pinki. While Mukesh was arrested in July 2025 after efforts of 1.5 years, Pinki is still absconding. We continue to work with Dheeraj in ensuring complete justice to what he and his family went through.



Extortionist - Mukesh Narwat



Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj with Dhiraj Gupta.



Supreme Court Quashes False Rape Case Against Capt. Rakesh Walia: A Triumph of Truth

Captain Rakesh Walia (Retd.), a 64-year-old decorated Indian Army veteran, author, cancer survivor and heart patient, was falsely accused of rape in December 2021 by a woman he met for book promotion. Despite clear evidence, including CDR records and a disturbing pattern of 8 similar cases filed by the same complainant from 2014 to 2022 within Delhi; Delhi Police still filed a chargesheet against him.



Capt. Walia was asked a sum of ₹2 lakh rupees to withdraw the case by the complainant through her advocate but he chose to fight this false case. He approached Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj who investigated the complainant's history, documented all her cases and exposed the extortion racket.

Through Ekam Nyaay Foundation, the case was first taken to Delhi High Court for quashing which refused the relief and asked Mr. Walia to approach lower court for recourse. With legal support from AOR Shri Ashwani Dubey, we then approached the Supreme Court of India. In a first of its kind ruling from the apex court, on February 25, 2025, the case was quashed calling it an abuse of law by the complainant who has filed multiple similar rape cases. The prolonged battle had however taken a toll - Capt. Walia suffered a heart attack and his wife suffered a brain haemorrhage. Yet, truth prevailed.

Ekam Nyaay Foundation stood by Mr. Walia in this journey and he has now filed an extortion case against the complainant and her advocate. Delhi Crime Branch is investigating the matter.

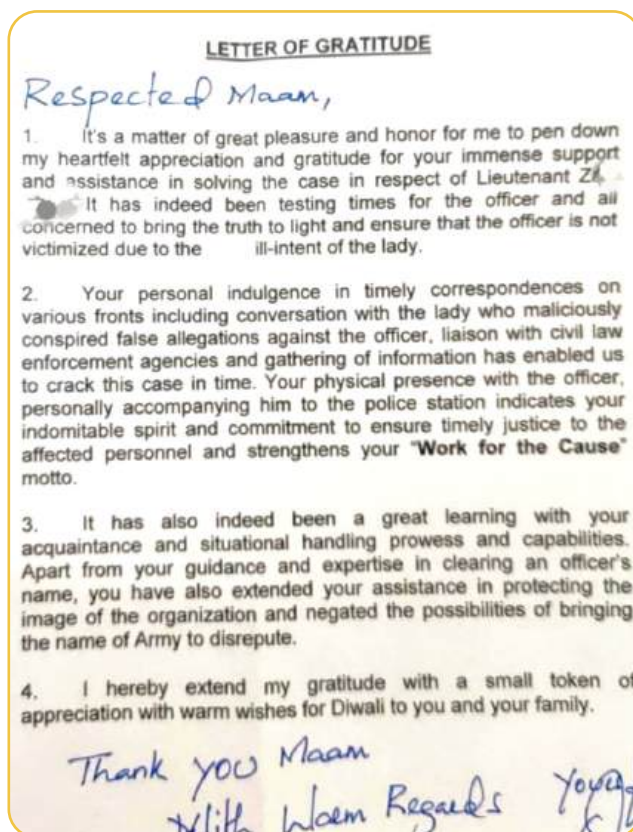


Rescuing an Army Officer from a false rape case : Story of Lieutenant Z

In September 2024, Ekam Nyaay Foundation was approached by Lieutenant Z serving in the Indian Army on challenging borders. He met a woman on a matrimonial app as he was looking to get married and met R in Delhi. The woman coerced him for sexual relationship and when he refused, threatened to file a rape case against him. She made a call to police but did not file any case. She then claimed that she is pregnant from him and sent him a pregnancy report. After he got in touch with our foundation, we connected with the hospital from where the pregnancy report had been issued. It emerged that the woman had forged the pregnancy report, changing the dates and we received the original reports. It emerged that this woman was already married, had a child from another man and this pregnancy report was from last year when she had conceived.

We provided the documents to Delhi Police and encouraged the officer to lodge a formal complaint. Eventually the woman understood that we have sufficient proof against her if she tries to lodge a false complaint and she backed out. After a few months we were approached by another Army officer who was also blackmailed by the same woman in exactly the same modus operandi. We extended all support to him and ensured that he also did not get falsely charged by the woman.

After the conclusion of this matter, Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj was acknowledged by Commanding Officer of Lieutenant Z in an official letter.

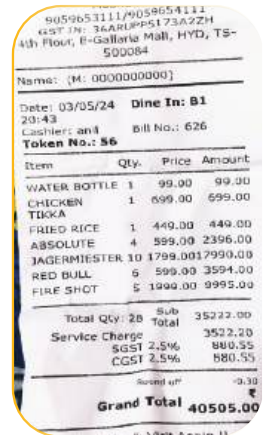


Shut down of Clubs, Arrest of 20+ Scammers : Huge Expose of the Dating App Scams

Between March and August 2024, Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj exposed dating app scams running in various metropolitan cities in India including Mumbai, Hyderabad, Indore Delhi. She was approached by multiple victims of these scams running in posh clubs who had lost anywhere from 20K to 100K rupees. Modus Operandi remained the same in all clubs that were making crores through these scams.

Deepika's posts on these scams on social media gathered more than 10 Million views after which Police either took suo moto cognizance or encouraged the victims to file official FIRs, leading to more than 20 arrests across Mumbai, Hyderabad and Delhi.

The expose led to shutting down of 3 clubs in Mumbai, 1 Club in Indore and 1 Club in Hyderabad. The kingpin and mastermind of the scam that was run in Mumbai was arrested by Mumbai Police eventually in October 2024.



Married Woman Crying Rape on False Promise of Marriage: Saving Mr. Kumar

Mr. Kumar was working in Ghaziabad where he met a woman who claimed to be unmarried. They became close and got into a relationship. Eventually they got into a live-in relationship but Mr. Kumar then got to know that the woman was already married and even had a child. As the lady claimed she no longer shared any relationship with her husband, he made it clear that he will not continue the relationship until she gets formally divorced. The lady refused to do so and threatened that she will file a rape case on him. She went to his home town, created a ruckus, leading to his father becoming mentally disturbed. Mr. Kumar then approached us last year for help.

We gave him strength to not bow down to the threats and save all evidence in case she files the case. The lady eventually lodged a rape case against him alleging that he gave her false promise of marriage. We met senior police officers in the case along with him presenting all the proof of his innocence. Police verified that the woman was still legally married and had a proper relationship with her husband. We assisted the investigation officers with various judgments from the Supreme Court of India that have clarified that a married woman can not claim she was given a false promise of Marriage.

Mr. Kumar was not arrested and eventually police filed a cancellation report in the matter which has also been accepted by the court. Mr. Kumar comes from a poor family and all the assistance to him in this matter was provided pro-bono including legal assistance by Advocate Yukti Rath in Ghaziabad.

Suicide Prevention - V from Bangalore

In July 2025, We received a heartbreaking message from a man on the verge of suicide, devastated by a matrimonial dispute that left him bankrupt and homeless. He was sleeping at bus stops and railway stations, abandoned by his family.

We immediately reached out, offered emotional support and provided emergency funds. To ensure he had a safe place to stay, a kind supporter of our work from OYO responded late at night and arranged a dignified stay along with a pickup from his lodge.

We organized a medical checkup for him and helped him with a temporary job to rebuild his life.

Justice for a 70-year-old Mr. Malvinder Singh to get his home back in Noida

Ekam Nyaay Foundation stood strong in solidarity with Mr. Malvinder Singh, a senior citizen, who rented his flat to a Doctor in Noida, only to face threats of false molestation case from her when he asked her to vacate it. Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj got in touch with him after a report by The Quint, where he shared his ordeal. His story was amplified by her on social media garnering more than 1.7 Million views.



Mr. Singh and his wife were forced to live in a rented Delhi apartment while their own home remained locked by the tenant. The lady who was then working with AIIMS as a Doctor, was publicly called out for torturing a family of elderly citizens. We made rounds to police stations to counter her false complaints against Mr. Singh and after a court order, ensured that he gets access back to his flat by approaching the DM and Tehsildar.

The case concluded with Mr. Singh's emotional return to his home, marking a hard-won victory after months of public and legal pressure. Deepika stood by Mr. Singh when he finally entered his own home.



The suit disposal application dated 07.06.2023 submitted by the plaintiff/building owner Shri Malvinder Singh S/o Late Shri Jagjit Singh R/o House No. 124, Block-FB, Mansarovar Garden, New Delhi is accepted, the Deputy Collector Dadri, District Gautam Budh Nagar is ordered to inspect the subject property Flat No. 701, Tower Regent A, Omaze Grandwood Society, Sector-93B, Noida, District Gautam Budh Nagar. For videography/photography, a local authority not below the rank of Naib Tehsildar shall be appointed and directed that after conveying the notice to the parties two days in advance, the subject property shall be allotted at the cost of the parties in the presence of the parties or their representatives Flat No. 701, Tower Regent A, Omaze Grandwood Society, Conduct site inspection, photography, videography of Sector-93B, Noida, District Gautam Budh Nagar and hand over the keys of the property by the defendant to the plaintiff, ensure to provide his report to this Court within a maximum of one week from the date of the order regarding possession of the property and pending dues (rent, maintenance, electricity, water, sewer, gas etc.), thereafter the decision regarding the outstanding dues will be determined on merits as per rules.

Date: 25.06.2024

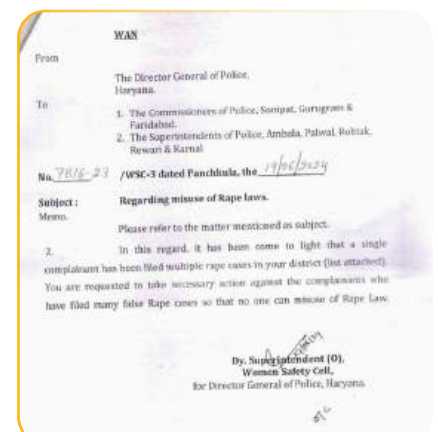
(Atul Kumar)
Additional District Magistrate (V/R)/
Rental Authority,
Gautam Budh Nagar.

The said judgment was announced, dated and signed by me in open court today and issued by the seal court.



Circular by DGP Haryana for prevention of false rape cases by serial rape case filers on our complaint

Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, Director, Ekam Nyaay Foundation submitted a formal complaint to Sh. Anil Vij, former Home Minister and DGP Haryana informing them about multiple rape cases filed by the same woman in various districts of Haryana. The complaint led to a circular issued by DGP's office to police heads of 8 Districts ordering action against such complainants who are misusing rape laws.



Arrest of Mahesh Phogat, Binita Kumari & Police officer Munesh Devi Dating App Extortion Racket Busted in Gurgaon



A gang led by Mahesh Phogat, previously jailed under POCSO charges, was arrested in Gurgaon for orchestrating a series of extortion cases involving false rape allegations. Fluent in law and posing as a representative of the NGO "Association for Health and Social Justice," Phogat exploited legal loopholes to intimidate victims. Alongside Binita Kumari, who used the alias "B" on Bumble, the gang targeted men via dating apps, lured them to hotels under the pretext of casual meetups involving "beer and fun," and shortly after accused them of rape.

The victims were then approached by Phogat to "strike a deal," demanding lakhs to withdraw the complaint. At least four cases have surfaced, though many more are suspected. Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, contacted by victims helped escalate the matter to higher authorities.

Gurgaon police laid a trap and arrested the culprits, including Sub Inspector Munesh Devi, who accepted extortion money. Her anticipatory bail was rejected even by the Supreme Court.



Woman who has filed 12+ Rape, Gangrape & Molestation cases: Arrest of Bhawna Sharma

Relentless efforts of two years by Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj saw result in May 2024 when Bhawna Sharma, a woman from Jaipur Rajasthan got arrested by Police on charges of extortion, criminal intimidation and many other charges. This woman has filed more than 12 cases of rape, gangrape, molestation on multiple men in Rajasthan, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, majority of which have been proven false by Police, including a false gangrape case where she harmed herself to make it look like a case of Nirbhaya.



Deepika released an audio recording between her and her advocate where they are talking about taking atleast 15-20 Lacs from a person in order to settle a false rape case filed on him. She also filed formal complaints with DGP Rajasthan and approached the Bar Association to take action on advocates who were helping this lady.

Eventually she was arrested when she filed false rape cases against even advocates. Her bail plea was denied by the Sessions Court, citing societal harm and repeated misuse of legal provisions.

plIndia

FREE HEALTH FACILITIES TO SENIOR CITIZENS BY INCLUSION IN AYUSHMAAN BHARAT

PMR EX BAAZ

MODI SARKAR

PRESS THE LOTUS BUT

MAKE BJP WIN

Editor's picks | News Reports

Jaipur Police arrests serial rape accuser Bhavna Sharma who filed 14 rape cases since 2016: Details

जमानत का पत्र सं. 61/24 (1574/2024)

सावना शर्मा / कपकप
जारीत दि. 22.05.2024

@deepikanarayanbhardwaj

के अनुसार से यह स्पष्ट है कि प्रकरण में गिरफ्तारशुआ अनियुक्ता द्वारा परिवारी के अतिरिक्त अन्य व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध भी करीब 14 मुकदमे विभिन्न थानों में 376डी, 377, 354, 376(2)(एन), 420, 323, 341, 420, 506 आदि धाराओं में दर्ज करवाये गये हैं जिनमें से अधिकांश में पुलिस द्वारा अंतिम नकारात्मक प्रतिवेदन अदम तक खूट में पेश किया गया है। हस्तगत मामले में अभी आरोप-पत्र पेश नहीं हुआ है। वर्तमान समय में इस प्रकार की घटनाओं के निरन्तर वृद्धि हो रही है। साजिश इस तरह की Modus Operandi रखते हुये हस्तगत प्रकरण की प्रकृति के कृत्र कारित करना निःसंदेह गम्भीर प्रकृति का अपराध है। ऐसे अपराध करने वाली महिलाओं को जमानत का लाभ इस स्टेज पर दिया जाता है तो इससे समाज में गलत संदेश जायेगा।

8. अतः इस स्टेज पर प्रकरण के गुणावगुण पर कोई टिप्पणी बिना उपरोक्त समस्त तथ्यों, परिस्थितियों तथा अपराध की प्रकृति को दृष्टिगत रखते हुये प्रार्थीया/अनियुक्ता को जमानत का लाभ दिया जाना न्यायोचित प्रतीत नहीं हो रहा है तथा प्रार्थीया/अनियुक्ता का जमानत प्रार्थनापत्र खारिज किये जाने योग्य है।

Hope amidst Injustice: Assistance in case of sexual assault of a minor boy in Delhi



A 14-year-old boy was brutally sexually assaulted in a Delhi school, resulting in severe internal injuries, including ruptured intestines. Despite the gravity of the crime, the family had to run from pillar to post for Justice.

The boy's sister had been forced to discontinue her studies, and the school reportedly rusticated students who stood in solidarity with the victim and raised their voices for justice. Activist Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj met with Shri Priyank Kanoongo, former Chairperson of the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), currently serving as a Member of National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) along with the victim's mother. The mother shared her concerns and Priyank Ji and his team offered a patient hearing, promising all possible legal support for both the boy and his sister. NCPCR assured disbursal of compensation and admission of both the students to good schools.

Arrest of an Advocate and two women who lodged false rape case against a senior citizen to extort 10 Lacs

In July 2025, Ekam Nyaay Foundation was approached by a woman whose senior citizen widower father was implicated in a false rape case by a gang that befriended him after a missed whatsapp call and demanded 10 Lacs in exchange for settling the case. We advised the family to gather concrete proof of extortion demands.



They gathered courage and collected strong proofs where advocate of the alleged rape victim demanded money. We approached higher police officials with the proofs and also met State Women Commission Chairperson Ms. Renu Bhatia to apprise her of such gangs running in the state. After seeing the proof, she immediately ordered an inquiry leading to an FIR against the entire gang and arrest of the advocate and two women in August 2025. False rape case against the elderly was then closed by the police and the trio are now facing trial.



Sandeep Paswan Suicide : Support to family to get an FIR registered

On September 17, 2024, Sandeep Paswan, a 33-year-old chartered accountant from Jharkhand residing in Mumbai, died by suicide after going live on Facebook for 20 minutes, detailing his ordeal. He accused his fiancée Sapna Karu Paswan and her family of taking ₹12.5 lakhs from him under the pretext of marriage, then cancelling the engagement and filing a false stalking case when he demanded his money back. On the night Sandeep died, he was once again beaten up by the woman and her family but the police threatened him instead of a molestation case.

Despite a suicide video, evidence of monetary trail and the stalking allegations against him being wrong, Police did not register even an FIR in the case. Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj got in touch with the family, put the suicide video of Sandeep on social media to seek Justice for him and approached higher officials in Mumbai Police to fairly investigate the case and take action.

Fiancée, family booked for man's suicide on FB Live

Govandi-based CA had accused them of false charges of sexual harassment

SHIRISH VAKTANIA
Shirish.vaktania@mid-day.com

TWO months after chartered accountant Sandeep Paswan died by suicide in Deonar after taking to Facebook Live to blame his fiancée and her family, the police registered an FIR against them.

Paswan, 33, had accused them of mentally torturing him and making false accusations of molestation against him. The victim was a resident of Govandi.

On September 17, he went live on Facebook and spoke about how he was allegedly cheated by his fiancée on the pretext of marriage and later framed in a false sexual harassment case. His family members saw the video and informed the police, but before the cops could get there, Paswan had died.



Sandeep Paswan died by suicide on September 17

His brother, Deepak Paswan, said, "In 2018, my brother was in Kolkata for his studies and a relative sent him a marriage proposal from Mumbai. My brother met the girl, they exchanged phone numbers and decided to get married. In 2021-22, Sandeep called me and said he is shift-

ing to Mumbai as his fiancée had found him a job there at a pharma company."

"Sandeep gave her ₹12.5 lakh to purchase a flat where they would live after their wedding. But after he gave the money, his fiancée's behaviour changed. They [her family] cancelled the marriage. She [his ex-fiancée] returned ₹7 lakh but refused to return the rest," added Deepak.

In June, when Paswan asked them for his money, they allegedly registered a false case of molestation against him at Nehru Nagar police station. Deepak added, "I need justice for my brother. The police should arrest the woman and her family members. This is a gang that is targeting innocent people and looting them on the pretext of marriage."

After persistent follow ups and a campaign for justice, an FIR was filed in October 2024 against the girl and her family. However, no arrests have been made in the case till date. Deepika continues to be in touch with the family assisting them in their fight for Justice.

Wife and Boyfriend booked & chargesheeted for Extortion in Matrimonial Case

In October 2024, Ekam Nyaay Foundation was approached by a man whose wife demanded 1 Crore from him just 1 month after the marriage because he discovered her affair with another man. He was assaulted by his wife & her lover and they threatened to file multiple false cases against him if he did not pay up. He had clear evidence of demand for money and threats of cases but he was not being heard.

The wife filed multiple maintenance and domestic violence cases on him across Delhi, Noida, and Ghaziabad to coerce him into paying up. Ekam Nyaay Foundation approached senior police officials and presented evidence of threats, extortionist demands, and abuse of his parents.

Following intervention by us and submission of proof, an FIR was lodged against the wife and her lover a month later and police also filed chargesheet in the case which is rare. It is a herculean task to book a married woman under extortion charges by the husband but with clear proofs we encouraged the man to do so. This case marks one of the few instances in India where a wife has been formally charged with extortion in a matrimonial dispute.

N.C.R.B (एन.सी.आर.बी)
I.L.F.-4 (एकीकृत जांच फार्म -II)

FIRST INFORMATION REPORT
(Under Section 154 Cr.P.C.)
प्रथम सूचना रिपोर्ट
(धारा 154 दंड प्रक्रिया संहिता के तहत)

1. District (जिला): ट्रांस हिण्डन (कमिश्नेट)
FIR No. (प.सू.रि. [REDACTED])

P.S. (थाना): इन्दापुरा
Date & Time of FIR (प.सू.रि. की दिनांक/समय): 19/03/2024 21:07 बजे

Year (वर्ष): 2024

2. S.No. (क्र.सं.)	Acts (अभियोग)	Sections (धारा(एँ))
1	भा द सं 1860	323
2	भा द सं 1860	504
3	भा द सं 1860	506

3. (a) Occurrence of offence (अपराध की घटना):
1. Day (दिनांक): शुक्रवार
Time Period (समय अवधि): पहर 1
Date From (दिनांक से): 15/03/2024
Time From (समय से): 00:00 बजे
Date To (दिनांक तक): 15/03/2024
Time To (समय तक): 00:00 बजे

(b) Information received at P.S. (थाना जहाँ सूचना प्राप्त हुई):
Date (दिनांक): 19/03/2024
Time (समय): 21:07 बजे

(c) General Diary Reference (रोजनामचा संदर्भ):
Entry No. (प्रविष्टि सं.): 079
Date & Time (दिनांक और समय): 19/03/2024 21:07 बजे

4. Type of Information (सूचना का प्रकार): लिखित

5. Place of Occurrence (घटनास्थल):
1. (a) Direction and distance from P.S. (थाना से दूरी और दिशा): पूर्व, 02 किमी
(b) Address (पता): ग0 [REDACTED] बसुधरा
(c) In case, outside the limit of this Police Station, then (यदि थाना सीमा के बाहर है तो):
Name of P.S. (थाना का नाम):
District (State) (ज़िला (राज्य)):

Beat No. (बीट सं.):

6. Complainant / Informant (शिकायतकर्ता/सूचनाकर्ता):
(a) Name (नाम): Sagar [REDACTED]
(b) Father's/Husband's Name (पिता / पति का नाम):
(c) Date/Year of Birth (जन्म तिथि / वर्ष): 1979
(e) UID No. (यूआईडी सं.):
(f) Passport No. (पासपोर्ट सं.):
Place of Issue (जारी करने का स्थान):
(g) Id details (Ration Card, Voter ID Card, Passport, UID No., Driving License, PAN)

(d) Nationality (राष्ट्रियता): भारत
Date of Issue (जारी करने की तिथि):

Arrest of Bangladeshi Woman illegally staying in India and misusing laws

In yet another false rape case - a man approached Ekam Nyaay Foundation in February 2024 seeking help. He said he was implicated in a rape on false promise of marriage case by a woman who worked in the porn industry and was in a live-in relationship with him. She was from Bangladesh but was staying illegally in India along with her mother and family by forging documents. When he refused to support her illegal activities and stopped helping her monetarily, she lodged a rape on false promise of marriage case on him to seek revenge. He had to spend 6 months in Jail for a crime he did not commit before he approached us.



We assured him of all help and sought help from senior police officials and wrote letters to authorities to investigate her illegal status in India. After several months of efforts by us, this man and a journalist who helped us in the matter, in September 2024, this woman was arrested along with her family members on serious charges of forgery, cheating and illegal residency, bringing partial justice to the man she falsely accused.

SAMIULLAH KHAN
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‘My family and I were constantly harassed and threatened’

MID-DAY EXCLUSIVE » Man who exposed Bangla adult film actress illegally living in city talks about battle to stop her from conning people

THE actor who exposed adult film actress Riya Arvind Barde, allegedly a Bangladeshi national posing as an Indian and living in the country illegally, in a conversation with mid-day, detailed how he uncovered the truth about the woman whom he met during the shooting of a pornographic film in Virar, during the COVID-19 lockdown in 2020.

Incidentally, Barde's Indian stepfather Arvind, attempted to enter India via Nepal after flying in from Qatar, but was intercepted by Nepal police and sent to Dubai. He returned from Dubai to Mumbai on January 31, was taken into police custody, and subsequently handed over to the Thane police for further investigation.

The actor lived in Versova while Barde resided in Ulwe, and most of their shoots took place in Virar and Soras. "The shooting would start at 7 am and sometimes continue till 2 pm. It was difficult for her to commute from Ulwe," the actor recalled. She eventually requested to stay at his Versova residence, and he agreed.

However, over time, the actor grew suspicious of Barde. "From her conversations, I sensed she was Bengali, but her surname was Maharashtrian, which made me question her identity," he said. "My doubts were confirmed when she asked me for ₹5 lakh claiming she needed the money to bring her aun's children from Bangladesh to India."

She admitted to being Bangladeshi when he directly confronted her about her nationality. "I told her to find another way to handle her situation. But when I refused to give her money, she started harassing my

parents in Thiruvalla. She feared I would report her to the police about her illegal status," he explained.

The actor clarified, "I wanted to distance myself from her after discovering she was a Bangladeshi living here illegally. I wasn't refusing money out of spite, but because I knew she planned to use it to bring people (illegally) from Bangladesh."

Despite continuous harassment at his home and threats to his family, the actor complained about Barde to the Ulwe police, informing them she was a Bangladeshi national living illegally in India. However, to his shock, the police did not act on his complaint and instead appeared to side with the woman.

In a twist of events, in April 2022, Barde filed a rape complaint against him at the Versova police station, leading to his arrest. "I was jailed for about six months before being released on bail," the actor stated.

After his release, he tried to move on with his life and focus on work. However, the issue resurfaced when he received an Instagram message from a man living in Poland. The message

revealed that Barde had married the man, lived with him for 1-2 months, and then filed a dowry harassment case against him and his parents, demanding ₹40 lakh as compensation.

"This was the turning point for me," the actor said. "I realised that if I didn't expose her, she would continue to ruin more lives by trapping people in false cases."

The actor knew that Barde possessed an Aadhaar card, PAN card, and passport, and suspected they were obtained using forged documents. He approached the Amravati police, filing a formal complaint and requesting an investigation into her citizenship status and fraudulent activities.

Continuing his efforts, the actor gathered information through Right to Information (RTI) queries. "The documents I received, including her birth certificate and gender certificate, were all forged and issued from West Bengal. The government departments concerned and the school in West Bengal confirmed this and even sent an official letter to the Amravati police regarding the fraudulent documents," he revealed.

Further investigations via the e-court portal uncovered that Barde had previously been arrested by the Mumbai police in 2020 for prostitution.

The actor also shed light on Barde's background. "Barde originally from Bangladesh. Her mother, a Bangladeshi, entered India. She later married a Mar

ried Riya's mother in 2013, but the children were from her previous relationship," the actor added.

Following Riya's arrest, her siblings Ritu and Ravindra, mother Anjali, and stepfather Arvind, were residing in Qatar.

In another revelation, the actor disclosed that Riya had

smuggled a young girl from Bangladesh to India, forcing her to work as a domestic help. "After Riya's arrest, her siblings disappeared, and now even the whereabouts of that girl are unknown," he said.

The Thane Crime Branch, which is handling the investigation, has issued a lookout notice for the absconding family members. Recently, the Thane Crime Branch arrested the man who posed as the father of Barde to facilitate their documents in India. The police had arrested Barde in the case but she jumped bail and is currently untraceable.

6 MONTHS
Approx. time complainant spent in jail due to false case against him

(From left) Riya Arvind Barde; Riya uses the name Arohi Barde for her adult modeling work; Ravindra Barde, alias: Royaz Shaikh who is Riya's older brother

(From left) Ritu, Riya's sister; Arvind, Riya's stepfather; Anjali Barde, alias: Ruby Shaikh, Riya's mother

Research Initiatives

Husband Murder and Suicide



Overview

Violence can affect individuals regardless of their gender, and it is essential to address all forms of violence, including instances where men are victims. While as a society we are constantly trying to address and resolve issue of violence against women giving special emphasis to violence on women by Intimate Partners, it is largely unaccepted and disbelieved that even women can be abusive and violent towards Men. Violence against men by women is a reality which is rapidly increasing as women become as empowered, powerful, and strong as men socially, economically and physically. Intimate partner violence can have serious consequences on the person who experiences it and men are silent sufferers of the same.

Today, men are victims of physical violence, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, controlling behaviour, financial abuse, blackmail, false implication perpetrated by intimate partner but there are hardly any researches or statistics available on the same. Men may face several challenges in reporting these incidents due to societal expectations and stereotypes, and there are no laws for them. India does not recognise domestic violence against men as the Domestic Violence Act recognises only women as victims.

Even the law that criminalises physical or mental cruelty within marriage (IPC 498A or Section 85, 86 of Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita) is only for married women and not married men. Thus, there is no data available in National Crime Records Bureau of crimes against men by intimate partner.

At Ekam Nyaay Foundation, our endeavour is to bring forth issues that men and their families are facing in the society today due to legal and social apathy. This research report aims at bridging the gap of unavailability of any data to establish that men are also victims of violence and abuse at the hands of women today and our laws need to be gender neutral to provide recourse, relief, and justice to such men.

Research Premise

Our understanding behind this study is that murder and suicide are two extreme outcomes of troubled relationships or suffering. Before the situation escalates to this extreme there are undertones of abuse, violence and mental trauma. By documenting incidents of murder of men by wives or girlfriends and suicide by men due to reasons as described in the report, we are establishing that there is considerable number of men who are victims of abuse but as we do not have gender neutral laws, the actual numbers are not known. The incidents documented in this study have been taken from media reports which published these crimes and not from police data or national crime records bureau data as it is not recorded by agencies in gender-based formats in terms of victim and perpetrator.

This report is a result of painstaking effort that our team has undertaken over a year to document every incident that we could find.

Research Methodology

The central agency that records and publishes statistics every year for all the crimes in India is the National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB). NCRB does not record data based on the relationship between the murderer and the victim. Hence, we collected data from the news reports published on online news portals and newspapers. The number of crimes is much more than what we collected because all crimes are not reported in the newspaper. Similarly in case of suicides also, while data on total number of men dying by suicide in India every year is available and family problems remain to be the biggest cause of these suicides, any further understanding of what these problems were, is not available.

In cases of Husband Murder, we have consciously not included cases where news report described that the woman perpetrated the crime either in self-defence or where the man indulged in sexual abuse of his daughters.

In cases of Suicides by Men, we have not included cases where news report did not mention any sort of abuse as described above as the probable cause of suicide

Challenges

Our primary source of cases collected in this research have been newspapers or digital media platforms. All crimes are not reported in Newspapers or digital platforms. While different newspapers have different editorial policies, crime stories are given less than 10% space by most newspapers or media platforms. Of these, crimes perpetrated by women and children are least reported.

Most cases of murder or suicides by men are reported by regional media houses whether TV, print or digital. Mainstream newspapers do not carry such stories unless the case is extremely brutal or highlighted by police itself. Even in regional newspapers, such incidents are hidden in small corners and often not published in digital formats.

Even from regional media, we could mostly collect cases only from English and Hindi editions due to language barrier. To gather incidents reported in newspapers from other states where regional languages are more dominant, we had to rely on digital news and as discussed, most such reports even if reported in newspaper, do not come in digital form. Hence, the data gathered can be said to be a small percentage of actual such cases happening across India.

ADULTERY - LEADING CAUSE OF MURDER OF HUSBANDS BY WIVES IN INDIA: REPORT BY EKAM NYAAY FOUNDATION



Author - @roamingjournalist

सितंबर 27, 2024 4 minute read

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Husband Murder by Wife or Intimate Partner

BRUTAL CASES FROM 2023

Guwahati Double Murder: Husband and his mother were killed by his wife and her two male friends. They killed them then dismembered their body into pieces and disposed of in the forest of Meghalaya. The reason behind killing is that the husband did not work and wife suspected that he is cheating on her.

Ravikant Pandey [Kanpur]: Priyanka murdered her husband Ravikant Pandey (37) in Kanpur. Ravikant Pandey was working in Gujrat as a security guard and came home on Independence Day. Priyanka had an illicit relationship with Anas. They both conspired to eliminate Ravikant who was a hinderance to their affair. After murdering her husband, Priyanka had sex with Anas to celebrate the murder. She also put up a drama about her husband's death until police found out that she was the mastermind behind his elimination.

Ram Pal [Pilibhit]: Dularo Devi murdered her husband Ram Pal (55) on 23 July in Pilibhit. She killed him while he was asleep and then cut the body in 5 pieces with the help of an axe and dumped it in the nearby canal. Both husband and wife had illicit relationship. Dularo sought help of lover to dispose off the body but when he refused, she cut the body, placed it in bags and threw it in canal.

Manik Singh [Bhopal]: Aarti Chauhan murdered her husband Manik Singh (35) on 26 July in Bhopal. They got married just 15 days ago on 10th July. She with her lover Raja Verma killed him by strangling him and then slitting his throat using a vegetable knife. The police arrest both Priyanka and Raja.

Niresh [Greater Noida]: The victim's wife requested a loan of Rs 5 lakh for her neighbor, her secret lover. Unaware of their affair, the husband agreed. When he asked for repayment, the lover, along with wife conspired to strangle him to death.

Birendar Gurjar [Singrauli]: Kanchan Gurjar murdered her husband Birender Gurjar on 21 February in Singrauli. She mixed 20 sleeping pills into his food then attacked him with an axe and finally killed him by cutting off his genitals.

Mohammed Firoz [Ghaziabad]: Priti Sharma murdered her live-in partner Mohammed Firoz on 5 August in Ghaziabad. She forced him to marry but he denied it so, she slit his throat with a razor and

then put his body in the suitcase. Police arrested her while she was taking the body away to dump it.

Rinku [Panipat]: Ruksana murdered her husband Rinku on 14 September in Ahar village of Panipat. She with the help of her lover who happened to be the elder cousin of the victim stabbed Rinku while he was sleeping in the night, she held his hands from behind and then her lover Sahil stabbed Rinku with a knife. Sahil ran away but Rinku's family members caught her. Rinku and Ruksana had two children.

Dadaji Popat Gawli [Nashik]: Sunita Dadaji Gawli murdered her husband Dadaji Popat Gawli (40) on the 10th of July in Nashik with the help of their son Nishant Dadaji Gawli (21) because the husband had an extramarital affair with some woman. Their son Nishant held Dadaji's hands and feet when Sunita struck him with an Iron Pestle while their daughter was asleep in the next room.

Shivraj Yadav [Gwalior]: Meera murdered her husband Shivraj Yadav in Dhirauli Village of Gwalior on 27 September. She with her lover Puttu Yadav tied the hands, legs and mouth of Shivaraj Yadav and then wrapped electric wire around his neck and applied electric current. They did this in front of Meera and Shivraj's 4-year-old son. Initially, family members thought it was an accident and even the last rites were done but somehow family members got suspicious, and then their son told them everything.

Amarnath Singh [Jamshedpur]: Husband killed by his wife because they quarrelled regularly over numerous issues. She killed him and then burnt the body inside the house and electrified the gate to prevent police enter the house.

Anand [Bengaluru]: Anitha murdered her husband and made it look like a suicide as she was in illicit relationship with Harish. The duo got arrested after two months of murder as post mortem revealed it to be a murder. They gave Anand sleeping pills in his food. Anitha then slit the wrist of Anand and locked him in bathroom to make the murder look like suicide. While their plan was to dump Anand on railway tracks after he became unconscious, they could not carry him there and killed him inside the house.

Avjit Tarafdar [Islampur]: Deepti killed her husband Avijit with help of her lover Javed Akhtar as he was an obstacle in their relationship. They cut veins of both his hands and legs and slit his throat. Deepti misled police by saying that her husband got killed during robbery but phone records busted her lie. The couple had a 6-year-old child.

Shailesh Sakre [Betul]: Seema got her husband Shailesh killed as he came to know about her affair with Hemant.

The lovers first hatched a conspiracy to get Shailesh sent off to a deaddiction centre but he came out after his daughter testified. Seema eventually told Hemant that if he doesn't kill Shailesh, she will engage contract killers. Hemant hit Shailesh with a hammer and then burnt his body.

Jai Krishna [Hyderabad]: Jai Bhavani got her husband killed as he had caught her red handed with her lover Chinna. Jai had caught them in an objectionable position but asked them to stop and forget about it. Instead of stopping, Bhavani conspired with Chinna to leave for her home while Chinna went to apologise to her husband. Chinna set Jai on fire after getting him drunk and Bhavani saw it live on her phone while munching chips.

Shivcharan Jatav [Baran]: Pushpa Jatav killed her husband with help of her lover Naresh Yadav by strangling him and then setting him on fire. They threw his body in well so that no one could identify. Pushpa was an old lady whose children were also married. She met Naresh during a training program.

These are some shocking cases out of hundreds such cases that happened in 2023.

A total of 306 of Murder of Husband or a man by an intimate partner have been documented from Jan 2023 – December 2023. Most common Cause for these murders was Adultery by Wife: 213. Cutting off body parts, poisoning, stabbing, strangling or beating up to death - some of the most common methods were adopted in these murders. What is also evident in several cases is that many a times wives get away with murder of husband as she either removes all the evidence or pass it as suicide to mislead public and police. Some of the most brutal inhumane killings of husbands have happened by wives in 2023 but none of these cases are ever discussed in prime time. Hence, such cases remain oblivious to common public forming a perception that only men are violent.

Main Findings

Age	
Max	75
Min	18

Reason	Count
Extra Marital	213
Domestic Quarrel	55
Monetary	09
Suspicion	05
Other	24

Suicide by Men in India

Suicide Due to False Accusations

Kalicharan Srivas, a 45-year-old resident of Jhansi, tragically took his own life on August 21st after allegedly enduring mental torture from his daughter-in-law and her family, who demanded ₹4 lakhs from him, threatening to file a false dowry case if he did not comply. Just two days prior to his suicide, he had given them ₹2 lakhs but they continued harassing him.

Aakash, a resident of Ujjain, tragically ended his life on 12th August after being blackmailed by his ex-girlfriend. Following his marriage to another woman, the ex-girlfriend allegedly claimed to be pregnant and demanded ₹5 lakhs from him. Aakash had previously proposed marriage to her, but she had refused.

Sushil Kumar Agarwal, a 40-year-old man from Prayagraj, died by suicide on 18th August after facing relentless harassment from his wife. She had left him with their 2-year-old daughter, and when Sushil filed for divorce, she retaliated by filing false dowry and domestic violence charges against him.

Manish Yadav, a 40-year-old from Nagpur, took his own life on 10th September after being harassed by his girlfriend and her family, who demanded ₹5 lakhs from him. They allegedly attempted to file a false rape case at Kalamna Police Station but left without completing the legal process. In a suicide video, Manish revealed that his girlfriend had similarly entrapped and tormented another individual named Imran from UP.

A 45-year-old man from Ajmer took his own life on 17th September amid a dispute with his wife. Following their conflict, his wife filed accusation against him for raping their daughter. He could not bear the trauma.

Suicide Due to Extra Marital Affair

Mukesh Priyadarshi, a 40-year-old from Ahmedabad, tragically took his own life on 9th February after his wife eloped with her boyfriend following 18 years of marriage. In response to the incident, a case got registered against his wife and her lover.

Satish, a resident of Kanpur, died by suicide on 22nd September in Palwal District, Haryana, after struggling with the emotional turmoil caused by his wife's extramarital affair. She had also filed two dowry cases against him and previously attempted to poison him, although that attempt was unsuccessful.

Gagandeep Singh from Khanna, Punjab, tragically took his own life after being devastated by his wife's extramarital affair in Canada. She had cleared the IELTS exam and moved there, later sending him a fake suicide message, which led him to take this drastic step. In March 2023, a case was registered against her for abetment of suicide.

Pravesh from Noida died by suicide on 24th February after discovering his wife's extramarital affair. When he confronted her about it, her sister came to their home on the same day, threatened to file a false case against him, and took her sister away.

Lalaram, also known as Lalit, from Pali, tragically took his own life after enduring significant emotional distress. His wife initially ran away with her lover but returned after two years to live with him again. However, she later absconded once more, this time taking all the jewellery from their home along with her lover. Unable to cope with this betrayal, Lalit ultimately committed suicide.

Suicide Due to Mental Harassment or Domestic Violence

Rohit Kumar, a 27-year-old, tragically took his own life on 27th June after facing constant harassment from his wife and her family. Rohit had been married for just 1.5 months when the situation escalated.

Trimal Singh, a 50-year-old Station House Officer (SHO) from Kasganj, tragically ended his life on 23rd February after being blackmailed by a woman who claimed to be his wife. Following his suicide, the police registered a case and arrested her.

Anish from Kalka, Haryana, tragically took his own life on 16th May after his wife aborted their child without his consent. The couple had been trying to conceive for a long time, and when she finally became pregnant, she chose to terminate the pregnancy without informing him.

Jitendra Ahiwrrar, a 32-year-old from Jhansi, tragically took his own life on 9th September after enduring harassment from his wife, who allegedly pressured him to transfer their house into her name and deposit ₹20 lakhs into her account. As of now, no case has been registered against anyone in connection with this incident.

These cases are just a glimpse of the actual picture that happened in 2023 when the husband or boyfriend committed suicide. A total of 517 cases have been documented between January 2023 and December 2023 which includes reasons like mental harassment, false cases, domestic violence, extramarital affairs of the wife, and others but the actual numbers would be much higher than the ones we documented, it means a man died by suicide in every 17 hours predominantly due to harassment by wife or female partner or relative in a domestic dispute.

Any physical or emotional harm (mental harassment) of a married woman by their in-laws falls under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (now 85,86 BNS) and all such cases are documented by NCRB but no such data exists for men as the law is not there. In cases where cause has been written to be “reason not known” are cases where no direct suicide note was found but the circumstances described in the incident report suggest that the person was disturbed due to above mentioned reasons.

The most common reason for suicide cases analysed was mental cruelty - 235. Some of the most common factors seen for mental harassment of the man in the cases analysed are – threats by wife of sending his family to jail, constant pressure to leave his family, demand of transfer of property in name of wife and extra marital relationship of wife. In last few years, many cases of suicide by men are being reported due to threats of rape case by girlfriend or woman they met for sexual relationship.

Societal shame and fear of being trapped in false cases are two most common factors for men taking their own life. Lack of understanding by society, presumption of guilt of a man if he in conflict with a woman and social conditioning of male gender to not express their problems also adds to their decision to quit.

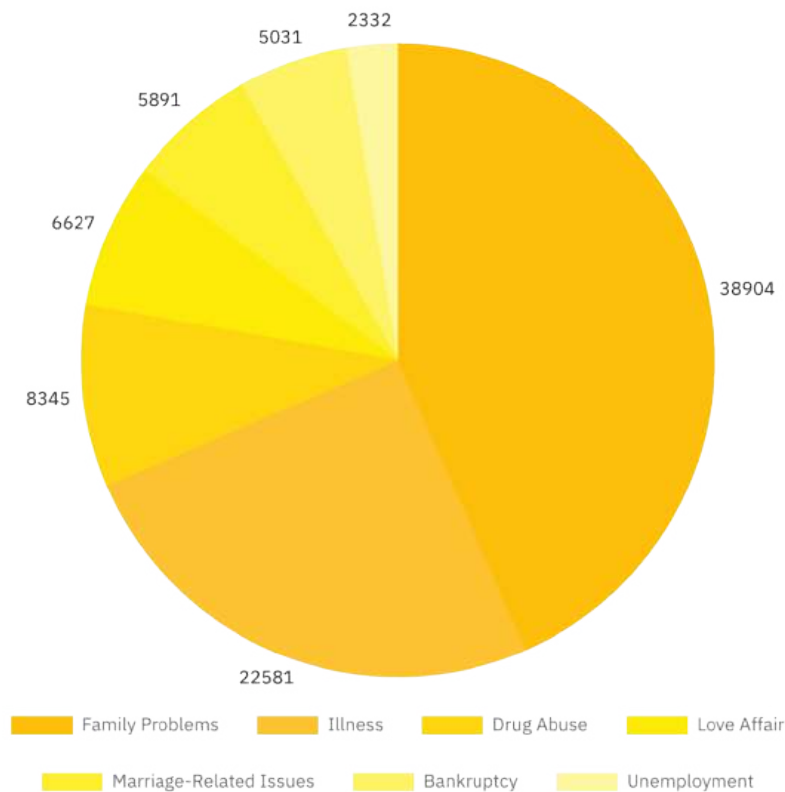
Main Findings

Age	
Max	71
Min	16

Reason	Count
Mental Cruelty	235
Domestic Violence	22
Adultery	47
False Case	45
Suspicion/Abandonment/Cheating/Monetary	168

Suicide by Men – Data from NCRB, 2022

A total of 1,22,724 men died by suicide in 2022 as compared to 48,172 women. Number of married men who died by suicide in 2022 was 82,000. The most common cause of suicide of men is family problems which are not described in detail by NCRB. In order to dismiss the issues men face, a common argument is that most men die because of financial problems or unemployment. But as seen above, bankruptcy and unemployment are among the last two reasons for suicide by men.



Police and Judicial Bias

While analysing several cases, one common finding was that in most cases, police either did not even register an FIR when a man died by suicide, even if there was a suicide note or if they registered the case, no arrest happened of the people responsible for driving the man to suicide. Judiciary also grants quick bail to women accused of abetment of suicide.

In 2023, a Public Interest Litigation was filed in Supreme Court of India for formation of National Commission for Men to address issues concerning men especially in wake of rising number of suicides. But on July 3, 2023, SC dismissed the PIL. The judges said the data presented by the petitioner was one sided and it needs to be seen how many women die by suicide after marriage. Honourable Court did not take into account that there are several platforms available for women to register their grievance but men do not have laws for them to report.

Conclusion

Article 15(1) of the Indian constitution says "The state shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or any of them". Yet, all the laws pertaining to mental, sexual or domestic abuse are only for women and not for men. While our constitution recognises dignity and respect of everyone, when men are violated in person in domestic relationships, they cannot get their perpetrators punished. This discrimination needs to be addressed and its high time that India makes its laws gender-neutral.

While there are no laws to protect men from abuse by intimate partner, the situation becomes further troubling because of rampant misuse of gender specific laws. False accusations have taken life of countless men in India and our lawmakers should address these issues.

RESEARCH CREDITS:

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Impact of Parental Alienation on Fathers in India

Ekam Nyaay Foundation carried out research to understand the impact of parental alienation on fathers in India. We gathered responses from 108 fathers from across the country on various parameters like years of marriage, numbers of years they have been separated from their children, whether they applied for visitation in courts and if they were granted visitation rights. We also did detailed interviews with some of the fathers. The results were shocking and revealing. Only 25% of fathers who applied for visitation rights in courts were granted the same. More than half of fathers never applied for these rights as they feared more cases by wife and their advocates advised them that they will never get those rights. Many of the fathers who we interviewed confessed having suicidal thoughts because of being separated from their child who has been totally alienated.

This study got specially featured in media and also got published in the Indian Journal of Law & Society.

EKAM NYAAY
Founding Rights - Inspiring Justice

PARENTAL ALIENATION AND ITS IMPACT ON FATHERS IN INDIA

By Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj & Dhruvi Bhatt
Ekam Nyaay Foundation

IJLS
Indian Journal of Law & Society

ABSTRACT

An initiative undertaken by Ekam Nyaay Foundation, this study was launched to gather real-life experiences and insights from fathers involved in child custody and visitation disputes in India. With the growing number of child custody battles during and post-divorce or separation, the objective of this survey is to understand the legal, emotional, and procedural hurdles faced by fathers in India as custody of children in majority of cases is given to mothers in matrimonial disputes. The survey was conducted over a period of two months and gathered responses from 108 fathers across the country. Respondents came from both large metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, and Bengaluru, and from smaller cities such as Pune, Jaipur, Bhubaneswar, and Indore. This research throws light on difficulties

**EKAM NYAAY FOUNDATION'S
REPORT ON PARENTAL ALIENATION,
HIGHLIGHTING THE TURMOIL FACED
BY FATHERS IN CUSTODY BATTLES,
PUBLISHED IN THE INDIAN
JOURNAL OF LAW AND SOCIETY**

The study conducted by Ekam Nyaay Foundation surveyed 108 fathers across India. The findings reveal that only 25% of fathers who approached the courts for visitation rights were granted them.

EXPLORING THE IMPACT OF PARENTAL ALIENATION IN INDIA

(A Quantitative Research Focused on Fathers)



Main Findings

- The respondents in the study came from many different cities all over India. Most were from large cities such as Delhi/New Delhi, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Bengaluru, and Chennai. A lot of responses were from Delhi and nearby areas like Gurgaon, Noida, and Ghaziabad, which suggests that child custody issues are more recognized or common there. People from smaller cities like Jaipur, Pune, Bhubaneswar, Varanasi, and Indore also participated, showing that these problems exist outside major cities too. A few respondents were from other countries like Australia and the USA.
- Most respondents 43.5% had been married for 5 to 10 years. Around 22.2% were married for less than 5 years, and another 22.2% for 10 to 15 years. Overall, 88% had been married for 15 years or less. Only a small number were in longer marriages 15–25 years, and 3.7% were unmarried. This shows that child custody issues mainly arise during the early or middle years of marriage when children are still young and parental responsibilities are greater.
- The majority of respondents in the survey have young children. 39.8% have children under 5 years old, and 38% have children between 5 and 10 years. 78% of the respondents have kids below the age of 10. A smaller number have older children 13.9% aged 10 to 15 years, 2.8% aged 15 to 20 years, and 1.9% aged 20 to 25 years. About 7.4% reported having no children. This shows that Parental Alienation impacts very young children as they are deprived of the love and affection of their father and disrupts the possibility of the creation of a strong personal bond.

- Most respondents 61.1% shared that they have been away from their children for less than 5 years as the major children are in below 5 year age bracket. 16.7% said the separation has lasted 5 to 10 years, and 6.5% have been separated for 10 to 15 years. About 8.3% said they are still living with their children, while 7.4% do not have children. This shows that most separations are still new. These respondents may still be facing emotional stress.
- Many respondents said they are involved in ongoing or past court cases about child custody and family problems. Most mentioned cases under the Guardians and Wards Act (GWA), Hindu (GWA), Hindu Marriage Act (HMA), and the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (DV Act). Respondents also shared cases under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), and Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC). Some cases included serious charges like those under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (POCSO), and other IPC sections such as 307 (attempt to murder), 354 (assault on women), and 420 (cheating). A few respondents said they have not filed any case yet but are thinking about it. Some also said their wives are not following court orders about custody or visitation.
- Almost half of the respondents 48.2% have gone to court to ask for visitation rights to meet their children. A larger number 51.8% have not taken any legal steps. This shows that many respondents are trying to connect with their children through the legal system, while others may be holding back due to fear, lack of awareness, or confusion about the legal process.
- Many respondents said their custody or visitation cases have been going on for different lengths of time from just a few months to 5, 6, or even 12 years. Some shared that their cases are still new, Others reported ongoing cases for 3 to 12 months. A few have weekly visitation rights, but said these are often ignored by the mothers. Some respondents have not taken legal action yet due to confusion, lack of awareness, or no proper legal help. Others mentioned issues like delayed court decisions, dishonest practices, or international custody complications, making the situation more difficult.
- Only 26.9% of the respondents who went to court were allowed to visit their children. A large number of the respondents 73.1% were not given any visiting rights by the court. This shows that many respondents are not getting enough chances to see their children.

Social Media Campaigns Leading To Results

Wife Arrested In Case Of Husband Murder - Manjeet Mishra Case

Manjeet Mishra and Megha Rathore met during college and got married in January 2024. Soon after the wedding, Manjeet's father died in a road accident, leaving the family in shock. Before they could recover, Megha and her brother Sachin started pressuring Manjeet to leave his mother and sister and live separately. When Manjeet refused, Sachin allegedly threatened to kill him.

Under pressure, Manjeet moved to a separate flat, but things got worse. Megha filed legal cases and demanded ₹1 crore alimony, saying she wanted to study abroad. Later, she filed a domestic violence case asking for ₹2 crores. Manjeet was constantly threatened and even filed a complaint with Ghaziabad police, but no action was taken.

On February 21, Manjeet was murdered by assassins hired by his in-laws. An FIR was filed against Megha Rathore, Sachin Rathore, their father, and three more men. Sachin's worker, Praveen Kumar alias Tilke from Baghpat, was arrested for arranging the murder. On February 21, Manjeet was murdered by assassins hired by his

Our Effort: While other accused were arrested, Megha Rathore remained free for months after the murder. We started a social media campaign asking Noida Police to arrest Megha as well for the murder conspiracy. Our posts on this case gathered more than 2 million views, with thousands amplifying our voice for justice. Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj personally met the Commissioner of Police, Noida, to seek justice.

The efforts led to action, and Megha was finally arrested in July 2025.



Wife Throws Litres Of Boiling Water Mixed With Chilli On Husband, Police Arrests Her Only After Our Social Media Campaign: Suraj Saini Case

On January 1, 2025, Suraj from Delhi was brutally attacked by his wife, Jyoti alias Kittu, who allegedly poured boiling water mixed with chilli powder on him while he slept, locked him inside their home with their 3-month-old daughter, and fled. The couple had married on February 14, 2024, after Jyoti allegedly threatened Suraj with a false rape case.



Suraj filed a complaint at Nangloi Police Station on December 27, 2024, detailing Jyoti's history of multiple marriages, false rape cases, and extortion. Despite the severity of the attack, Delhi Police did not arrest Jyoti for over three months. Her anticipatory bail plea was rejected by the Delhi High Court on January 22, 2025, where Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma emphasized that men too are entitled to protection under domestic violence laws, rejecting Jyoti's plea for leniency based on gender.

Our Effort: Despite anticipatory bail of Jyoti being rejected by the High Court and Supreme Court, Delhi Police did not arrest Jyoti. Suraj approached Ekam Nyaay Foundation, and we started a campaign for justice for Suraj. Our posts on his case gathered more than 1 million views, with thousands amplifying our voice for justice.

We also connected with mainstream media to cover his case and question authorities for their lack of action, and several media houses reported his story. Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj also spoke to higher police officials for action in this case. After 15 days of our campaign, Jyoti was arrested in April 2025 because of sustained efforts and public demand for justice.



Men Too Are Entitled To Same Protection From Cruelty And Violence As Women: Delhi High Court

By - Nupur Thapliyal

Update: 2025-01-23 13:52 GMT

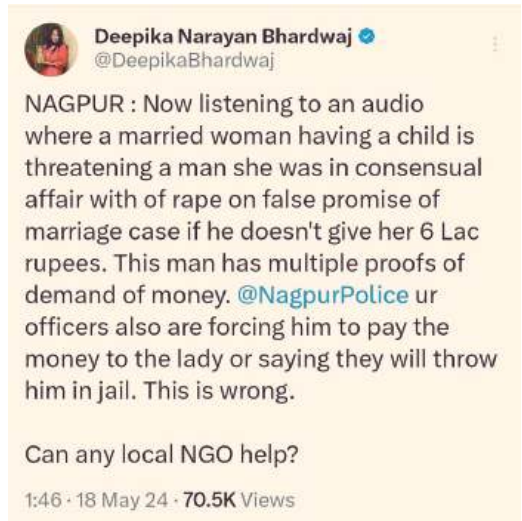


Man Saved From Arrest In False Rape Case, Woman Booked For Extortion

On May 17, 2024, a man contacted Ekam Nyaay Foundation for help regarding false implication in a rape case by a married woman who was in a consensual affair with this man. She claimed he gave her a false promise of marriage, though she was in a subsisting marriage and even had a child.

We raised the case on social media without identifying anyone and requested Nagpur Police for a fair investigation, sharing an audio where the woman was demanding money to leave the man. This man was summoned by police, his evidence seen, and was let go.

Police lodged an FIR under rape charges against the man but did not arrest him. An FIR under extortion charges was also filed against the woman, marking a significant step toward balanced and fair justice.



FIR Against Serial Rape Case Filer In Bharatpur

A family in Bharatpur, Rajasthan, has made an utter mockery of laws by filing 15 criminal cases under various charges, including rape and molestation, against multiple men in order to extort money. Though police have closed more than 10 such FIRs for being false, no action was ever taken against the father and two daughters involved in this racket.

A victim of this family, who had been falsely implicated in a rape case by one of the women in the family, approached Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj for help. We put the case out on social media and tagged senior police officers, drawing their attention to the case.

Finally, an FIR was lodged against the woman and her family in March 2024 in Bharatpur, marking a crucial step towards accountability and justice.

FIR Against Kuwari Begum Aka Shikha Maitrey for Instigating Sexual Abuse of Infants

In June 2024, a social media user reached out to Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, alerting her about a YouTuber called Kuwari Begum who was instigating sexual abuse of infants in her live broadcasts. Taking swift action, the objectionable video by this girl was shared with authorities along with a request for immediate action, and NCPCR was also alerted about the case.



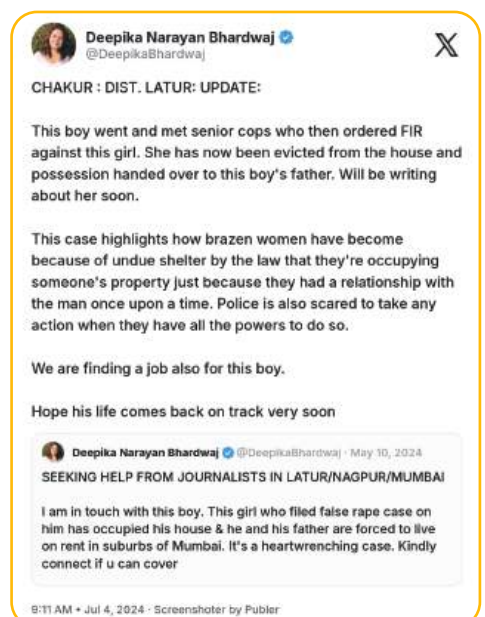
The case led to an uproar, with people demanding strict action against Kuwari Begum, whose real name is Shikha Maitrey. Ghaziabad Police took immediate cognizance, an FIR was lodged, and Shikha was arrested by the Ghaziabad Police.

FIR Against A Woman Who Filed False Rape Case Against A Man In Latur and Also Occupied His House, Forcing His Elderly Father To Leave His Own Home. Got Job for This Man

In May 2024, we were contacted by a man from Latur, Maharashtra. He was falsely accused in a rape case by his girlfriend, whom he wanted to marry but had sought time as he did not have a job. She got angry and filed a rape case against him, in which he obtained anticipatory bail. The case was eventually quashed by the Bombay High Court.

However, this girl entered his house forcibly and refused to leave, forcing him to marry her even after the rape case. He and his father had to leave their own home. We put out his case on social media without identifying him, and Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj also spoke to senior police officers. An FIR was lodged against the girl, and she was asked to vacate the house.

As this man had lost his job during this entire ordeal, we also sought employment for him within our network. Multiple companies reached out willing to hire him, and he eventually got a job through our efforts in Bangalore.



Jobs for Falsely Accused Men

Men who are falsely accused have a tough time finding a job or retaining one where they are working. Companies usually terminate a man from his job as soon as an FIR is filed against him. No matter how innocent a man is, most companies refuse to even listen to his side and either terminate the employment or ask the man to resign.

Similarly, whenever a man applies for a job while having a case registered against him under rape, dowry, or any crime against women charges, companies do not hire that person. Even if the man has got anticipatory bail in the case or has ample proof of innocence, a mere FIR is enough to have a career ruined.



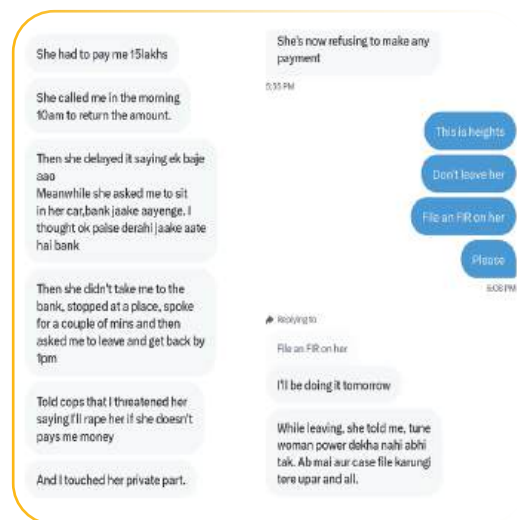
We try to help such men get a job so that they can earn their livelihood and fight their cases strongly. Last year, we were able to secure jobs for two men who were falsely accused in rape on false promise of marriage cases.

Rachakonda Police Listens to Man Being Threatened of False Rape Case

In August 2024, a young man reached out to us through social media. He informed that a woman had taken 15 Lacs from him as an investment in a project but was now refusing to return the same and instead threatening him with a rape case when he demanded his money back.

She called the man one day to take the money back and, instead of going to the bank with him, took him to an isolated spot and told him that she is a woman and one statement from her will land him in jail. We put the case out on social media and tagged Rachakonda Police, requesting them to look into the matter.

They asked the man to meet them and present his evidence. The woman was then approached by police and warned, which led to her backing out, assuring that she would not file any case and would also return the money. A timely social media intervention helped prevent a false case against the man.



Withdrawal of False Molestation Case On TT. Viral Posts Lead to Male Ticket Checking Staff In Railways Getting Body Cams

Indian Railway Ticket Checking Staff Organization reached out to Ekam Nyaay Foundation requesting intervention in a case where a TT was wrongfully arrested on a complaint of molestation by a woman who was travelling without a ticket. Though the passengers testified that he never misbehaved with the woman or molested her, the TT was arrested. We extended support to the organization, tagged higher police authorities in the state, and demanded a fair investigation. Our posts gathered lakhs of views, and we spoke to the family of the TT as well, encouraging them to fight the false allegations strongly. Media also picked up the story and started a serious debate on the safety of male ticket checking staff from false accusations.



We tagged the Railway Minister and requested that TTs be provided with body cams to avoid such false allegations. Our posts on this issue gathered about 1 million views and led to TTs being provided with body cameras on some routes in Indian Railways.

FIR on Mother for Beating Up Children Repeatedly Because of Dispute With Husband by Karauli Police Rajasthan

On July 2, 2025, Ankit Garg, a resident of Hindaun City in Rajasthan's Karauli district, approached Ekam Nyaay Foundation accusing his wife of severe domestic violence against him and their two young children. He claimed that she beat them with utensils and issued death threats. To support his allegations, Ankit shared four videos where the woman was torturing the kids inhumanly.

He approached local police and the CWC, but no action was taken. Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj took up the matter and used her social media and advocacy network to bring attention to the issue. After the story went public, an FIR was finally registered against the woman, and custody of the kids was handed over to the father.

The charges include provisions under the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, along with other sections of the IPC related to criminal intimidation and assault.

FIR And Arrest of Serial Tenant Preity Gupta In Noida: Rajesh Rohatgi Case - Blind Man Whose House Was Captured

Rajesh Rohatgi, a blind resident of Nirala Estate Society in Greater Noida West, was forced to protest outside his own flat — purchased with his and his wife's life savings — after tenant Preity Gupta refused to vacate. This wasn't her first offense; in 2022, she had similarly harassed an elderly couple, forcing them to sit on the stairs for days.

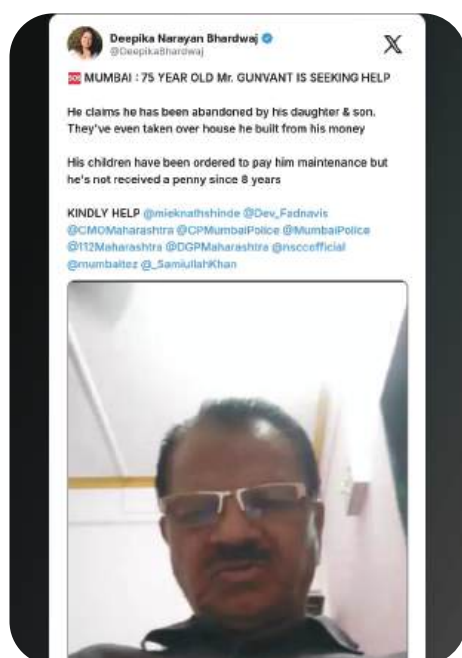


On May 1, 2025, Rohatgi launched a social media campaign seeking justice. Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj was tagged to help the man by several users on X. She took up the case, supported the elderly couple in putting out the evidence they had, and approached senior police officials to take action in the matter.

She also exposed a journalist who was helping this lady and pressuring Mr. Rohatgi to transfer his house in her name. Preity and this journalist were finally booked under charges of extortion and arrested. Mr. Rohatgi got his house back.

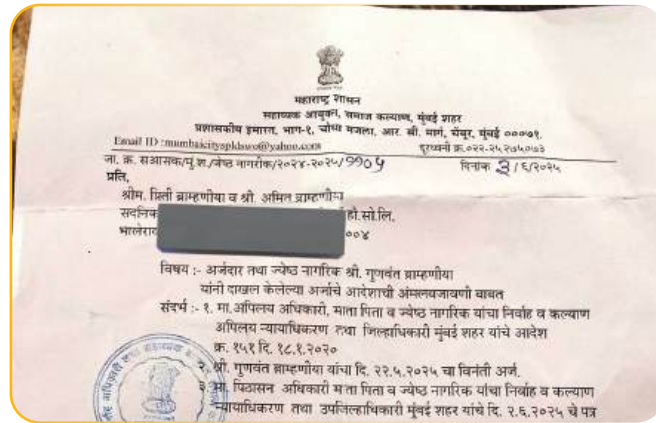


NHRC Intervenes In Senior Citizen's Abandonment Case Taken Up by Ekam Nyaay Foundation



Shri Gunvant Brahmania, 74, from Mumbai, was abandoned by his children despite a court order mandating ₹5,000 per month under the Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizens Act. Homeless for seven years, he approached Ekam Nyaay Foundation, where activist Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj mobilized emotional, financial, and medical support.

The Foundation escalated the matter to the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), which took cognizance under Section 12 of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993. On April 8, 2025, NHRC directed the District Magistrate to submit an Action Taken Report. After non-compliance, NHRC issued a final warning on May 21, 2025, threatening coercive action.



Ekam Nyaay Foundation remains committed to ensuring enforcement of the court's order and restoring dignity to Shri Brahmania's life.

FIR Against Wife Who Hired Goons to Assault Husband & Father-In-Law Breaking Their Bones In Jharkhand

In September 2024, we received a case from Hazaribagh, Jharkhand, where a woman hired goons to assault her father-in-law and husband because of an ongoing matrimonial dispute. Ajay Modi, a school teacher from Hazaribagh, and his father, Subhash Modi, were reportedly assaulted by Ajay's wife, Rinki Kumari, and a group of around 20 individuals she allegedly brought to their home.



Rinki, a former Jharkhand Police employee dismissed for behavioral issues, had previously left the marital home multiple times. Upon her return, she accused Ajay of domestic violence before orchestrating the attack, which allegedly involved knives and resulted in serious injuries, including broken bones. The family claimed that local police refused to register an FIR and were pressuring them to settle the matter through compromise.

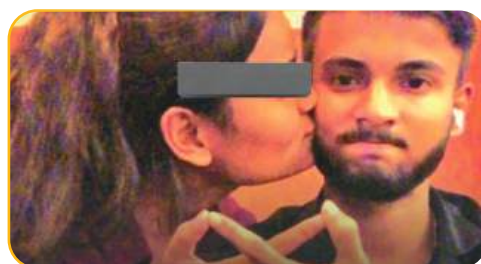
We posted the case on X, tagged police authorities, and also sought help from a former MLA to hear the family. After our post, the family was called by the police, leading to an FIR against the wife and the goons.

Pro- Bono Legal Support

There are many people who approach Ekam Nyaay Foundation for help who are from below poverty line or underprivileged backgrounds and can not afford quality legal assistance in courts. In such cases, ENF connects with Advocates from across the country who support our work and seek their pro-bono legal assistance in the matters. We have extended such help in various cases, some of which taken up in last one year are

19 year old dies by Suicide due to false rape complaint: Standing by the Family of Gaurav

“Ye mat bhoool main ladki hu, bekaar mein fansa sakti hu” These were words of Ms. A to 19 year old Gaurav in whatsapp chats before he chose to end his life in Indore, Madhya Pradesh. He died by suicide in August 2024 after A and her mother went to the police station to lodge a rape complaint against him and demanded 3 Lacs to leave him.



Despite there being explicit chats between them suggesting a consensual relationship, police threatened to put him behind bars with his family alleging that the police officer took Rs. 45,000 from him to let him leave the police station even though there was no FIR. Ekam Nyaay Foundation immediately got in touch with the family, extending all support to them.

We arranged legal support through Advocate Deeptanshu Shukl, who is representing them pro bono in the matter. Both the girl and her mother were arrested and are now facing trial in this case.



Reena Aunty case : A cook in weddings whose son was murdered by his wife

Our team met Reena Aunty in April 2025 in a protest at Jantar Mantar by Save Indian Family. She shared with us how her son was brutally murdered by his wife and her lover and how she is running from pillar to post to survive now with her son's minor daughter her complete responsibility. Reena aunty does not have any job or proper livelihood and sustains her ill husband and the granddaughter by cooking in weddings and earning some money from it.



We enquired about her immediate requirements. The foundation has now provided her with pro-bono legal support through Advocate Rahul Mishra at Allahabad High Court to fight her son's murder case, pro bono legal support through Advocate Vipul Gupta to get legal custody of her grand daughter, got her granddaughter's bank account opened and also crowdfunded money for her grand daughters studies every month. The foundation stays regularly in touch with her to ensure her well being.



Extortion cases against serial rape case filers : Quest for Conviction

In 2021, Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj started exposing serial rape case filers i.e women who have filed multiple false rape cases against several men in order to extort money. At Ekam Nyaay Foundation we continue to work on these cases and get such women behind bars.

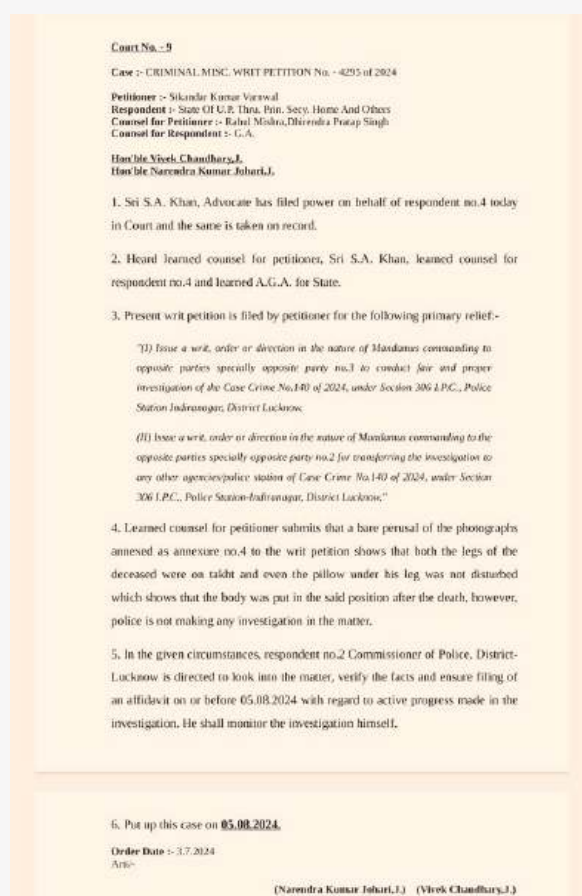
We have provided pro bono legal support to two such families in Gurgaon and Delhi. In one, the woman was arrested and spent several months behind bars and in the other, we are pursuing a case in court to get the woman booked under charges of extortion.



In total, these two women have filed 15+ rape, gangrape, molestation cases. This pro bono legal support is being provided to the families by Tripaksha Litigation, Delhi.

Suspicious death of Pramod Kumar Baranwal in Lucknow : Order from Allahabad HC

Pramod Kumar Baranwal was found dead in his home hanging from a fan in May 2024. This happened while his wife and child were present in the house. He had allegedly posted a suicide note on his facebook wall alleging harassment by his wife for the extreme step. The case was reported in the media after which Ekam Nyaay Foundation got in touch with his family only to learn that they suspected it to be a murder as someone operated his phone after his death.



They also shared a CCTV footage where Pramod's wife is talking to someone and walking out of home happily just some time before his death. We began a social media campaign for thorough investigation into the case by police authorities, however no action was taken. Eventually we moved to Allahabad High Court with the help of Advocate Rahul Mishra who extended pro bono legal support to the family and Honourable High Court issued orders to the Commissioner of Police to investigate the case in his personal supervision.

Seminars & Film Screenings

Global Reflections at the Father's Conference 2025



Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj had the honor of addressing a diverse international audience at the Father's Conference 2025, held at the prestigious University of British Columbia, Canada. This transformative event brought together thought leaders, educators and families from across the globe to explore the evolving role of fathers in modern society. The conference focused on themes such as fatherhood in the digital age, emotional intelligence in parenting, and building resilient family bonds. It was a powerful platform for sharing insights, fostering dialogue and celebrating the vital contributions of fathers in nurturing future generations.

Awareness session for Army Personnel in Gurgaon

Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj held a seminar in Gurgaon for army officers to raise awareness about the issue of false legal cases, such as those related to rape, dowry, harassment and extortion; sometimes filed against defence personnel. She spoke about how some individuals and groups misuse the law to target officers, affecting their careers and personal lives.



Screening of India's Sons at Ghaziabad Police Commissionerate

Team India's Sons and Team Ekam Nyaay Foundation conducted a special screening of **India's Sons - Documentary film** for the Ghaziabad Police.

The film focuses on the stories of individuals who have been falsely accused in rape cases, highlighting the emotional, social, and legal challenges they face.



This initiative is part of our ongoing mission to promote Equal Rights and Equal Justice for all. By sharing these powerful survivor narratives with law enforcement, we aim to foster greater awareness, empathy and balanced perspectives in the justice system.

Screening of India's Sons at Haryana Police Academy



It was a momentous day for the Ekam Nyaay Foundation when our powerful Documentary film “India’s Sons”, which sheds light on the lives of survivors of false rape accusations, was screened at the esteemed Haryana Police Academy. The event witnessed the presence of over 300 police officers currently undergoing training, many of whom serve as Investigating Officers. The screening was honored by the gracious presence of Dr. A. S. Chawla, IPS, Director of HPA and Ms. Pushpa Khatri, SP HPA.



The documentary served as a catalyst for a deeply engaging and thoughtful discussion on the critical importance of fair and unbiased investigations. The event not only highlighted the human cost of wrongful allegations but also reinforced the role of law enforcement in upholding justice for all.

This impactful screening marks another significant milestone in the Ekam Nyaay Foundation's ongoing mission to advocate for equal justice and gender-neutral laws.

Screening of the Documentary film “Martyrs of Marriage” in Ahmedabad

The city of Ahmedabad witnessed a remarkably diverse gathering for the screening of the Documentary film “Martyrs of Marriage”, which explores the alleged misuse of Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code, now reclassified under Sections 85 and 86 of the Bhartiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). The event brought together representatives from the High Court, Magistrate Court and Child Welfare Committee, alongside students from premier institutions such as IIM Ahmedabad, NID and GNLU. Members of the BJP Youth Wing and media professionals also participated.



The documentary aimed to highlight the need for balanced legal reform and judicial sensitivity. The screening led to a vibrant exchange of views among legal experts, students, activists and policymakers, fostering a deeper understanding of the issue and encouraging constructive discourse on safeguarding both justice and individual rights.

The Ekam Nyaay Show

On 19th Nov 2024, in celebration of International Men's Day, Ekam Nyaay Foundation started its own Podcast called the "The Ekam Nyaay Show" hosted by Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj. This show is a platform for unheard stories of men when they become victims of injustice and to discuss everything around men's issues. We bring real life stories that are shocking but also hugely inspiring.

Here are some of our most popular episodes :



Captain Rakesh Walia fought back a false rape case & won in Supreme Court of India



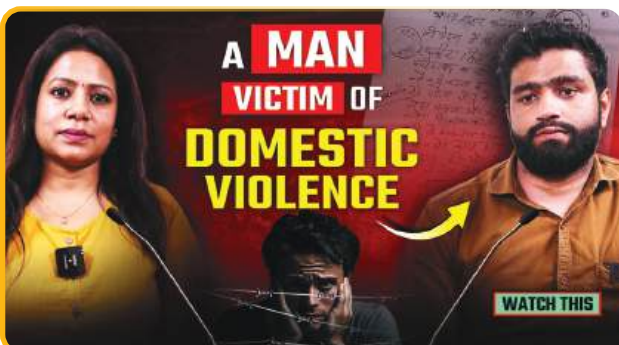
Vipul Gupta fought a false rape case filed against his father by ex-wife & won after 10 years



Shyam Ruhil was doused in 5 litre Acid by a woman for refusing Marriage



Justice S N Dhingra, Former Judge Delhi HC speaks about misuse of Laws & rising suicides by Men



Suraj Saini's wife threw hot boiling water mixed with Chilli leaving him to die



Dr. Sanjay Kumar fought a false rape case filed on him in professional rivalry & won

Open Letters

Judges who impart judgments with courage, fairness, and an unwavering commitment to justice are the true torchbearers of equality in our legal system. While it is easy to criticise the judiciary for not introducing gender-neutral laws or for perceived inaction against the misuse of certain legal provisions, it is equally important to acknowledge and celebrate those judges who rise above societal bias and uphold the principles of fairness and constitutional justice.

At Ekam Nyaay, we have always believed that constructive engagement and appreciation go hand in hand with reform. Through our open letters, we have expressed gratitude and admiration for members of the judiciary who have delivered landmark verdicts — acquitting men falsely accused of rape, initiating action against those who file false rape cases, and restoring faith in the integrity of the legal system. These judgments not only serve as milestones in individual cases but also as powerful statements reaffirming that justice must transcend gender and prejudice.

We have written a total of 9 open letters to various authorities — including Judges across India, an IPS Officer requesting him to take cognizance of a case where a woman enrolled with the Bar Council and registered as an advocate with the State Bar Council of Kerala was running an extortion racket and threatening to implicate men in false rape cases.

Additionally, we addressed a letter to Hon'ble Member of Parliament Sh. Dinesh Sharma, after he raised the tragic case of Late Sh. Atul Subhash in the Parliament of India, urging him to introduce a Private Member Bill on Gender-Neutral Laws to ensure equal protection for all citizens under the law.

Some of the open letters written to judges include:



1. Justice M Nagaprasanna

We had sent an open letter to Justice Nagaprasanna of the Karnataka High Court in the case of a serial rape case filer, Deepika YG, detailing all 12 cases filed by her and 5 cases filed against her. In our letter, we requested Your Lordship to direct the DGP, Karnataka, to gather the names registered in the Criminal Justice System, and we were pleased to see that our recommendations were also reflected in the judgment.

To,

Honorable Justice Sh. M Nagaprasanna,
High Court of Karnataka

Respected Sir,

My name is Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj. I am an independent journalist, documentary filmmaker and a social activist. I am Director of **Ekam Nyaay Foundation**, a non-governmental organization that provides support to individuals affected by false accusations, wrongful convictions, and other human rights violations, offering legal aid, emotional support, counseling and bring cases to light where men are at the receiving end of abuse. For last 12 years I have advocated for legislative changes to address gender-biased laws in India and misuse of gender specific laws. My documentary films showcasing plight of victims of false accusations of rape, dowry laws have been showcased at Judicial Academies, Law Colleges and Courts as well. Sir, I am writing to you today to seek stern action against a woman who has abused laws with impunity for last one decade.

A case pertaining to this woman whose name is Deepika YG was brought on board of your Hon'ble Court where it has been recorded that she is abusing the process of law. This lady, Deepika Y. G, has filed a total of 10 FIRs. She has filed 5 FIRs under section 376 for rape claiming false promise of marriage in all, 2 FIRs under section 498-A, and the rest cases under section 354 and other sections related to criminal intimidation, hurt, cheating, conspiracy etc as observed by you during court hearing on 28.8.24. Several complaints and cases pertaining to harassment, blackmail, extortion and criminal intimidation have been filed against her as well.

2. Justice P. V. Kunhikrishnan

We also sent an open letter to Hon'ble Justice P. V. Kunhikrishnan of the Kerala High Court for his landmark ruling in Noushad K. v. State of Kerala and Another. In his ruling, His Lordship observed that if the police find the allegations made by such women against men to be false, they can and should take appropriate action against the complainants. However, some police officers hesitate to do so, fearing that it might backfire on them. His Lordship clarified that no such apprehension is necessary, as the court will safeguard the interests of such officers if their findings are correct.

3. Judge Anuj Aggarwal

We sent an open letter to Additional Sessions Judge Anuj Aggarwal of the Tis Hazari Court, expressing our gratitude to him for acquitting a man falsely accused of rape by a serial case filer, Trisha Rathore, who has filed 14 such cases, out of which 11 were closed by the police after investigation and filing of closure reports. ASJ Anuj Aggarwal not only acquitted the accused in the present case but also initiated perjury proceedings against the complainant. In our open letter, we included detailed information about all the cases filed by her as well as those filed against her



To,

Hon'ble Sh. Anuj Aggarwal
Additional Sessions Judge
Tis Hazari Court
Delhi

Subject: **Heartfelt Appreciation for a thoughtful and progressive Judgment in State v. Sandeep Kumar**

Respected Sir,

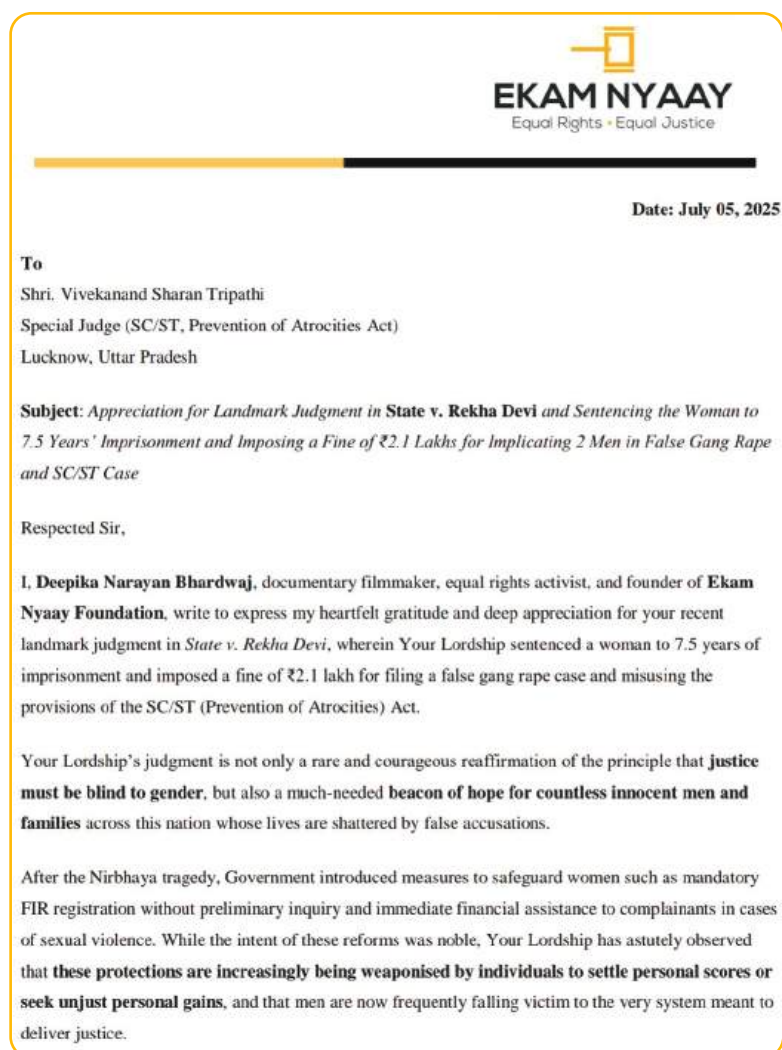
I, Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, Equal Rights Activist, Independent Journalist, Documentary Filmmaker and Founder of Ekam Nyaay Foundation, wish to extend my **heartfelt gratitude and deep appreciation** to you for a gender-just, thoughtful and progressive judgment delivered in the case of **State v. Sandeep Kumar**

Your Honours detailed scrutiny of the evidence, noting of glaring contradictions, absence of corroborative material, and consideration of the **complainant Ms. Trisha Rathore's history of filing multiple cases with intent to extort**, reflects an exceptional commitment to the cause of true justice. Not only did you rightly acquit Mr. Sandeep Kumar, but also directed **initiation of perjury proceedings against the complainant** — a step that holds immense significance beyond this individual case.

In an environment where the **menace of false accusations is increasingly being used as a weapon for extortion**, your stern and well-reasoned verdict serves not just as a relief for the individual wrongly accused but also as a beacon of hope for countless others fighting against malicious prosecutions.

4. Judge Vivekanand Sharan Tripathi

Judge Vivekanand Tripathi, Special Judge (SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities Act), Lucknow, is a true torchbearer of justice, upholding fairness and integrity irrespective of gender. We wrote an appreciation letter to him after his landmark judgment in the case of State v. Rekha Devi, wherein he sentenced a woman to 7.5 years of imprisonment and imposed a fine of ₹2.1 lakhs for falsely implicating two brothers in a gang rape case, one of whom tragically died before being acquitted. In his judgment, he also recommended that no compensation be disbursed to the complainant solely upon registration of the FIR. Not just in this case, but in several others as well, we were pleased to learn that Judge Tripathi has rightly convicted women and advocates found colluding in sextortion rackets and filing false cases. We have also written a detailed blog on our website acknowledging all the landmark judgments delivered by Judge Vivekanand Sharan Tripathi.



Noted: All our open letters can be read and accessed from our website. <https://ekamnyaay.org/blogs/>

Our Support Model

Ekam Nyaay Foundation does not charge anyone a single rupee for all the work that we do. Whether it is counsellings or interventions or approaching authorities to seek help in cases or bursting scams or getting false case filers arrested or research or media outreach for anyone needing help - we do not charge anything for our services or support to thousands of people.

Our work relies and sustains solely on our donors and supporters. We send a voluntary contribution request to those we counsel or help and put out a public request once every month. All the funds received are used only for organizational activities. We are 80G certified NGO and 80G certificates are issued to donors who wish to use it for tax rebate. We don't take any donations in cash or accept any donations from abroad as we do not have FCRA approvals.

We give immense importance to ethics and integrity in our work, which instills immense trust and faith in our donors and supporters.

While we are trying to do many big tasks, we are a very small organization trying to sustain ourselves to keep helping people.

We are incredibly thankful to our donors who enable our work and allow us to sustain.

In accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act, 2013 and the applicable rules made thereunder, we are submitting our Annual Report with the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA). This filing includes the company's audited financial statements, the Board's Report, the Auditor's Report, and all other requisite disclosures for the financial year. The submission ensures compliance with statutory obligations and reflects our continued commitment to transparency, accountability, and good corporate governance as mandated under the Act.

Visitation Rights: Only 25% Of Dads Get Access To Kids

Many Fathers Suffer Because Of Parental Alienation: Study

Vineet Upadhyay
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New Delhi: A 48-year-old former biochemistry teacher from Delhi University is without a job, after going through a divorce in 2024 following 12 years of marriage. He is also the father of an 11-year-old child, from whom he has been separated for about 10 years.

"The court allowed me visitation rights, but those were never complied with. I pursued the case but gave up as there was not the slightest hope for justice," he said, tearing up. He is one of many across the country who have been deprived of the opportunity to visit and interact with their own children.

In 2017, during legal proceedings, he applied for visitation rights under Section 26 of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, which grants the court power to make interim or final orders regarding the custody, maintenance, and education of minor children during and after divorce proceedings. The court approved, but his former wife did not follow the court's orders.

A recent study, titled "Exploring the Impact of Parental Alienation in India," conducted by NGO Ekam Nyay Foundation, has revealed that only 25% of fathers caught in matrimonial disputes were granted visitation rights by courts to meet their children.

"Parental alienation" is a process where one parent influences a child to unjustifiably reject or fear the other parent, the study says. This research says that such manipulation leads to severe emotional harm to the child and the other parent, often without any legitimate cause.

KEY FINDINGS

88% of the respondents had been married for 15 years or less, showing that these disputes arise mostly during the early parenting years

78% of the affected children are below 10 years old, indicating the formative years are most impacted

61% of fathers have been separated from their children for less than five years, while 16.7% for 5-10 years

Only 25% of fathers who approached courts were granted visitation rights. Even when granted, orders are often not followed



AI Image

ditional harm to the child and the other parent, often without any legitimate cause.

The study, carried out over two months by the NGO, collected data from across the country. It also distinguished between justified estrangement (when rejection is due to real abuse) and alienation (when rejection stems from manipulation).

The aim was to explore how alienating affects the children and the targeted parent, and to document the emotional, legal and procedural hurdles encountered by the fathers, who face this alienation.

The study revealed that 48.2% of fathers among the respondents went to court to seek visitation rights. On the other hand, 51.8% of them have not taken any legal step.

Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, director of the NGO, said:

"The suicide of Atul Subhash brought forth the pain that fathers go through in India because of being separated from their children. Indian courts grant custody of a child mostly to the mother in matrimonial disputes. Because of this, lakhs of fathers are being deprived of the love of their own children. This research brings forth the plight of fathers suffering because of parental alienation. It reveals how, despite trying hard and pleading before courts for visitation rights, just 25% of fathers get access to their kids."

Many respondents said they were involved in ongoing or past court cases about child custody and family problems. Most mentioned cases under the Guardians and Wards Act, Hindu Marriage Act, and the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act (DV Act). The respondents also shared cases under Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 125 of the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC).

Some cases also included serious charges like those under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act (PoCSO) and other IPC sections such as 307 (attempt to murder), 354 (assault on women), and 420 (cheating).

A few have weekly visitation rights, but said that these are often ignored by the child's mother. Only 26.9% respondents were allowed to visit their children.

Shonee Kapoor, a law graduate and men's rights activist, told ToI: "Child alienation should be declared a crime. The alienating parent is not just giving emotional pain to the other parent, she/he is scarring the psyche of the child in such a manner that the child will never be able to form any reasonably successful relationship in his/her life."

Many respondents in the survey have young children. Of the total, 39.8% have children under five years old, and 38% have children between five and 10 years.

"This shows that parental alienation impacts very young children as they are deprived of the love and affection of their father and disrupts the possibility of the creation of a strong personal bond," the study says.

Most respondents—61.1%—shared that they have been away from their children for less than five years, as many children are in the below the five-year age bracket.

वैवाहिक दुष्कर्म कानून के खतरे



दीपिका नारायण भारद्वाज

गलियारों के लिए संबंध करने का तब तक खतरा जब तक कि पुरुषों के अधिकारों की पूरी तरह अनदेखी कर दी जाए

वर्ष 2012 में जब मैंने अपनी छात्रावास में मास्टर्स आफ मैरिज अर्जन शुरू की थी, तब घर 498 ए का दुरुपयोग चरम पर था। जिस किसी कबिले या पुलिस अफसर से बात करो, सब आरंभ कर देते थे कि वह कानून मिलाओ के हाथों में लिखा वह वह अधिकार है, जिसे वह पति और उसके परिवार को खोना करने के लिए इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं। इसी दौरान नॉनवेजियंस से भी बात थी। अर्पण को बात था कि वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट इस कानून के दुरुपयोग को बंद करने के लिए आदेश दे देंगे। उसी साल सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने 498 ए में तुरंत गिरफ्तारी पर रोक लगा दी। इसके बाद, पारिवारिक सिद्धांत में छेड़खानी, दुष्कर्म, अनाधिकृत सेक्स जैसे आरोपों का इस्तेमाल किया जाने लगा। जेड, डेवर, डबल्यू, मामा, चाचा, नन्दा के पति आदि

पर यौन शोषण का आरोप लगाकर उन्हें जेल भिजवाया जाने लगा, ताकि खरी रकम बसूल की जा सके। किसी भी कोर्ट परिसर में मध्यस्थता बैठक में जाकर देखें, आपको इन मुद्दों में सीटबेल्ट रीती मिल जाएगी। जितनी सीटबेल्ट धाड़ें, उतनी बुरी मांग। पति और उसका परिवार धक्के खाकर और जेल में सड़कर डूना हर जगह है कि कोई भी मांग मान लेता है।

एक आम ईमान की 15-20 लाख की पूंजी जमा करने में बरसों लग जाते हैं, लेकिन ऐसे अनिश्चित मामले हैं, जहाँ कुछ दिनों में महोनी वाली शादी में भी महिला लाखों रुपये मुद्दे मुद्दे के एजेंट में ले गई। महिलाओं के पास बहुत से ऐसे कानून हैं, जिनके जाल में पति और उसके परिवार के खिलाफ शिकार कर सकते हैं। ऐसे में क्या वैवाहिक दुष्कर्म का कानून मान लेंगे? हाँ, हाँ में बंद करके ने सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कहा कि ऐसा नहीं किया जाना चाहिए। महिला एवं बाल कल्याण मंत्रालय एवं राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग ने भी ऐसे कानून के विरोध में मांग जमा किया। इस है कि क्या मात की आप महिलाओं की दुष्कर्म करने का अधिकार मांग रही हैं? या फिर वह कुछ जुनिअर नॉनवेजियंस को मांग है? इस विषय पर मैंने कुछ नॉनवेजियंस की उल्लेख किया। उनका कहना है कि वैवाहिक दुष्कर्म कानून का न होना बहुत बुरा दुष्कर्मियों को समाप्त के अधिकार के खिलाफ है। यही महिलाओं को यह नहीं कहती कि 498 ए वह धरुल हिंस के कानून में पुरुष की पहचान न होना जानें कि यह दुष्कर्मियों के खिलाफ है। अगर यह कानून कि नहीं न वैवाहिक दुष्कर्म को जेडर नष्ट कर दिया जा तो नॉनवेजियंस को जेडर रोकते हैं कि अगर



अरुण राजू

ऐसा हुआ तो पुरुष कानून का दुरुपयोग करेंगे। सफ है कि नॉनवेजियंस चाहते हैं कि हर तरह का कानून सिर्फ महिलाओं के लिए हो, बले ही वे इसका दुरुपयोग करें। 21वीं सदी में इस तरह का तर्क नॉनवेजियंस के विपक्षी के बिल्कुल विपरीत है, लेकिन आज का नॉनवेजियंस महिलाओं को सफा करने के खतरे पर पुरुषों को सताने में अधिक अग्रसर दिखता है।

यह देखना जरूरी है कि वैवाहिक दुष्कर्म कानून बनने से पहले ही न्यायालयों में किस तरह के आरोपों का दुरुपयोग हो रहा है। जितनी उच्च न्यायालय ने पिछले साल एक मुद्दे को खारिज किया। इसमें पत्नी ने पति के परिवार के पुरुष रिश्तेदारों पर दुष्कर्म का झूठा मुकदमा किया था। न्यायालय ने कहा कि जेडर झूठा है। ऐसे दुष्ट आरोप लगाने की प्रवृत्ति को रोकना होना। एक अन्य मामले में जेडर उच्च न्यायालय ने रद्द की एक दिन बाद ही पत्नी द्वारा पति पर लगाए गए दुष्कर्म के आरोप को खारिज कर दिया था कि वह

रुपये की मांग करे तो क्या न्यायालय ऐसे मुद्दों की सेटलमेंट के नाम पर खूब करेगा, जैसा 498 ए में होता है? अगर हाँ तो क्या वह उगासी का एक और जरिया नहीं बन जाएगा? क्या महिला को झूठा मुकदमा करने की कोई सजा मिलेगी? 498 ए के झूठे मुकदमों में वे शायद तो किसी महिला को सजा मिलती ही। शायद मैं पति या पत्नी द्वारा बिलकुल करारा शारीरिक संबंध न बनाना झूठा और तलाक का आधार मान जाता है। यदि पति इसी आधार पर तलाक मांगता है और इसके बाद पत्नी दुष्कर्म का आरोप लाग देती है तो कोर्ट किसका मानेगा? क्या केवल महिला का कथन पति को जेल भेजने के लिए पर्याप्त होगा? शायद सिर्फ महिला अधिकारों का तानाबान नहीं है, जैसा कि नॉनवेजियंस सिद्ध करता चाहते हैं। महिला अधिकारों के लिए संघर्ष करने का मतलब यह नहीं कि पुरुष के अधिकारों की पूरी तरह अनदेखी कर दो जाए। मान-सम्मान सिर्फ मात का नहीं, पुरुष का भी होता है। पतिव्रत द्वारा पत्नी को मानसिक और यौन शोषण किए जाने पर उन्हें सजा मिलनी ही चाहिए, लेकिन इससे अनदेखी न हो कि महिलाएं कानून का दुरुपयोग कर रही हैं और इसके लिए उन्हें कोई सजा नहीं मिलती। सुप्रीम कोर्ट को इस पर गौर करना चाहिए कि जेडर कानून डालने का अनाधिकृत जाले देना मैं हर तरह की प्रवृत्ति करने जाता हो, उसे सिर्फ एक पक्ष के अधिकारों के महिजन बनने के बजाय ऐसा कोई सजा निश्चयन चाहिए, जिससे किसी के भी अधिकारों का हानन न हो।

(दीपिका नारायण भारद्वाज हैं।
response@jagran.com)

Fake rape claim raises justice concerns

A tale of 'spray' and no way: misused allegations in Pune rape case fuel legal reform debate

Megha Kuchik
MUMBAI

In Pune, a recent rape case involving a 22-year-old tech professional took a shocking turn when her allegations were proven false. She claimed a "delivery agent" forcibly entered her flat, used a chemical spray to render her unconscious, sexually assaulted her, took a selfie, and threatened to share her photos.

However, Pune police commissioner Amitesh Kumar revealed no delivery agent was involved. Instead, a male friend visited her flat consensually, with no evidence of forced entry or chemical use. The "incriminating" selfie was taken willingly, and the threatening message was typed by the woman herself after the man left on July 2, 2025. She cited an unstable mental state as her motive,

which remains under investigation.

This incident follows another controversial case in February 2025, where a 26-year-old woman alleged rape inside a stationary Shivshahi bus at Pune's Swargate depot. The accused, Dattatray Ramdas Gade, claims the encounter was consensual, while the survivor's lawyer has sought a restraining order against narratives tarnishing her reputation. This case is still under trial.

These incidents highlight the delicate balance between supporting survivors and ensuring due process. False allegations divert police resources and risk undermining genuine victims, who face social stigma and legal hurdles.

Men's rights activist Deepika Bhardwaj emphasised that rape, a heinous crime with severe penalties in India, requires immediate detention



Women making false rape claims must face consequences to maintain justice, as public opinion strongly supports accountability. While genuine rape cases demand maximum punishment, false accusers should not evade justice, ensuring fairness and credibility in the legal system"

Deepika Bhardwaj

of the accused. However, false accusations, as seen in the techie case, are also serious crimes under Sections 248 and 217 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, involving false charges and misleading public servants to harm others.

Bhardwaj criticised the lack of action against the woman in the techie case, noting her education and consultation with a professor suggest premeditation. She argues that unpunished false allegations set a dangerous precedent,

potentially implicating innocent individuals while eroding public trust.

Bhardwaj insists that women making false rape claims must face consequences to maintain justice, as public opinion strongly supports accountability. While genuine rape cases demand maximum punishment, false accusers should not evade justice, ensuring fairness and credibility in the legal system.

Men's rights activist Shonee Kapoor stated that police can

file cases against women under Section 217 of the BNS for providing false information to misuse legal powers, causing harm. The male victim can also file a case, but third parties, such as activists, lack the legal standing to do so. Kapoor's recent RTI revealed a 4.3% conviction rate in Delhi rape cases, with 40% of women later retracting statements. He noted that some women exploit anonymity to file multiple false cases by altering their names, a practice seen across societal sections.

Advocate Shishir Gupte added that police or the male victim can pursue legal action against false complainants. Social groups may also petition the High Court on such matters. False cases are not new, often ending in compromises, with medical evidence and statements exposing their falsity.

04

Citymycity

NEW DELHI
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 02, 2023

ARE YOU AWARE OF DELHI'S DATING SCAM?

Some shots of vodka, a few glasses of wine and a chicken tikka platter — how much should that cost in the Capital of India? The amount is in thousands... and trauma, to boot, for men who are falling prey to a new racket in the city

Manvi Singh
manvi.singh@citymycity.com

I, too, frequently use dating apps. Turn out your next date could leave you broke and bruised. Over the past few weeks, a number of cases have surfaced online where men across Delhi-NCR recount getting duped and deceived on fake dates. A case in point is Archit Gupta, a young trader who recently posted about his "romantic turmoil" on X, describing the debacle where he had to shell out around ₹15k on the very first date.

"I matched with a girl on the Bumble app and the insisted that we meet in person. We met at a lounge and bar in Rajouri Garden. I didn't think much about her choice of place simply out of curiosity, but I guess that's the biggest mistake I made since now I know that some girls have tied up with cafes in Delhi to rob guys of their money by refusing to hang out at those corners that inflate the bill and threaten that he pay up, using the pretence of 'bouncers'," he says.

What's more?

Gupta is just one example! I was duped of ₹15,585, shares Sonam Mittal, a Delhi-based business analyst, adding, "I met up on the Tinder app and she asked me to meet her at CTRB Noida Metro Station. After waiting for about 20 minutes, I received a call from her saying she is waiting for me at a cafe in Bhokan Lane. What happened after that is something I would never want to think of again. I believe many other establishments in the same area are a part of this racket where men get conned. I never reported my case because I had no details of the girl."

The Abhinav Jain, a businessman from Haridwar Nagar, went on to report what happened with him: "Ladkiyon korsi chugate hi hote hain Bharat ki tarah wunde ladki, aur ladki ko palakate choti choti dange, isse what a police personnel sadhne."

Gupta, however, managed to file an FIR. Sonam Mittal, 34, Rajouri Garden, who is the investigating officer in Gupta's case, states, "A charge sheet has been filed under IPC 415 (cheating) and 420 (dishonestly inducing delivery of property) and we are currently trying to catch the owners of the cafe as they are regular fraudsters. For us, the girl who met the victim is untraceable, and the cafe owners are absconding, too."

Modus Operandi

Scene 1: As soon as one selects right on a dating app, the girl will almost immediately ask you to meet at an event.

Scene 2: The girl will persistently ask to meet at a public place and then make you wait until you receive a call from her saying, "I'm waiting at this bar/lounge (mostly in Rajouri Garden) to meet you. Come here as it's close to my place."

Scene 3: As soon as the person arrives, the girl waiting in the restaurant acts twofold to order alcohol, specifically items such as vodka shots and a non-veg platter.

Scene 4: Within 15 to 20 minutes, everything is consumed by the girl as she says, "I need to have sex as an emergency!" The reason could vary from her mother being ill or her brother/father waiting to pick her up.

Scene 5: The bill arrives at the table with a whopping amount over ₹10,000 and two-three bouncers gathering around to create pressure on the boy to pay the bill.

Scene 6: Upon making the bill payment, willingly or unwillingly and leaving the cafe you'll realise you've been untraceable on the dating app in the girl. She'll also block you on her phone. And hence there's no proof to even report the incident.

Scene 7: After the drama is over, the girl returns to the dating app in the girl. She'll also block you on her phone. And hence there's no proof to even report the incident.

Scene 8: Upon making the bill payment, willingly or unwillingly and leaving the cafe you'll realise you've been untraceable on the dating app in the girl. She'll also block you on her phone. And hence there's no proof to even report the incident.

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I was convinced by a girl named Shya Sharma (fake identity) that she wanted a genuine relationship. I ended up receiving a bill for a can of an energy drink, a cocktail, three glasses of wine, a vodka shot, a plate of chicken tikka and a water bottle totalling to ₹15,585. After leaving the bar, I went to the restroom only to return and find that both the girl and the bill had disappeared.

ARCHIT GUPTA
A DOUNIAVIA WHO WAS DUPED AT A LOUNGE AND BAR IN RAJOURI GARDEN SHARED HIS CASE ON X

DEEPIKA MADHAV BHARDWAJ, A DELHI-BASED CITIZEN MEDIA ACTIVIST, HIGHLIGHTED THIS ISSUE ON SOCIAL MEDIA

'Never thought a date would cost me a fracture and bruises'

A VICTIM SPEAKS EXCLUSIVELY TO CITYMYCITY

"I met an attractive girl on a dating app. She seemed so nice, intelligent, and fun. We went to a cafe in Rajouri Garden. I didn't think much about her choice of place simply out of curiosity, but I guess that's the biggest mistake I made since now I know that some girls have tied up with cafes in Delhi to rob guys of their money by refusing to hang out at those corners that inflate the bill and threaten that he pay up, using the pretence of 'bouncers'," he says.

What's more?

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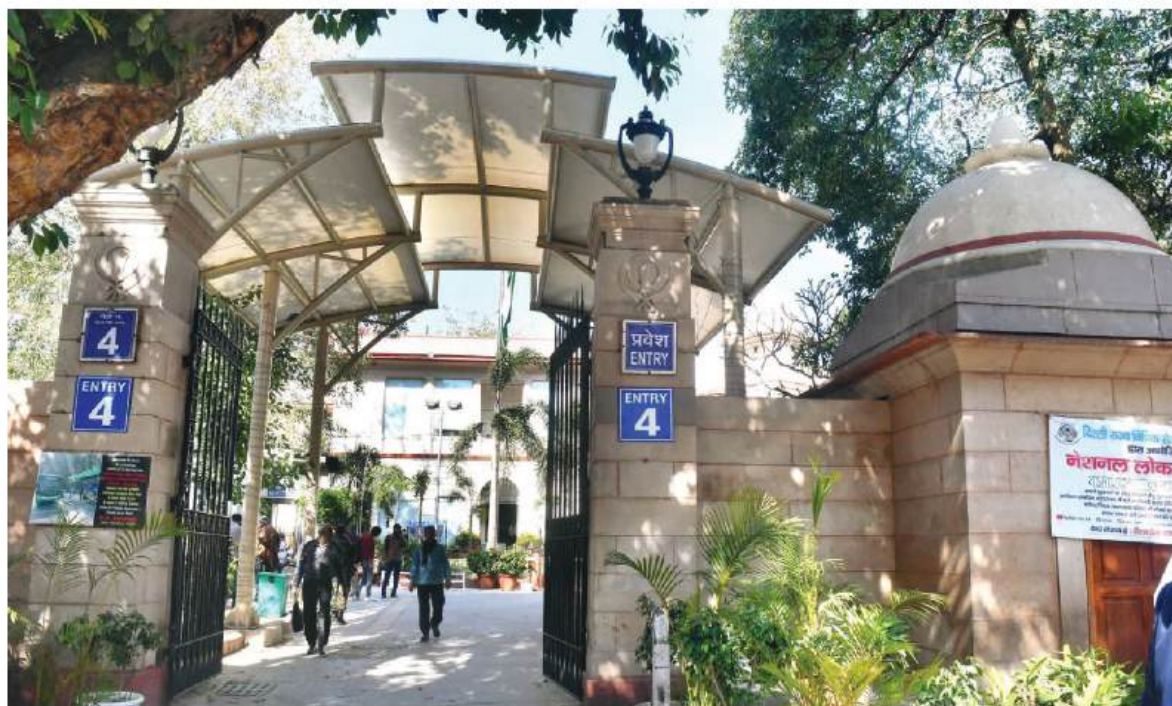
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How to stay safe on a date?

- Connect with the person on multiple social media websites and don't fail for any one dating app, to be able to confirm their real identity.
- For the first date, always look for a place like a coffee shop and not a bar (and preferably one that you have visited before).
- Before choosing the cafe, check the reviews of the place online or call up to get a sense of how genuine it is. You could also keep a friend in the loop about your date.
- Always check the registered GST number of the cafe. If you feel there's an irregularity in the bill, there are high possibilities are that the cafe is using a wrong GST number, which can be reported to the police.
- In case of emergency, call CyberDost helpline 1930 or 112, managed by Delhi Police.

SPOTLIGHT



Patila House Courts in New Delhi. IJSHIL KUMAR VERMA

The knotty promise of SECTION 69

As India enforces the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the new set of criminal laws that replace the Indian Penal Code, Section 69 faces questioning from legal eyes for its gender bias, potential misuse, and implications on modern relationships, finds **Sobarn Rocky Singh**

In July 31, a 25-year-old woman from Ramgarh, Jharkhand, filed an FIR accusing a man of engaging in a sexual relationship with her under the pretence of marriage. The woman claimed in her FIR that the man, 26, who she had known from college, had come home on multiple occasions and expressed the wish to marry her. In one instance, he allegedly told her mother explicitly not to consider any marriage proposals for her, as he intended to marry her himself.

The woman stated in her first information report (FIR) that she was introduced to his mother, who allegedly supported their union. She claimed that the man and his mother "backtracked on their commitments". She was therefore filing a case under Section 69 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the new set of criminal laws that replace the colonial-era Indian Penal Code (IPC). While the trial is still pending, the man was granted bail by a local court in October.

Section 69 of the BNS criminalises "sexual intercourse by employing deceitful means" and cites the "promise to marry...a woman without any intention of fulfilling the same", as grounds for imprisonment up to 10 years and the possibility of a fine. While it is not treated as rape, it is considered "inducement" and also applies to "false promise of employment or promotion, or marrying by suppressing identity".

There are several cases in court that use Section 69 in their FIRs, opening the doors to public and legal discourse around it. Before the BNS came into being, up to 40% of all rape case allegations pertained to 'friend', 'live in partners on pretext of marriage', and 'separated husband', going by National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data between 2016 and 2022.

On December 5, the Calcutta High Court granted bail to a man after he was arrested when a woman claimed that she and the man had been in a relationship for nine years, during which period, they engaged in physical relationship regularly. The man also allegedly promised her to marry. However, she found out that he had become engaged to another woman. When she asked for an explanation, the man allegedly cited parental pressure to marry the woman.

"It is a settled position of law that a simple promise to marry without anything more does not give rise to the concept of miscoception of fact. Therefore, under the given circumstances, the petitioner does not deserve to be detained in custody," the High Court said.

Based on the past
Prior to the enactment of
the BNS, such cases were

registered under Section 376D(2)(a) (commit a rape repeatedly on the same woman) along with Section 90 (consent known to be given under fear or miscoception), says Advocate K.S. Nanda, who represented the accused man in Jharkhand. Effectively, the two IPC Sections now form the base of Section 69.

Ravi Kant, advocate and country head of the Access to Justice Project, an international non-profit offering pro bono services, explains the difference between the previous law under IPC and the new provision in the BNS. "This is a new offence because they have used words such as 'deceitful means', 'inducement', 'false promise'. This is not rape," he clarifies.

Section 69 comes within Chapter 5 of the BNS 'Of Offences Against Woman and Child', under "sexual offences". The need for this section, says Kant, was "because such cases were reported a lot in the courts during the IPC time".

Another difference is that earlier, if a relationship lasted several years, and the woman claimed she was cheated on the pretext of marriage, the court typically dismissed such cases, he says. "It was reasoned that a long-term relationship implied mutual consent and understanding, making fraud difficult to substantiate." Now, even if the relationship is consensual, it is treated as an offence because it is taken as a false promise or a deception.

Gender biased
Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, a journalist, filmmaker, and activist, calls the new law "inherently gender biased and discriminatory" with the law suggesting that women do not have agency in decisions around sexual matters. On January 10 this year, she had started an online petition on Change.org to repeal Section 69 of the BNS, which has since garnered over 60,000 signatures.

Her contention in the petition is that "a consensual sexual relationship made on promise of marriage will be a crime only if a man reneges from it and not a woman".

The petition also talks about the power equation, where "the law presumes a woman cannot be in position of power to induce a man into sex by false promise of job or promotion". She called the law "extremely regressive" and also said it "completely discards the concept of will and consent" around sexual matters.

Since Section 69 is a recent addition, Bhardwaj uses past data recorded under Section 376 (rape) for context and comparison. Until 2015, the NCRB that compiles a yearly compendium of crimes across India in 'Offenders Relation to Victims

of Rape' category under the 'Crime Against Women' chapter, the relationship between the accused and the survivor in rape cases was broadly categorised as a 'family member', 'neighbour', or 'stranger'. However, the growing number of cases involving 'false promises of marriage' led the NCRB to refine its classifications.

In 2016, specific subcategories were introduced under the 'Offenders Relation to Victims of Rape', including 'friend', 'live in partners on pretext of marriage', and 'separated husband'.

NCRB data further reveals that the average conviction rate for all rape cases between 2016 and 2022 stood at 29.7%. However, the data does not include a sub-classification of conviction rates under the 'Offenders Relation to Victims of Rape' category. This makes it challenging to determine conviction trends specific to cases involving false promises of marriage or similar allegations.

Parliamentary report

The report no. 246 of the Rajya Sabha on the BNS, released by the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs on November 12 last year, six months before the BNS came into force, had cautioned against reinforcing gender stereotypes.

According to the report, it was difficult to prove whether a promise to marry had actually been made. It also said "intentions can change over time", alluding to the very nature of relationships.

The report stated that "criminalising a promise to marry" can intrude into an individual's right to privacy and autonomy. It said that "defining what constitutes a legally binding promise to marry can be vague and open to interpretation", which could lead to "inconsistencies in enforcement and judgments". Also, a verbal intention to marry could be a challenge when it came to evidence collection.

Differing court views

On November 26, the Supreme Court flagged a "worrying trend" of criminalising long-term consensual relationships after they turn sour. "If criminality is to be attached to such prolonged physical relationship at a very belated stage, it can lead to serious consequences," the Bench of Justices B.V. Nagarathna and N. Kottawa Singh said, while quashing an FIR against a man accused of rape by a woman who was in a relationship with him for over nine years, by her own account.

In another judgment, the Gujarat High Court on September 19 commented: "In every case where a man fails to marry a woman despite a promise made to her, [he] cannot be held guilty for committing the offence of rape."

The High Court's ruling came while quashing a February 2019 FIR for rape filed against a man, who had entered into a physical relationship with

a woman on the promise of marriage. Cases registered before the BNS came into force are being tried on the old IPC. The woman in her FIR complaint alleged that she got pregnant and when she informed the man, he reneged on his promise.

During the pendency of the trial, a baby boy was born. However, when the DNA samples of the accused and the child were tested, it was proven that the accused was not the biological father. Meanwhile, the woman got married to another person and didn't show up for the court proceedings again.

"He can only be held guilty if it is proved that the promise to marry was given with no intention to honour it and also that was the only reason due to which the woman agreed to have a sexual relationship," the High Court said, adding that "cases of consensual sexual relationship being later converted into allegations of rape are rapidly increasing".

On the other hand, in a separate case, the Kerala High Court in October declined to quash the criminal proceedings against a priest accused of raping a woman after promising to marry her. Dismissing the plea of the priest, the High Court observed that prima facie, the allegations warranted a trial, and that there was no reason to close the proceedings earlier.

Supporting the new law, advocate Ganay D. Datta, Partner at law firm Phoenix Legal, in Delhi, says, "Section 69 of the BNS addresses the gaps and ambiguities in the previous law concerning sexual intercourse obtained under false pretences such as promises of marriage or other deceitful means".

"The definition of rape revolves around the 'consent' of the woman, and courts have consistently held that sexual intercourse based on a false promise of marriage, where there was no genuine intent from the outset, falls within the scope of rape. By introducing Section 69, the BNS explicitly criminalises such acts and provides clear punishment for them," he explains.

The law is protective to women who operate in a male-dominated, patriarchal society, where marriage for women is often seen as a way of attaining personhood. Many women are consistently told in their childhood years that they belong in another home – that of their husbands and in laws.

Datta says the law broadens the legal framework by introducing the concept of sexual intercourse through deceitful means. "Moreover, it acknowledges that coercion is not limited to physical force, but can also be psychological or emotional – an aspect not explicitly addressed under the earlier law," he says.

PIL in Kerala HC

In September, a public interest litigation (PIL) was filed before the Kerala High Court challenging the constitutional validity of Section 69 of the BNS. The plea by a lawyer practising in the courts of Kerala contended that "the Section is derogatory and misogynistic to the extent that it views women as naïve, gullible and incapable of making decisions pertaining to their life". The plea also contends that the Section would lead to "serious issues for people who are in live-in relationships and people in relationships in the nature of marriage".

By outlining to include the LGBTQ+ community, it is violative of the equal protection clause. Further, it perverts a very basic human emotion, the right to have sexual union, a facet protected Under Article 21 of the Constitution," the plea stated. The High Court sought a response from the Central government on the issue.



RAVI KANT
Advocate and
Country Head,
Access to Justice
Project

40-yr-old held for extorting ₹33 lakh from close friend 'to settle' rape case

Debashish Karmakar

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GURUGRAM: A 40-year-old man who runs a spa and massage centre, was arrested in Faridabad on Wednesday, for allegedly getting his girlfriend to implicate his close friend in a fake rape case to get him jailed, police said. They added that the man then extorted ₹33 lakh from his family on the pretext of influencing the complainant to withdraw the case.

Police identified the victim as Dheeraj Gupta, 37, a real estate firm owner. He spent almost three-and-a-half months in jail after being arrested in a fake rape case registered against him at Women's police station (central) on July 12, 2023. He is from Vishwakarma Colony in Delhi's Prahladpur area.

The woman had alleged that Gupta had raped her after dragging her inside his Ford Endeavour car parked in the basement of Crown Interiorz Mall in Sector 35 in December 2022.

After his bail, Gupta had sought help from men's rights activist Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj and had written to then Har-



The accused Mukesh Narwat in police custody in Gurugram on Wednesday.

yana home minister Anil Vij on January 12 last year urging him to form a special investigation team (SIT) for crackdown on the racket that made up fake rape cases and ruined families.

It was while investigating the same complaint that Faridabad police registered an FIR at Sector 17 police station in September last year and finally arrested the kingpin Mukesh Narwat. Nar-

wat, a resident of Green Field colony, owned the spa centre in Crown Interiorz mall. Police said Narwat and Gupta knew each other for the last eight years and were close friends.

Inspector Kuldeep Singh, station house officer of the Sector 17 police station, said that Pinki, a resident of Tajpur Pahadi in Delhi and another man named Monty Chandila, a resident of Bhataul in Faridabad, were yet to be arrested.

Singh said that Narwat was virtually running an extortion gang in which he was using Pinki and other women to lodge false rape cases against businessmen to extort money.

Police officials, privy to the investigation, said that when Gupta was arrested soon after the case was registered, Narwat reached the Women's police station on pretext of helping them. They said he asked Gupta's family to arrange ₹50 lakh so that he can settle the matter by influencing the complainant.

Investigators said that Gupta's brother Neeraj Gupta had later handed over ₹33 lakh cash to Chandil. By then Gupta had been jailed.

'झूठे मामलों का शिकार हो रहे हैं पति'



पुरुषों को लेकर अपराध की रिपोर्ट पेश करती एकम न्याय फाउंडेशन की संस्थापक समाजसेविका दीपिका नारायण भारद्वाज व अन्य साथी • सौ. फाउंडेशन

जासं, गुरुग्राम: संस्था एकम न्याय फाउंडेशन ने पत्नियों द्वारा हत्या, झूठे आरोपों, क्रूरता और घरेलू हिंसा के कारण पुरुषों ने आत्महत्या के मामलों का दस्तावेज तैयार किया। यह शोध मीडिया में रिपोर्ट की गई घटनाओं पर आधारित है। एकम न्याय फाउंडेशन का कहना है कि वास्तविक घटनाओं की संख्या इससे अधिक है। फाउंडेशन की संस्थापक समाजसेविका दीपिका नारायण भारद्वाज ने कहा कि फाउंडेशन के माध्यम से उनका

प्रयास समाज में कानूनी और सामाजिक अक्वेलना के कारण पुरुषों और उनके परिवारों द्वारा झेली जा रही पीड़ाओं और समस्याओं को उजागर करना है। रिपोर्ट में 2023 में भारत में पत्नियों या महिला पार्टनरों द्वारा अपने पति की हत्या के 306 मामलों का दस्तावेजीकरण किया। इनमें से 213 मामलों में पतियों की उनकी पत्नियों और उनके प्रेमी द्वारा हत्या की गई है। पुरुषों द्वारा आत्महत्या के 517 मामलों का भी दस्तावेजीकरण किया गया है।

गुड़गांव में रेप के झूठे केस में फंसाकर बुजुर्ग से मांगे 10 लाख रुपये, 3 अरेस्ट

■ NBT रिपोर्ट, गुड़गांव

बुजुर्ग को हनी ट्रैप में फंसाकर 10 लाख रुपये मांगने के आरोप में पुलिस ने एक वकील और दो महिलाओं को गिरफ्तार किया है। आरोपियों की पहचान हरियाणा के भिवानी निवासी एडवोकेट कुलदीप मलिक, रोहतक के सेक्टर 27 की रहने वाली कंचन और दिल्ली के रत्न विहार की आशा के रूप में हुई है। बुजुर्ग की बेटी की शिकायत पर पुलिस ने यह कार्रवाई की है।

पुलिस को दी शिकायत में बताया गया कि बुजुर्ग के नंबर पर महिलाओं ने मिस्ड



कॉल की थी। कॉल बैक करने पर उन्होंने बातचीत शुरू की। धीरे-धीरे जान पहचान बढ़ाकर दोनों महिलाएं बुजुर्ग के घर पहुंच गईं। आरोप है महिलाओं ने दुष्कर्म के झूठे मामले में फंसाने की धमकी देने के लिए फोन करने शुरू कर दिए। इसके बदले

10 लाख रुपये की मांग की गई। जब बुजुर्ग ने रकम देने से इनकार किया तो एक महिला ने उनके खिलाफ दुष्कर्म का केस दर्ज करा दिया। परिवार ने डीसीपी से मुलाकात की और अपने वकील अंकित गुप्ता व सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता दीपिका नारायण भारद्वाज को पूरा मामला बताया। परिवार ने एक ऑडियो रिकॉर्डिंग भी पेश की, जिसमें आरोपी वकील कुलदीप मलिक पीड़ित से 6.5 लाख रुपये की मांग कर रहा था। ऑडियो में कुलदीप ने कहा कि यह गिरोह हरियाणा के कई जिलों में सक्रिय है।

मजाक बनता एक गंभीर अपराध

आठ साल पहले एक इंटरनेट मॉडिया प्लेटफॉर्म पर दो बच्चों की मां बबली एक युवक बंटी (बदले हुए नाम) से बात शुरू करती है। जल्द ही यह बातचीत प्यार में बदल जाती है और दोनों कई बार होटल, लाज या कहीं भी मिलते हैं। शारीरिक संबंध बनते हैं। बबली को न अपने पति की कोई चिंता रहती है और न ही बच्चों की। पढ़ी-लिखी महिला अपनी मर्जी से, सोच-समझकर वर्षों शारीरिक संबंध बनाती है। धीरे-धीरे प्यार इतना परवान चढ़ता है कि दोनों शादी करने का सोचते हैं। बबली कई वर्षों तक पति को धोखा देने के बाद उससे तलाक ले लेती है, पर इस मौड़ तक आते-आते बंटी बदल जाता है और शादी करने से मना कर देता है। ऐसे कहानी आपने बहुत बार सुनी होगी। आगे जो बबली करती है, वह नई कहानी है। यह कहानी है दुष्कर्म जैसे गंभीर अपराध का मजाक उड़ाने, यौन शोषण के नाम पर बदला लेने और सहमति से सैकड़ों बार बने शारीरिक संबंधों को अपराध का चोला पहनाने की।

सालों तक सहमति से बने संबंधों के बाद बबली ने बंटी पर दुष्कर्म का मुकदमा यह कहते हुए कर दिया कि वह इतने वर्षों से उसे शादी का झांसा दे रहा था। न कोई सुबूत, न जांच। बंटी पर दुष्कर्म जैसे संगीन अपराध का मुकदमा दायर हो गया। ऐसे मामलों में पुरुष कितना भी बेकसूर हो, पुलिस उसे तुरंत गिरफ्तार कर लेती है। बंटी ने गिरफ्तारी के डर से हाई कोर्ट से अग्रिम जमानत ले ली। इस पर बबली सुप्रीम कोर्ट चली गई, तब बंटी को अग्रिम जमानत खारिज कर सके, लेकिन शायद पहली बार सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने यह कड़वा सच कहा कि अगर सहमति नहीं थी तो बबली को इतने बार बंटी के साथ होटल जाने की क्या जरूरत थी? उसकी यह टिप्पणी चर्चा का विषय बनो। दो बच्चों की मां बबली को सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने फटकार लगाते हुए कहा कि शादीशुदा होते हुए पर मर्द के साथ संबंध बनाने के लिए उस पर भी कानून कार्रवाई हो सकता है। इस मामले को कोई आम ईंसान भी फलीं ब्रता देगा, लेकिन बंटी ने लंबे समय तक इस मुकदमे के साथ मानसिक प्रताड़ना और बदनामी का सामना किया। इसलिए किये, क्योंकि एक महिला ने कहा



दीपिका नारायण भारद्वाज



चिंतित करते व्यक्त के दुरुपयोग के बढ़ते मामले • एनएल

कि शादी का झांसा देकर उससे दुष्कर्म हुआ है। यह इकलौता मामला नहीं है। भारत में इस समय ऐसे हजारों मुकदमे हैं। युवतियां-महिलाएं एक साल, दो, पांच, दस साल तक सहमति से बनाए संबंधों के बाद भी झूठा आरोप लगाते हुए दुष्कर्म के मुकदमे करा रही हैं।

आज जब महिलाएं अंतरिक्ष जा रही हैं, प्लेन उड़ा रही हैं, तब कई पढ़ी-लिखी महिलाएं किसी से भी शारीरिक संबंध बना रही हैं और बाद में कह रही हैं कि उनकी सहमति नहीं थी, उनसे शादी का झूठा वादा किया गया। बिड़बना यह कि पुलिस, समाज और अक्सर अदालतें भी उन पर यकीन कर रही हैं। एक तरफ युवतियां माई बाड़ी-माई चवाइस की बात कर रही हैं, शादी के बाहर या बिना बिवाह संबंध बना रही हैं और दूसरी तरफ पुरुष शादी न करे तो उसे दुष्कर्म कह रही हैं। यह कैसा दोहरा चरित्र है? राष्ट्रीय अपराध रिकार्ड ब्यूरो के आंकड़ों को देखें तो शादी का काबित झांसा देकर दुष्कर्म के मामले वर्ष 2015 में कुल दुष्कर्म के मामलों के 21 प्रतिशत थे, पर 2021 तक यह आंकड़ा 51 प्रतिशत तक पहुंच गया। साफ है कि दुष्कर्म के मुकदमों में लगभग

आधे ऐसे हैं, जिनमें महिला ने पहले सहमति से संबंध बनाए और फिर कहा कि सहमति तो शादी के लिए दी थी। इस तर्क से तो यदि कोई शादीशुदा व्यक्ति तलाक मांगता है तो उसे भी दुष्कर्म बोला जा सकता है, क्योंकि महिला कह सकती है कि उसकी सहमति हमेशा साथ रहने की थी।

भारत के अलावा किसी अन्य बड़े लोकतांत्रिक देश में शादी का झांसा जैसी अवधारणा नहीं है और न ही पुरुषों को ब्रेकअप करने की बजह से जेल भेजा जाता है। हाल में क्रिकेटर यश दयाल को ऐसे ही मामले में इलाहाबाद हाई कोर्ट से अग्रिम जमानत मिली। जज ने पूछा, कोई महिला पांच साल तक शादी के झांसे में कैसे रह सकती है? जहाँ कुछ जज ये प्रश्न कर रहे हैं, वहीं दुष्कर्म संबंधी कानून का दुरुपयोग चरम पर पहुंच गया है। अब ऐसे भी मामले सामने आ रहे हैं, जहाँ एक ही महिला ने अलग-अलग पुरुषों पर चार-छह-दस मुकदमे करा दिए कि सबने शादी का झांसा देकर उसका शोषण किया। ऐसे मामलों में पुलिस ने सच जानने के बाद भी मुकदमे दर्ज किए और पुरुषों को जेल भेजा। कानून के दुरुपयोग के मामले बढ़ते जा रहे हैं। पिछले दिनों कोलकाता में 26 साल के युवक के माता-पिता ने आत्महत्या कर ली, क्योंकि बेटे को शादी का झांसा देकर दुष्कर्म के मामले में जेल भेज दिया गया। उसका एक युवती से तीन साल से संबंध था, पर शादी न होने की वजह से उसने दुष्कर्म का मुकदमा कर दिया। अब यदि वह निरीध साबित होता है, तो भी उसका सब कुछ लुट चुका है। अनिर्मित युवा शादी के झांसे के झूठे मुकदमों में ज़िंदगी गंवा रहे हैं। अखिर पढ़ी-लिखी महिलाओं की समझ को बच्चों से भी कम क्यों आंका जा रहा है? महिला सशक्तीकरण का यह मतलब नहीं होना चाहिए कि महिला जब चाहे अबला बन जाए और जब चाहे सहमति से बनाए संबंधों को दुष्कर्म बता दे। सुप्रीम कोर्ट को ऐसे झूठे मामलों में महिलाओं को फटकार लगाने के साथ उन्हें सजा भी देने चाहिए। एक गंभीर अपराध को मजाक बनाना भी एक अपराध ही है।

(लेखिका फिल्मकार, संश्लिष्ट पब्लिशिंग और 'एकम न्याय' काउंसिल की संस्थापक हैं)
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Man who extorted ₹33 lakh 'to settle' rape case arrested

Debashish Karmakar

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GURUGRAM: A 40-year-old man who runs a spa and massage centre, was arrested in Faridabad on Wednesday, for allegedly getting his girlfriend to implicate his close friend in a fake rape case to get him jailed, police said. They added that the man then extorted ₹33 lakh from his family on the pretext of influencing the complainant to withdraw the case.

Police identified the victim as Dheeraj Gupta, 37, a real estate firm owner. He spent almost three-and-a-half months in jail after being arrested in a fake rape case registered against him at Women's police station (central) on July 12, 2023. He is from Vishwakarma Colony in Delhi's Prahladpur area.

The woman had alleged that Gupta had raped her after dragging her inside his Ford Endeavour car parked in the basement of Crown Interiorz Mall in Sector 35 in December 2022.

After his bail, Gupta had sought help from men's rights

activist Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj and had written to then Haryana home minister Anil Vij on January 12 last year urging him to form a special investigation team (SIT) for crackdown on the racket that made up fake rape cases and ruined families.

It was while investigating the same complaint that Faridabad police registered an FIR at Sector 17 police station in September last year and finally arrested the kingpin Mukesh Narwat. Narwat, a resident of Green Field colony, owned the spa centre in Crown Interiorz mall.

Police said Narwat and Gupta knew each other for the last eight years and were close friends with both frequently visiting each other's homes. Gupta and Pinki, the complainant did not know each other, police said.

Inspector Kuldeep Singh, station house officer of the Sector 17 police station, said that Pinki, a resident of Tajpur Pahadi in Delhi and another man named Monty Chandila, a resident of Bhataul in Faridabad, were yet to be arrested.

"Pinki worked in Narwat's spa centre. Gupta's brother Neeraj Gupta had paid Chandila Rs 33 lakh on Narwat's direction to get the case withdrawn. After investigation, it became evident that Gupta had neither met Pinki, nor had sexually assaulted her as alleged," he said.

Singh said that Narwat was virtually running an extortion gang in which he was using Pinki and other women to lodge false rape cases against businessmen to extort money.

Police officials, privy to the investigation, said that when Gupta was arrested soon after the case was registered, Narwat reached the Women's police station on pretext of helping them. They said he asked Gupta's family to arrange Rs 50 lakh so that he can settle the matter by influencing the complainant.

Investigators said that Gupta's brother Neeraj Gupta had later handed over Rs 33 lakh cash to Chandil. By then Gupta had been jailed. After the payment, Pinki started deviating from all the information before court which she had mentioned in the FIR.

Court restrains couple from stalking man

Arnabjit Sur

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NEW DELHI: A Delhi court last week ordered a man and his wife to stay away from another man who said the couple had been stalking and harassing him since 2019, after he turned down the woman's offer to have a sexual relationship.

The court gave the order on a suit filed against the couple by the man, who is a resident of Vijay Nagar in north Delhi. Civil judge Renu of the Rohini district court said that the couple's actions infringed on the fundamental rights of the plaintiff by interfering in his ability to move freely and enjoy life peacefully.

"This is in clear violation of fundamental rights and such interference causes irreparable injury which cannot be redressed later," the court said.

The plaintiff said he met the woman at an ashram in 2019. In 2022, the woman confessed her feelings to the man, but he rejected her. She threatened to allegedly die by suicide if he failed to speak to her. The woman then began to stalk the man's children on social media and pressured him to establish sexual relations with her. When her attempts failed, she came with her husband to the plaintiff's house in March and also "created a nuisance in the neighbourhood". The man reported

the incident to the police, but the stalking allegedly continued, and the man moved court.

In his application moved by advocate Divya Tripathi for interim injunction, he sought relief against the couple from creating any nuisance outside his house and stalking and threatening his family members.

An interim injunction application is generally moved seeking a temporary order to maintain status quo in an ongoing legal dispute, to prevent further damages to either parties before the resolution of the matter.

The court saw the screenshots of chats between the plaintiff and the woman and CCTV footage and was convinced that a

prima facie case was made out in favour of the plaintiff. The order said, "The balance of convenience lies in favour of the plaintiff as a plaintiff cannot be compelled against his own wishes to remain in contact with defendants to commit suicide or to create drama in the neighbourhood of the plaintiff."

Allowing the application, the court restrained the couple from entering the suit property (where the man lives with his family) or roam anywhere within 300 metres of it.

The court also restrained the couple from stalking, harassing or following the man or any member of his family either in person or through media.

Death by marriage

PHOTO: S



SUICIDE

JANUARY, 2025
PUNEET KHURANA, 40
Delhi café owner died by suicide leaving behind an hour-long video where he claimed he was being tortured by his wife and in-laws

FEBRUARY, 2025
ROHIT, 24
In Uttar Pradesh, Rohit, a 24-year-old, died by suicide alleging that he was unable to bear torture by his estranged wife and couldn't fulfil her demand of ₹10 lakh

JANUARY, 2025
PETARU GOLLAPALLI, 40
Karnataka native Petaru died by suicide. In his suicide note, he alleged harassment by his wife and her demand for compensation



SUICIDE

DECEMBER, 2024
ATUL SUBHASH, 34
Before ending his life, the Bengaluru techie recorded his ordeal of sustained harassment and torture accusing his wife of fake cases in a 81-minute long video and left behind 21 pages of pain

BIKAS MODI,
BROTHER OF ATUL SUBHASH

I will fight for justice for my brother and every man in the country who is fighting false cases and being harassed by estranged wives. On April 19, we are organising a satyagrah for men's right at the Jantar Mantar in Delhi to request authorities to let men also live.



Men are choosing death over marital battles they never signed up for. Following a spate of recent deaths **Medha Shri Dahiya** delves into the murky misuse of section 498A of the IPC (now 85 and 86 of BNS) by scorned wives

MEN GASPING FOR LIFE: 498A (IPC)

The dream of marriage, a death sentence for many men

'Atul Subhash is not the first person to die by suicide and he will not be the last if section 498A of the IPC is not made more responsible,' says Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, chairman of Ekam Nyaya Foundation, a non-profit organisation (NGO) that fights and intervenes for men's rights.

being 'falsely accused' of domestic violence, dowry and abuse threats of 498A (IPC). Her documentary *Murders of Marriage* released in 2016 and showcased stories of men who died by suicide after being implicated in false dowry and harassment cases and subjected to torture at the hands of their estranged wives. Many men have found it easier to end their

lives than continue fighting the 'falsely invoked' section 498A (IPC) against them. But, there are innumerable others who choose to fight on, believing that their innocence will be accepted by the law and they can reclaim their lives. However, it is usually too late. Here's an account of three such men who came back from the verge of death by suicide.

Legal terrorism: HC

It is the nightmarish reality of many men in the country where section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) is used as a tool for unleashing personal vendetta against the husband and his family by a wife. The Supreme Court of India heavily criticised the misuse of section 498A (IPC), which was intended to protect married women. The Calcutta High Court also observed that this misuse unleashes legal terrorism.

WHAT IS 498A?

Popularly called the anti-dowry law, section 498A of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) or section 85 and 86 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) criminalises cruelty by a husband or his relatives towards a married woman.

WHAT MAKES IT A TOOL FOR LEGAL TERRORISM?

The offence under this section is cognisable, non-bailable, and non-compoundable, which means the accused can be arrested right away without any

legal proof or investigation. The accused are presumed guilty until proven innocent.

A COCKTAIL OF HARASSMENT

Many women settle marital disputes by invoking section 498A (IPC) falsely. And it is not 498A alone, it is a whole cocktail of sections. The other laws in the mix include domestic violence, unnatural sex, rape by in-laws, and if there is a minor child in the house, sometimes mothers file POCSO cases on behalf of the child against members of the family, shares Delhi-based advocate Akash Krishna.

A TEMPLATE FOR TORTURE

'Most advocates have a template ready and they change the names of the complainant and accused. To give you just one example, I know of this advocate who was sued by the judge because that day he had four divorce cases in the family court and all four complainants said, 'My father-in-law spat on me, my dear, (brother-in-law) pinched me, my sister-in-law pulled my hair and my mother-in-law slapped me,' Krishna shares.

Trapped by law, punished by process

'Accused my family of gang rape'

On our honeymoon, she ran from the hotel. Few weeks later, we had an argument over a handling. Then, her mother called up asking her daughter be sent to Karauli immediately. My ex-wife messaged to say she had reached her home safely. A few days later, we got a call from the Women's Cell in Karauli that a 'betonous and dirty' complaint had been filed against me, my father and sister. We didn't know what we were accused of, but we wanted the marriage to work. (My ex-wife and I) started living separately from my parents. Weeks later, there was another argument. The next thing we knew, there was an FIR against us with numerous allegations, including section 498A (IPC), domestic violence, and gang rape against me, my father and my sister. This was the second time they had levelled these allegations. They demanded ₹22 lakh for an out-of-court settlement. I paid ₹11 lakh at the time of divorce and our only request was that they tell the court the truth that it was a marital dispute. They refused after taking the money. For nine years, I ran from one state to another, contesting cases in multiple courts. I lost my business. Eventually, the truth won. The honourable court dismissed all charges and called allegations false and framed. I became a lawyer to defend myself. — Advocate Vipul Gupta, Delhi



A 35-day marriage, 12-year battle

On the very first day of marriage, we noticed she had severe spinal deformities, scoliosis and kyphosis — her spine was curved and hunched. They hadn't disclosed this to us. Anyway, we shifted to my Pune flat, hoping we could build something real. Within 35 days of our marriage, I got transferred to America. While I was there, her father, mother, and younger sister moved into my Pune flat. And then, like a nightmare unfolding in slow motion, the cases started — 498A (IPC), domestic violence, harassment — filed against me, my partially-blind father who sold sarees in Surat, my elderly uncle who appeared in the court with an IV drip, my younger sister, my mother and even my boss! My boss, who couldn't even attend our marriage, under criminal conspiracy. After eight years, when I couldn't afford the LMAs of the flat where they were living, the bank seized my flat. Even after 12 years, the legal battles haven't ended. — IT professional pursuing law to fight his cases



'They picked me up like a terrorist'

I was picked up by police at 1am from an ICU in Bhopal like a terrorist. My mother was battling for her life. I was by her side. They threw me into a private vehicle. They said, 'Laiki ko tang karta hai ab kintu bhola ban raha hai.' I thought they had confused me with someone else. Hours later, we reached Indore, where I was humiliated more at the Mahila Thana. Later, I was transferred to the girl's thana, where a constable slapped me across my face for no reason at all. I felt like an animal being paraded for slaughter. Abhi tak mujhe nahin pata hai ki yeh kar kyun rahi hain aisa. When morning came, I saw my former mother-in-law there. That's when I realised I wasn't there by accident. They accused me, my father and mother of dowry, harassment, domestic violence, and every crime they could think of. This was back in 2012, so was section 498A (IPC) men immediate arrest bota hai. The cases came out of the blue. The humiliation and torture... I still remember all of it. But I was innocent. I was an investment banker, an IIT Kanpur graduate. I decided to fight my own case and eventually won after a harrowing fight. — High Court advocate Deepanshu Shukla, Madhya Pradesh



Once falsely implicated under 498A (IPC) and other sections, men and their families go through unthinkable shame and torture. Imagine, every family member is busy defending themselves and proving their innocence because a scorned spouse has invoked the law against them falsely. They barely have time to attend jobs, run business or even live life. The humiliation ki inki bahu ne inn pe rape ka ya dahej ka mukadma kar rakha hai, is also unbearable. The law must be reconsidered, and provisions for speedy and just trials should be considered otherwise, men will continue to die for no fault of their own. These marital laws have become tools of extortion and harassment.

DEEPIKA NARAYAN BHARDWAJ, Men's rights activist and director of Ekam Nyaya Foundation



Section 498A (IPC) was framed to protect women against atrocities by in-laws, but as the honourable Supreme Court and various High Courts have observed, these are being invoked to settle personal vendetta, harass men and even extort money and property from in-laws. My client's daughter-in-law falsely accused them of section 498A (IPC) and of raping her daughter. The child was 10 years old, so it went to the POCSO court. My client told me he felt like dying because he had to prove that he didn't rape the granddaughter he lovingly raised. We proved his innocence, but the psychological and social impact on him was unimaginable. There should be heavy penalty on those who misuse these sensitive laws.

AKASH KRISHNA, Advocate, Delhi



Breaking the silence: Men's rights matter

While laws protecting women from dowry-related violence are crucial, their needs to be a balanced approach to ensure that they are not misused to destroy innocent lives. Some steps that can be taken are:

• **Fair investigation procedures:** The legal system must ensure that every complaint under section 498A (IPC) is thoroughly investigated before making arrests and entertaining complaints of such serious nature.

• **Gender-neutral laws:** Laws addressing domestic abuse and marital discord should be gender-neutral, ensuring that men are also protected from harassment and false accusations, suggests Bhardwaj.

• **Psychological support and counselling:** Men find it difficult to open up about their emotions and seek

support. In most marital disputes, they also blame themselves for their family's misery. They think, 'If I die, the hurt and humiliation everyone is going through because of me will end, too. Establishing helpdesks and counselling centres, specifically for men can provide them with the mental health support they desperately need. If Atul Subhash had got timely psychological help, he might be with us today,' says Delhi-based psychologist Poonam Sharma.

• **Penalty and punishment for false cases:** 'Women who file false dowry cases should face legal consequences. This will ensure that genuine cases receive the attention they deserve. Right now the penalty even for false rape case is just a fine of ₹500 in Gurgaon courts, in Delhi it

is nothing. That says a lot about how easy it is to make a man's life unmanageably difficult,' says Krishna.

• **Sensitisation:** The first responders are police personnel. And right now, most of the staff at the police station is rude, they abuse and scare the accused even before the investigation has begun. It is important that they are sensitised. Society must recognise that men, too, can be victims of marital abuse and domestic violence. Sensitisation programmes for law enforcement, judiciary, and the general public are needed,' says Bhardwaj.

• **Timely conclusion:** Such cases should be tried at fast track courts for expeditious trial and justice. Otherwise, innocent men suffer for years. And if the men are guilty, women get justice very late.

Helpline numbers

If you or anyone you know is fighting a similar battle, please seek help. Here are some foundations and organisations you could approach: Ekam Nyaya Foundation is an NGO founded by equal rights activist Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj. Reach out to them at: ContactUs@ekamnyaya.org

National Legal Services Authority, constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987, provides free legal services to the weaker sections of society. Contact: 15100

AASRA provides free and confidential support for people in distress or feeling suicidal. Contact: +91-9820446726

Hostile Witnesses, False Complaints: Delhi's Rape Conviction Rate At 4.3%

RTI Uncovers Grim Reality, Only ₹6L Recovered From ₹88cr Compensation Paid To 'Survivors'

Vineet Upadhyay
@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: An analysis of four years of data on rape cases in the capital, obtained from the city's district courts through Right to Information applications, reveals that in general, there is very low conviction rate—just around 4.3%. One reason is increasing false rape cases being filed. It is not only a social harassment, but also costs govt the money already paid to the presumed rape survivor as interim compensation.

Delhi has seven district courts—Rouse Avenue, Patiala House, Saket, Tis Hazari, Rohini, Dwarka and Karkardooma—data for 2021-2024 from five of them barring the Rouse Avenue and Dwarka courts, shows that of 3,097 rape cases tried, only 133 ended in conviction. This data does not include cases under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act.

While one of the reasons for the low conviction rate is the complainants resiling from their statements, only Saket and Rohini courts provided data of complainants who had turned hostile with the rest responding to the RTI query that they did not maintain such data. In Saket and Rohini, of the 792 rape cases tried in 2021-2024, only 38 ended in conviction, with the complainant turning hostile in 194 cases, resulting in the acquittal of the accused.

Shonee Kapoor, a resident of Rohini who filed the RTI, alleged to TOI that secrecy surro-

unded rape cases and the narrative of Delhi being the rape capital "is being peddled by NGOs to secure increasing funds". But, Kapoor said, a lot of precious judicial time and taxpayers' money is wasted in bogus cases. "There should be the strongest punishment for filing false rape cases," she said.

The analysis of the data underlines the rising trend of the serial rape complainant—one woman filing a number of cases against different individuals for unfair monetary gain, among other reasons. The RTI also revealed that the courts initiated action only against five complainants for filing false cases.

A woman judge in a fast-track court dealing with rape cases said, "Trial in rape cases is a complex process. There are also fake cases

which then demand rigorous investigation and trial. It starts at the level of police, the investigating officer in the case and goes up to the public prosecutor and the judge. In this chain, if anyone lags, there are high chances of miscarriage of justice. I have to admit, our system is not 100% foolproof yet."

A woman filed seven rape complaints, another woman eight, both between 2014 and 2022. In Feb this year, coming to the rescue of a 64-year-old former Indian Army officer, the Supreme Court quashed a rape case lodged against him by a 39-year-old married woman after finding she had filed eight other fake cases in different police stations in

WHY RAPE TRIALS ARE GETTING DERAILED

WHAT RTI REPLY REVEALED

1. Conviction rate in rape cases in Delhi is under 5%
133 of 3,097 rape cases in five of seven Delhi district courts ended in convictions between 2021 and 2024

Only 2 district courts—Saket and Rohini—provided data of complainants turning hostile

In these two courts

► Of 792 rape cases that were disposed of, only 38 ended in conviction

► In 194 cases, the complainant/prosecutrix turned hostile, resulting in the acquittal of the accused



2. Alarming rise in misuse of rape cases

► Growing trend of serial rape case filers; a woman, for instance, filed seven rape cases from 2014-2022

► In another instance, Supreme Court in Feb quashed a rape case lodged against a 64-year-old former Army officer by a 39-year-old married woman after it found she had filed eight similar fake cases across various police stations in the capital since 2014

'ABUSE OF LAW' | The apex court expressed surprise that Delhi High Court didn't intervene when the harried accused first approached HC for relief

the capital since 2014. Expressing surprise that Delhi High Court hadn't intervened when the harried accused approached it, Supreme Court justices Sudhanshu Dhulia and K Vinod Chandran quashed the FIR against the Armyman and observed, "What is most concerning before this court is that the same respondent filed nearly identical cases at least against eight other individuals (nine cases in total)."

Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj, a men's rights activist, said, "National outrage in 2013 led to a complete overhaul in rape laws, but a decade later, it seems the laws have become a tool to settle scores, claim

compensation, extort money." She said her documentary film *India's Sons* depicted the 3-year woe of an IPS officer falsely accused of rape by a woman he had never seen.

"Misuse of rape laws is now more prevalent than misuse of dowry laws," claimed Bhardwaj. "And it's causing a huge financial loss to govt. While it is true that every case in which the victim turned hostile might not be false, the numbers are staggering. Delhi High Court in *Raj Kumar Vs State* in 2019 had expressed concern over misuse of the victim compensation scheme."

The response to Kapoor's RTI revealed that only Rs 6 lakh had been recovered in

the last four years despite the high acquittal rate. According to the victim compensation scheme offered by the Delhi State Legal Services Authority DL, an adult rape survivor gets between Rs 4-7 lakh as final compensation if the case results in conviction. The interim compensation amount is 25% of the maximum final compensation amount and it is disbursed when the trial is under way. According to DSLSA data, 3,832 victims received total compensation of Rs 88,26,90,549 from 2021 to April 30 this year.

Abhinav Pandey, secretary (Litigation), DSLSA, explained that compensation depended on rehabilitative requi-

rements of the survivor and not strictly on the guilt of the accused. "The accused may be acquitted for a multitude of reasons such as improper investigation, not collecting relevant evidence, defects in the prosecution. Also, when the benefit of doubt goes in favour of the accused because of the general principle applicable to criminal cases of proving guilt beyond reasonable doubt, acquittal may result. These aren't proper cases for DSLSA to recover the interim compensation," said Pandey.

He added, "Sometimes, the survivor may receive inducements or is simply overawed, but that doesn't mean the case was false at the inception. So, it is only when, during trial, a case is found to lack the essential ingredients of the offence or comes across as patently false that recovery proceedings may be instituted under court directions."

Advocate Manish Bhandari, who practices in the Supreme Court, high courts, and trial courts, told TOI, "One needs to understand that a majority of the cases registered these days are that of love affairs that eventually lead to false FIRs. It's not surprising when the victim later turns hostile. The severity of genuine cases of rape or serial harassment is truly understood only by women who have endured the pain and suffering. Unfortunately, such serious matters are often trivialised when false cases are filed. A clear distinction must be made right at the outset, during the registration of the FIR."

Testimonials



Deepika ma'am!! Your name is saved in my phone as RAY OF HOPE!!! I was shattered before I came to know about you and your work!!! You infused a ray of hope. Whenever I get in doubt regarding wrongs being done to men or I need any sort of guidance you are there...You and your team are actually a hope...

K. Wife of a man falsely accused of Rape



Your NGO's commitment to making a tangible difference in the community is truly inspiring. The dedication and compassion of your team have a profound impact on the lives of many, and it's evident in the positive changes you bring about. Thank you for your unwavering efforts and the hope you instill in others.

Advocate Rahul Mishra, Allahabad HC



This can't be explained in words, we were stuck, shattered, surrounded by all kinds of those allegations which we never dreamt about. It was from a girl to one of my family members. Not gonna give our story the sugar coating or exaggeration.. but the TRUTH is DEEPIKA MAM .. we can't repay your debt...

Hemant



Hello Deepika Maam,
I saw your podcast and literally started crying when you spoke about my case. I really want to thank you for saving my life. You are like a person god sent out of nowhere when I was about to take a wrong step. Thank you so much ma'am. I hope she will be behind the bars soon. Keep up the good work ma'am.





Dear Deepika ji, I fall short of words to express my sincere gratitude for your very positive support in guiding me through this Fake Case .You have always gone out of your way to help those in distress and trust me the work you and your NGO is doing is incredible. I fall short of words to convey my thanks.

Retired Captain W, victim of a serial false rape case accuser



Deepika is like a God for innocent men to help out their life in false cases and other harassments. A lot of respect for you on your hard efforts and having continuous support to make the victim comfortable as these kinds of matters can't be shared with anyone or nobody can even support. Deepika - you are a real hero in many

G. Victim of a Honeytrap



I am immensely grateful for the support provided by this NGO in a false rape case involving a young man. Your team's commitment to truth and justice has been truly remarkable. In such a distressing and complex situation, you offered not just legal guidance, but also emotional strength. Your dedication has given a real chance at justice and restored hope

Falsely Accused in a Rape Case



Good evening, I hope you're doing well. I sincerely thank you for your valuable suggestion to file an RTI to obtain the complaint details. Following your advice, I filed the RTI, and within a week, the investigating officer—who had been unresponsive and avoiding me for over two months—called me today to discuss the current status of my case. He has also invited Sir. It seems the police department has now begun investigations into the matter. Thank you for your support and guidance.

Sudhanshu – Cyber Crime Victim



Ever since gory details of the FIR with respect to the fake rape case that too from a friend & a lawyer hit me, I was completely shattered and absolutely had no idea how to proceed further. My life seemed over. My world came crashing down. All the goodwill that I had earned over the years seemingly went down with respect & awe, all seemed to be looking the other way. I was almost driven to self-harm.

This is the moment where I came across Deepika and took the reins into my hands of all the happenings around me. It was her undaunted and unconditional support with complete selfless outlook which gave me a renewed energy and encouraged me to fight back these fake allegations. She was the first one ever to give me a proper analysis of the FIR and the actions that should be followed up in a very sequential and result oriented manner. I can never thank her or her team enough.

She reposed faith & trust in me, infused that 'Josh' and encouraged me to fight back. Had I not met her maybe the results of this entire misadventure may have taken off in a completely another direction. It is but for her timely help and intervention that I could put forth my innocence in the required manner and achieve the desired end state.

She very candidly in her analysis pointed the whole plot to be a result of an active conspiracy between my estranged wife and this lawyer friend of mine where in the marital discord was fully taken advantage of and even an extortion attempt was given shape. However, thank God fully, none of these conspiratorial attempts could reach the desired results and self and others named in the complaint came out scathe free. She also very boldly and without any fear pointed out the collusive & lackadaisical attitude of the police.

Retired Colonel in The Indian Army



After being falsely charged in a criminal case, I went through years of pain, humiliation, and uncertainty. Even after my acquittal, I was left shattered, not knowing how to rebuild my life or fight against the injustice I had suffered. It was only after coming in contact with Deepika Ma'am and her team at Ekam Nyaay that I felt I had my matter heard. Through her efforts, I was connected with the right people and finally felt that I am in safe hands. Today, I have the confidence to fight back for justice and reclaim my dignity. What makes Deepika Ma'am and her team truly special is that they take each person's struggle as if it were their own. They don't just advise, they stand with you. For someone like me, who had lost all hope, their support has made all the difference.

Amit Kumar Verma



Hi Deepika, I just wanted to share a moment of happiness with you. My husband's POSH case has officially been closed. Thank you so much for your constant support, concern, and motivation throughout. We're especially grateful for the faith you placed in us during this time.

Deepika, you were the very first person to offer us a ray of hope during one not just his job but his will to live. The overwhelming burden of gender-biased laws in our country pushed him to the edge. I still remember your first call, it was 11:30 at night. And we were consumed by fear and uncertainty, not knowing where to turn, what to do especially with the heavy responsibility of children's education and aging parents.

What we were losing wasn't just employment—it was our dignity, our social identity, and a generational legacy built over decades. I saw my strong, resilient husband break down in tears, even though the evidence was clearly in his favor. But the system seemed to echo only one truth: "If she says it, it must be considered as truth." Just because "she" is a FEMALE And men in this country are not worthy of respect ?!

And then came your voice — calm, firm, and full of conviction. "The truth will prevail," We found strength in your confidence, and your unwavering support became the foundation we rebuilt our courage on.

Thank you, Deepika—not just for your legal wisdom, but for your humanity. For believing in us when very few did. And most of all, for being who you are—a true warrior for truth and fairness.

Wife of a man falsely accused in a POSH case



Dear Deepika ji,

How can i thank you enough for the prompt response and helping me out finding support in my case. Guidance from Mr. Rohit was truly helpful and showed me the right path ahead. I was losing hope and was feeling helplessly stuck but his lawful directions really enlightened the way this legal battle should be fought.

Thank you, thank you so much.

Regards
Sunny



Deepika Narayan Bhardwaj is an activist who primarily fights for men's rights and is also involved in flight against other perennial cases that rots the society. She has a deep acumen of understanding the problem given her decade long experience in the same field. She puts up the fight with an unbiased approach based on the facts and circumstances at the hands of police and courts.

Deepika has personally helped me to the best of her abilities in my case which is majorly a scam at Indore and which is on the brink of the exposure and God willing it will be exposed soon. Her social media accounts stand testimony to all her hard work which is just a pile of all the hard work she does on ground to help sufferers and fight for justice alongside them.

She is also a documentary filmmaker and have released two documentaries that highlights the plight of false rape and Domestic violence cases and is truly a great eye-opener. I wish her and her team all the very best in all her future endeavours in fighting for the right.

Major Ankur Singh

Men are simple [Men see → Men cry → Men appreciate]

Namaste Deepika Ji

This message might get lost amidst the thousands of important messages u might already be receiving. But still i want to put it out there, just in case.

I have been seeing some of ur work. Ur perseverance towards creating awareness.

We all Men are proud to have a sister like you.

I am just another random guy, concerned & taken aback by the condition of certain laws even in 21st century.

Hoping for a better day, When equality under law is a genuine reality for everyone.

When ember in all our hearts will turn into fiery flame which will engulf/eliminate the "discrimination & inequality"

Deepika Madamji one thing I want to tell you today is the moment I come across your article in our Gujarati News Paper Middyay on 22/12/24 stating that the Lady Advocate fighting for Mans, On that day only mujme ek nai umid ne janam liya ke ab kuch kaam ban sakta hai, Kyoki kal tak hamare jaise insaan ke baram koi sochta tak nahi tha ke hum kis tarah jee rahe hai, Isliye jab maine aapke bareme padha to Aisa laga ki bhagwan ne hamari sun Lee aur aapko hamari madad ke liye bhej diya, Any how jab aapne hamara hath thaama hai to uparwala bhi hopefully acha he karega, Once again God bless you

21:05

Hello Deepika ma'am

Saw your podcast

Nd literally got crying when you talk about my case ! I really like to thank you for saving my life ! You are like a person God sends out of nowhere nd I was about to took a wrong step ! Thank you so much ma'am

Hope she will be behind bars soon ! Nd keep it up the good work ma'am

Again thank you so much ma'am ❤️



Support Our Voice For Justice

