

The Influencer bulletin

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Your support to the Influencers journey is ensuring women and girls' freedom from violence and discrimination, access to legal justice, grassroots leadership, rights and entitlements and freedom from economic dependence. In this issue, we bring you updates from our grassroots coalition partners Breakthrough, CORO and ANANDI. The stories provides a glimpse into the involvement of our other implementing partners like AALI and Majlis in the current CJI sexual harassment issue.

Grassroots Leadership

"In Mumbai, only 1 out of every 3 public toilet seats is for women!"

Women in the city not only have fewer toilets to begin with, but must also pay more than men for the same usage. On top of this, public toilets have poor hygiene and are often unsafe. The system stakeholders responsible for urban sanitation are largely insensitive, even dismissive, in the face of these basic violations of equal rights to dignity, health, and access to public space.

In response to this dismal reality faced by women across class and age, **CORO** started the Right to Pee Campaign in 2011, to advocate for free, clean and safe public urinals for women in Mumbai. With a view to establish 15 vigilance committees comprising of the community members themselves, who would monitor and take ownership of the sanitation problem across the 15 municipal wards in the city, the NGO's consistent toil over a period of months led to the setting up of not 15 but **22 committees!**

A workshop was thus, facilitated with representatives from all the vigilance groups for peer learning and to initiate the the process of committee formation with an aim to train the members in the ways to interact with the involved stakeholders.

[Read more](#)

#RightToPee

#OurIssueOurLeadership

Access to legal justice

The dismissal of the complaint by a staff who alleged sexual harassment by Chief Justice of India, Ranjan Gogoi, caused scores of women, activists, lawyers and students from across the country to take to the streets voicing dissent. Our NGO partners **Breakthrough India** and **AALI** actively participated in Delhi and Lucknow respectively, condemning the clean chit to the CJI. The grounds of dismissal were challenged in the march with the view that 'answerability to the law' and 'Right to Fair Trial' stands true for all. Questioning the credibility of the Supreme Court and hinting towards the abuse of power, an **open letter** was issued by activists from women's groups to retired judges, appealing them to 'speak out on the side of justice and fairness.' Representatives from our partner NGOs **CORO** and **Majlis**, were two of the signatories to the letter sent.

#MarchLikeAGirl



**Representational images*

2019 Elections and Women:

Considering the upcoming Lok Sabha 2019 elections, **CORO** did a **factual study** bringing out the women participation in elections and highlighted the reduced gender gap from 2014 elections. Furthermore, **ANANDI** enabled Adivasi women of Devgadh Mahila Sangathan and Panam Mahila Sangathan to articulate their demands and agendas centred on stopping violence against women, implementation of forest rights, social security and food security among others, and present the same before their respective Sub Divisional Magistrates (Mamlatdars) of Devgadh Baria, Shahera, and Ghoghambha as demands and expectations from the representatives.

#VotingIsARight

#OurVoteOurDemands

In The News

Breakthrough, attempted to facilitate positive gender norms by bringing out the dichotomy between words and interpretation in our day-to-day conversations through a creative and comprehensive video. It used the power of social media and reached out to larger populations effectively showcasing how these statements brings out the regression in gender roles in a manner that stays with you.

#RedrawMisogyny



"Wage gap is a myth"

"She must have worn short clothes is why she got raped"

"Women should stick to the kitchen"