#### Justice Shri HN Dattu

#### **Chairperson, National Human Rights Commission**

15 June 2020

# Subject : Plea for intervention by NHRC to stop political vendetta and malicious prosecution of women activists and human rights defenders.

Respected Justice Dattu,

We are writing to you as concerned citizens, members of women's movements and feminist activists who have been part of the struggles for rights of women, workers, Dalits, Adivasis and others who, despite Constitutional guarantees, have been systematically excluded and oppressed by the state and society in India.

We seek your urgent intervention in the continuing persecution and criminalisation of women activists who have supported and participated in the nationwide protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA) and the announcement that it would be followed up with a National Register of Citizens (NRC) and a National Population Register (NPR).

The movement against the CAA-NRC-NPR has been widely hailed as a non-sectarian, inclusive, principled and peaceful protest, infused with the spirit of the Constitution and the ideals of the freedom struggle. Despite relentless vilification and trolling on social media and physical attacks by *agents provocateurs* deployed by right wing extremist outfits, the protestors remained steadfast in their commitment to non-violence and to Constitutional values and principles.

Despite attempts by the government and some sections of the media to portray the anti-CAA movement as a few scattered gatherings of disaffected Muslim anti-socials, the mobilisation of thousands of citizens across divides of caste, gender, age, political affiliation, language and religion, signal a turning point in our political history. Recognising the discriminatory and divisive intent of the CAA and the exclusionary possibilities of the NRC and NPR, a small group of working-class women in Delhi spontaneously came out of their homes and sat on a round-the-clock dharna. This simple act sparked an unprecedented mobilisation against the CAA-NRC-NPR across the country, creating a new political space and a new political discourse.<sup>1</sup> The notion of equal citizenship was brought

Shaheen Bagh protesters pledge to fight, seek rollback of CAA law, Why Shaheen Bagh protests are an important moment in India's history, 'Won't leave': Women lead protest in India capital's Muslim area, https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/jan/21/modi-is-afraid-women-take-lead-in-indias-citizenship-protests, https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia\_pacific/indias-first-time-protesters-mothers-and-grandmothersstage-weeks-long-sit-in-against-citizenship-law/2020/01/12/431ae9c6-30d5-11ea-971b-43bec3ff9860\_story.html

brilliantly to life by women who interpreted it through their life experiences as citizens of India, in a language and idiom that found resonance with people across the country. The rich articulation of citizenship emerging from this movement stands as a challenge to the narrow and exclusionary vision of CAA-NRC-NPR and the majoritarian ideology in which it is rooted.

The intervention of the Supreme Court, and the democratic, inclusive and peaceful ethos of the protestors prevented the state from forcefully evicting the protest sites. Instead, a concerted political campaign was mounted to demonise the protests as a conspiracy to break India, carry out a *jihad* against Hindus and bring down the government. Elected representatives of the ruling party, members of affiliated organisations and their ideological fellow-travellers rolled out a relentless campaign of hate speech and vilification on mass media, social media and public platforms that intensified in the lead up to the Delhi elections.<sup>2</sup>

The hate speech and provocations to violence came from the highest levels of the government and the ruling party. The Home Minister Shri Amit Shah (who had earlier referred to Muslim migrants as "termites" to be exterminated)<sup>3</sup> exhorted Delhi voters to transmit their anger through voting machine, and to "give an electric jolt" to the protestors.<sup>4</sup> The Minister of State for Finance, Shri Anurag Thakur, led a mob in frenzied chants of "shoot the traitors".<sup>5</sup> BJP MP Shri Parvesh Verma warned voters that the Shaheen Bagh protestors were "*jihadis*" who would invade their homes and rape their wives and daughters.<sup>6</sup> These hateful statements were widely reported and proudly circulated on social media by members of the ruling party. Public appeals to the Prime Minister and the Election Commission to uphold democratic traditions and principles during the election campaign were ignored. These incidents have been brought to the attention of the Honourable Commission in several complaints, pleas and petitions from individuals and organisations including many of the signatories to this letter.

Within weeks, violent riots exploded in Delhi, clearly fuelled by the inflammatory rhetoric and explicit calls for violence from central Ministers and MPs of the BJP. The role of the Delhi Police and Central security forces during the riots in facilitating attacks on Muslim communities and actively participating in the violence has been well-documented and reported by the national and international media. Several

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Article: <u>https://countercurrents.org/2020/02/open-letter-to-prime-minister-shri-narendra-modi/</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Article: https://scroll.in/article/896091/amit-shahs-migrant-termites-speech-echoes-leaders-around-the-worldwho-orchestrated-mass-violence

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Video: <u>Amit Shah's 'NRC And Infiltrator' Remark Stirs Controversy | ABP News</u> Articles: <u>Will remove every single infiltrator, except Buddhists, Hindus and Sikhs: Amit Shah, Amit Shah on</u> Delhi election: <u>BJP may have suffered due to party leaders' hate statements</u>

Articles: Amit Shah on Delhi election: BJP may have suffered due to party leaders' hate statements, 'Shoot the traitors': BJP's Anurag Thakur leads crowd in chant against anti-CAA protesters at BJP rally in New Delhi, At Amit Shah's rally in Delhi, crowd chants 'Desh ke gaddaron ko...', youth beaten for anti-CAA slogans, Kapil Mishra leads pro-Citizenship Amendment Act protests in Delhi, crowd chants 'shoot the traitors' Videos: https://twitter.com/i/status/1221752179733565440, https://youtu.be/8nscmHYGcu8, https://youtu.be/ItrQD0gU5lc

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Videos: <u>https://www.indiatoday.in/india/video/parvesh-verma-shaheen-bagh-rape-bjp-1640840-2020-01-28, 1:45'They will rape & kill': BJP leader Parvesh Verma on Shaheen .... Article: <u>BJP's Parvesh Verma stands by Shaheen Bagh remark, says Muslims want to take over India</u></u>

testimonies and victim statements, supported by authenticated video evidence (including videos shot and uploaded by the perpetrators themselves) shows policemen directing mobs towards Muslim areas, watching as homes and mosques are burnt, and beating and torturing Muslim men. There is also a clear bias in the filing of cases and investigation. Most of the cases filed are against Muslims (in many instances the victims themselves), while the instigators and perpetrators of the violence are still free to hold rallies even during the lockdown<sup>7</sup>, displaying their impunity<sup>8</sup> and continuing their hate campaigns online as well as on TV channels.<sup>9</sup>

The pattern of targeted arrests and prosecutions over the last two months, bear out our contention that the Government of India is treating the Covid-19 lockdown as an opportunity to crush the movement against the CAA-NRC-NPR. Among the primary targets of this political vendetta are the young women student-activists who have participated in *dharnas* at various locations in Delhi.

- 1. **Ishrat Jahan**, a lawyer and former Municipal Councillor, was involved in the protest at Khureji Khas.
- 2. **Gulfisha Fatima** is a 28-year-old MBA student. She was one of the several hundred local women who participated in the protest in the Seelampur area.
- 3. **Safoora Zargar**, is an M.Phil student and human rights activist who was part of the protest at Jamia University.
- 4. **Devangana Kalita** and **Natasha Narwal** are members of Pinjra Tod, a feminist collective that campaigns for the rights of women hostellers and students in Delhi University. Devangana and Natasha are research scholars at Jawaharlal Nehru University, and participated in the Seelampur protest.

These young women represent the latest generation of political activists who stand in defense of women's human rights. In joining the movement against the CAA-NRC-NPR, they have asserted their rights and freedoms, protected under the Constitution and international human rights laws<sup>10</sup>, of participating in the political life of the country and exercising their freedom of political action as full and equal citizens.

The arrest and incarceration of these young women is completely unjustified. They have been named in one or more generic FIRs citing an assortment of charges including conspiracy under UAPA. It is noteworthy that they are not accused of participating in violence. In addition, they have been cooperating with the investigation and presenting themselves for interrogation by the police. The insistence on keeping them in custody is disproportionate and illogical.

<sup>7</sup> Article: https://scroll.in/article/951856/hate-speech-time-to-evict-protestors-in-delhi-says-bjps-new-campaignsong

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Article: https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/delhi/2020/feb/28/kapil-mishra-holds-rally-against-jihadi-violence-2109592.html

<sup>9</sup> Article: Shaheen Bagh Shooter Who Shouted "Only Hindus Will Rule" Gets Bail, On January 30, 'Godse' came to Jamia, Shooting at Jamia: Watch what shooter's Facebook account revealed, Anti-CAA protest: Man fires at Jamia University students, detained; one hurt, Juvenile Justice Board sends Jamia shooter to 28-day protective custody

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Article: <u>https://www.thecitizen.in//index.php/en/newsdetail/index/6/18894/american-bar-association-calls-for-immediate-release-of-safoora-zargar-</u>

The vendetta against these young women is clearly intended to deflect attention from the real perpetrators. Even as bail is granted to those who fired at peaceful protestors in full public view, it is denied to these activists, including Sarfoora Zargar, now in her second trimester of pregnancy and hence under increased risk of the Covid-19 infection and deterioration of her reproductive health.

The Delhi Police, which reports directly to the Union Home Minister, has taken advantage of the lockdown to carry out this sweep with impunity, facilitated by the shift in media and public attention and the constraints imposed on the functioning of the courts.<sup>11</sup> According to reports in the media, more than 800 anti-CAA-NRC-NPR protesters have been detained or arrested<sup>12</sup> during the Covid-19 lockdown. They have had little or no access to lawyers and legal aid. They have been denied contact with their families, who have had to run from one *thana* to another in order to get information of their whereabouts.

There is also a systematic attempt to distort and obfuscate the facts around the riots and arrests<sup>13</sup>. The figures given in Parliament by the Home Minister vary widely from those given by different authorities in response to RTI queries, and from data collected from the community by independent researchers and the media.<sup>14</sup> Vital information, such as the number of people arrested and the details of damage to property has still not been made public.

# **Details of charges and proceedings**

- 1. Ishrat Jahan was arrested on 26 February, 2020 and charged with unlawful assembly, rioting and obstructing the police under Sections 147/148/149/186/353/332/307/109/34 IPC and 25/27 Arms Act. On 21 March 2020 she was re-arrested under provisions of the UAPA. On 30 May 2020, she was granted interim bail for 10 days for her marriage ceremony.
- 2. Gulfisha Fatima was arrested on 9 April on the basis of an FIR on the Jafrabad protest. She was rearrested by the Special Cell on 12th April 2020 in a second FIR. On 19 May, she was slapped with charges under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) due to which she remains in custody. (FIR No 48/2020 PS Jafrabad, FIR No. 59/2020 Crime Branch)<sup>15</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Articles: Indians are fighting against coronavirus and BJP IT cell is fighting against Indians , 'Give Her a Condom': Sexist Trolls Target Pregnant Jamia Student Arrested Under UAPA

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Article: <u>https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/arrests-in-jamia-north-east-riots-cases-impartial-police/arti-cle31392275.ece</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Article: <u>https://www.altnews.in/delhi-riots-fact-finding-report-accepted-by-amit-shah-replete-with-false-unsub-stantiated-claims/</u>

Article: https://www.huffingtonpost.in/entry/delhi-riots-death-toll-halved-arrests-vastly-reduced-in-delhi-policesreply-to-rti\_in\_5ea01dd5c5b6b2e5b83a9754? guccounter=1&guce\_referrer=aHR0cHM6Ly9kdWNrZHVja2dvLmNvbS8&guce\_referrer\_sig=AOAAAMZZY97f1 3vU7cphBcAOvcHw5rfa1nVnfYTBSCRtrWS31pkFnSpe9O1f0WoS1hXU17Ih8nJMg8qLtNIrO29dSKLOCOc--AYAZp\_eVhJ7EJ458-vNRFOIxeo1rj04cfxd-Xm9VcBZ80tWqkwTxyMFD\_qlEjgnsvhgzZxq4P\_rlwCX

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Article: <u>https://www.thequint.com/news/india/gulfisha-fatima-delhi-police-jaffrabad-anti-caa-protest-pinjra-tod</u>

- 3. Safoora Zargar was arrested on 10 April and charged under FIR 48/2020 for obstructing the road. She was given bail on 13 April but re-arrested on the same day under FIR 59/2020 on charges of attempt to murder. Her name was then added to FIR 59/2020 of the Crime Branch, charging her under UAPA, and she was denied bail. Her second and third bail applications were also denied, despite the fact that she is in her second trimester of pregnancy, and suffers from polycystic ovary syndrome.
- 4. Devangana Kalita and Natasha Narwal were first arrested on 23rd May 2020 in relation to the Jafrabad sit-in. The day after, they were both released on bail, but the Crime Branch immediately re-arrested them under charges of murder, attempt to murder, rioting and criminal conspiracy. They were sent to 14 days judicial custody from where on 30 May, Natasha was arrested by the Special Cell under the stringent Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act for alleged conspiracy behind the February riots in North-East Delhi. On the same day, Devangana was arrested again on charges of unlawful assembly and rioting at Daryaganj."<sup>16</sup> On 6 June 2020, Devangana was booked under the UAPA. (FIR No 48/2020 and FIR No 50/2020 PS Jafrabad and FIR No 59/2020 Crime Branch against Devangana and Natasha and FIR at PS Dayalpuri against Devangana).
- 5. Sarfoora, Gulfisha and Natasha were "arrested" by the NIA on charges under UAPA when they were already under arrest and available for interrogation. Once again, this has been deliberately done to intimidate them, and prejudice the public against them.

These cases show a common pattern: initial arrest under comparatively lighter charges, with bail being blocked and continued incarceration ensured through adding on increasingly grave offences, culminating in charges under UAPA. It is clear that the Delhi Police is trying to prejudice the public against these young women as dangerous criminals, based purely on the concocted narrative of a terrorist conspiracy behind the riots.

Recognising that the selective release of 'information' on the case against Devangana is intended to create prejudice against her, the Delhi High Court has now passed an order restraining the Delhi Police 'from issuing any statements or circulating information regarding allegations and evidence allegedly collected against the petitioner or other accused, to any person, including to the media or on social media platforms.'<sup>17</sup>

The incarceration of these activists is a violation of their right to fair and unbiased treatment at the hands of the justice system. As pointed out by the Delhi High Court in another case related to the Delhi riots, "Prison is primarily for punishing convicts; not for detaining undertrials in order to send any message to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Article: <u>https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/delhi-crime-branch-arrests-pinjra-tod-activist-in-de</u> cember-violence-case-6435463/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Article:<u>https://www.barandbench.com/news/litigation/delhi-hc-restrains-police-from-circulating-information-re-garding-allegations-evidence-against-devangana-kalita</u>

society. The remit of the court is to dispense justice in accordance with law, not to send messages to the society... (when) the State demands that undertrials be kept in prison inordinately without any purpose, that leads to overcrowding of jails; and leaves undertrials with the inevitable impression that they are being punished even before trial and therefore being treated unfairly by the system."<sup>18</sup>

## **Prayers**

We call on the Honourable Commission to take a strong stand against this motivated and coordinated assault on women's rights activists who have exercised their Constitutional right to freedom of thought and speech, right of peaceful assembly and right to dissent.

The persecution and vendetta against these activists will not only affect their individual lives and well-being - it is intended to have a chilling effect on all women's rights activists and human rights defenders across the country. The message is clear – anyone who dares to continue to oppose the CAA-NRC-NPR project will face similar consequences.

The utter disdain for established procedure, and evasion of accountability displayed by the Government of India seems to have percolated all the way down to the *thana* level. The long-term implications for our secular democracy of this dangerous slide in respect for human rights and rule of law are terrifying to contemplate.

The Honourable Commission is the custodian of the country's commitment to human rights and is specially tasked with safeguarding the rights of human rights defenders. We look to you to take urgent cognisance of this systematic persecution of women who stand in defence of Constitutional rights and freedoms. We therefore appeal to you to:

- 1. Direct Delhi Police to make public all FIRs against CAA protestors and FIRs filed in relation to the violence in Delhi between Feb 23-27, along with the status of investigations.
- 2. Recommend re-consideration of bail pleas of the women activists and granting of bail with any conditions that apply.
- 3. Recommend unconditional bail on health grounds for Safoora Zargar in view of her pregnancy and aggravated vulnerability to Covid 19.
- 4. In accordance with your powers under Section12(a)(i) of the NHRC Act, institute an immediate enquiry into the handling of cases against CAA protestors by Delhi Police, to determine whether they involve violation of human rights through partisan investigation and malicious prosecution.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Article: <u>https://thewire.in/law/prisons-for-punishing-convicts-not-to-detain-undertrials-delhi-hc-says-in-delhi-riots-case</u>

We also request you to give us an opportunity to meet with and place our case before the full bench of the Honourable Commission.

### SIGNED

	INDIVIDUALS		ORGANISATIONS
1.	Prof Devaki Jain, Eminent Feminist	1.	Annie Raja, General Secretary, National
	Economist		Federation of Indian Women ( <b>NFIW</b> )
2.	Prof Uma Chakravarti, Feminist historian		Mariam Dhawale, General Secretary, All
	and filmmaker		India Democratic Women's Association
3.	<b>Dr Syeda Hameed,</b> former member, NCW		(AIDWA)
	and Planning Commission	3.	Gabriele Dietrich, Penn Urimay Iyakkam, Madurai, NAPM Tamil Nadu.
1.	Aruna Roy, Mazdoor Kisan Shakti Sangathan	4.	Dr. A. Suneetha, Women and Transgender
	(MKSS)		JAC, Hyderabad
4.	Prof Zoya Hasan, former member, National	5.	HAQ: Centre for Child Rights
	Minorities Commission	6.	Saheli Women's Resource Centre, Delhi
5.	Madhu Bhaduri IFS (retd) former Indian	7.	Women Against Sexual Violence and State
	Ambassador		Repression
6.	Laila Tyabji, designer, craft activist,	8.	Dr V Rukmini Rao, Executive Director,
	Chairperson DASTKAR		Gramya Resource Centre for Women,
7.	Kamla Bhasin, Social Activist		Telangana Forum Against Oppression of Women,
8.	Prof Tanika Sarkar, Feminist Historian		Mumbai
9.	Farah Naqvi, Writer & Activist, Delhi		Arundhati Dhuru, Social Activist, NAPM
	. Dr V Geetha, Author and Activist		Uttar Pradesh.
11	. Hasina Khan, Activist and researcher, Bebaak		Meena Saraswati Seshu, Sangram
	Collective		LABIA - A Queer Feminist LBT Collective, Mumbai
	. Maya Krishna Rao, Artist		Mumbai Meera Sanghamitra, National Alliance of
	. Pamela Phillipose, Senior Journalist	10.	Peoples' Movements (NAPM), Telangana
14	. Dr. Roshmi Goswami, Independent	14.	Himshi Singh, Social Activist, Himachal
	researcher, feminist, human rights activist,		Pradesh and NAPM.
	Shillong	15.	Richa Singh, Sangatin Kisan Mazdoor
15	. Dr Vibha Puri Das, IAS (retd) former	1.6	Sangathan (NAPM UP)
	Secretary Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Gol		Ayeesha Rai, NNSW Gamana Mahila Samuha, Bangalore
16	. <b>Ayesha Kidwai,</b> Professor, Jawaharlal Nehru		Kiran Deshmukh, VAMP
4 -	University		Poonam Kaushik, Pragatisheel Mahila
	. <b>Dr Ajita</b> , Dalit feminist		Sangathan, Delhi
18	Anita Ghai, Teacher and Disability Rights	20.	Priya Pillai, Mahan Sangharsh Samiti &
10	Activist	21	NAPM (Madhya Pradesh)
	. Anjali Bhardwaj, Activist	21.	Khalida Parveen, Activist, General Secretary, Amoomat Society, Hyderabad
20.	. Kalyani Chaudhuri, IAS (retd) former Addl	22	<b>Deepti Bharti</b> , General Secretary, NFIW
21	Chief Secretary, Govt of West Bengal		Delhi
	. <b>Shabnam Hashmi,</b> Activist . <b>Anjali Monteiro,</b> Filmmaker and Academic	23.	Sushma Ramswami, Indian Christian
	<b>.</b>		Women's Movement
23	. Kalyani Menon Sen, Independent researcher and feminist activist		
21			
	Bittu K R, Scientist, New Delhi Brof Isyati Chesh, INU		
	. <b>Prof Jayati Ghosh,</b> JNU . <b>Rajashri Dasgupta,</b> Journalist, Network of		
20.			
27	Women in Media, India		
	. Kavita Panjabi, Teacher and writer		
	. Shonali Bose, Filmmaker		
_ 29.	. Laxmi Murthy, Journalist, Bangalore		

30. AR Vasavi, independent researcher and	
activist	
31. Meena Gupta, IAS (retd) former Secretary	
Min of Environment & Secretary Min of Tribal	
Affairs, GoI	
32. Ranjana Padhi, feminist activist and writer	
33. <b>Sheba Chhachhi</b> , Photographer/Artist	
34. <b>Rushda Siddiqui,</b> Member, NFIW	
35. Jawhar Sircar, IAS (R) Former Culture	
Secretary of India & Ex CEO, Prasar Bharati	
36. <b>Suneeta Dhar,</b> Activist	
37. Amita Joseph, Advocate	
38. Navsharan Singh, Independent researcher	
39. <b>Reena Mohan</b> , Eminent Filmmaker	
40. Amrita Johri	
41. <b>Jyoti Punwani</b> , Freelance Journalist	
42. Nisha Biswas, scientist and feminist activist	
43. Aarthi Pai	
44. Simrita Gopal Singh, Researcher and	
feminist activist	
45. Geeta Seshu, Independent Journalist,	
Mumbai	
46. Sujata Narula, Film editor	
47. Rakhi Sehgal, Labour Researcher & Activist,	
New Delhi	
48. Surabhi Sharma, Filmmaker	
49. Prof. Maya Pandit, (Retired) from EFL Univ.	
Hyderabad	
50. Suchismita Chatterjee, Retired school	
teacher	
51. <b>Nidhi Verma,</b> Teacher	
52. Sania Farooqui, Independent Journalist	
53. Anupama Chandra, Filmmaker	
54. Padmaja Shaw, retired Professor, Osmania	
University	
55. Dimple Oberoi Vahali, Independent Activist	
56. Manasi Pingle, WSS	
57. Pubali Chaudhuri, Screenwriter	
58. Solanki Chakraborty, Cinematographer	
59. <b>P Singh,</b> Sheikh Sarai, Delhi	
60. <b>A. M. Padmanabhan</b>	
61. Runu Chakraborty	
62. <b>Shikha Jhingan,</b> Associate Professor, JNU	
63. Archana Mehrish, entrepreneur	
64. Ashok Deenadayalu, Retail Consultant	
65. <b>SREYA URS</b> , writer and journalist	
66. <b>Karin Chawla</b> , Partner, Video production	
house	
67. Manjusha Junghare, Homemaker	
68. Yatish Moncourt, Consultant - Buying	
69. Sneha Jaggar, Financial Advisor	
70. Lakshmi Suryanarayanan, French language	
trainer	
71. Sukhpreet Kahlon, film scholar and writer	
72. Jabeen Merchant, Film Editor	

73. Priya Thuvassery, Filmmaker, Delhi	
74. Alka Hingorani, Assoc. Professor, IIT Bombay	
75. Nupur Basu, Journalist and documentary	
filmmaker	
76. Benu Mohanlal, Teacher Delhi University	
77. Swareena Aggarwal, BTech Student AKTU	
78. <b>Anant Chopra</b> , BTech Student, IIT Kanpur	
79. <b>Aviva Rodrigues,</b> Doctor	
80. Nilima Bhat, Author	
81. <b>Geeta Sahai</b> , filmmaker	
82. <b>Ranita Hirji</b> , Retired Professor of English	
and Communications	
83. Anita Rego, Public Health Professional	
84. Asma Menon, Artist	
85. Shalini Sharma, Mental health professional	
86. Vidya Ramachandran, Development	
Professional	
87. Urmila Mohite	
88. Seema Siddiqui, Communication Professional	
89. Srilatha Juvva, Social Work Professional	
90. Aisha Farooqui, Retired Academic	
91. Kaneez Fathima, Civil Rights Activist,	
Hyderabad	
92. Janaki Abraham, DU	
93. <b>Pradip Kumar Datta,</b> JNU	
94. Samina Mishra, Filmmaker, Writer &	
Teacher, New Delhi	
95. <b>Rosamma Thomas,</b> journalist	
96. <b>Melanie Kumar</b> , Independent Writer	
97. Sweta Singh, Assistant Professor, GGSIP	
UNIVERSITY	
98. <b>Ruhani</b> , Photo and Video journalist	
99. Kamayani Bali Mahabal, Human rights	
activist, Mumbai	
100. <b>Padmaja Shaw,</b> Rtd Professor, Osmania	
University	
101. Nandini Rao, New Delhi	
102. <b>Smita Gupta</b> , Economist and activist, New	
Delhi	
103. Kavita Sarin, Concerned Citizen	
104. Gopika Nath, Artist	
105. Aradhana Vikram Singh, Concerned	
Citizen	
106. Anita Vachharajani, Children's book	
writer	
107. Chetana Prabhu, Homemaker	
108. <b>Sushma Veerappa</b> , Documentary maker	
109. <b>Merle Almeida</b> , Content Manager	
110. <b>Amita Pitre</b> , Gender and Public Health	
Practitioner	
111. Sharda Ugra, Journalist	
112. <b>Firoza Khan,</b> Filmmaker	
Journalist	
114. Dr Swarna Rajagopalan, independent	

scholar, feminist		
115.	Seema Ghosh, Self employed	
116.	Malini Dasari, Cinematographer	

# Contact information

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