Special Cells for Women and Children — India's TISS–Police Model of Social Workers Embedded in Police Stations

Gender Equality · Good practice · India

Quality score: 67/100

Evidence strength: Moderate

Summary

Since 1984, trained social workers placed inside police stations have offered women survivors of violence psycho-social-legal support. State-funded in Maharashtra since 2005, the model reports 75,000+ women served (1984–2018) and 400+ units in 14 states and one UT.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	3/3
Impact on gender equality	1/1
Effectiveness	0/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	0/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	1/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	1/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-11-17

Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) with Maharashtra Police and Department of Women & Child Development — accessed 2026-11-17

TISS — Special Cell for Women and Children, Maharashtra — accessed 2026-11-17

Vitasta — State of the State: Maharashtra, Multi-Agency Response to VAW (2019) — accessed 2026-11-17

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