

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2024-25





**THE YP FOUNDATION  
ANNUAL REPORT 2024-25**

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# NOTE(S) FROM THE DESK

This foreword was written collectively by the staff of The YP Foundation during a group writing workshop. The desks photographed above, holding small notes, blackout poetry from random printouts, word clouds on sticky notes, and scattered sentences, all became sites of reflection and meaning. Drawn from these fragments, these note(s) from the desk is a weaving of many voices, ideas, and hopes, coming together as a shared act of imagination.





2024 marks the year of collective resilience and community solidarity. This year was about friendships, of experiments and of creating new pathways for social justice in a time when the world needed it. To move with realities beyond data to dreams, action to effective governance and dreams to hope. As the world became more dynamic, growth in our strategies was being informed by each young person who crossed paths with us and we want to reiterate. YOU(th) Matters.

We will keep voicing ourselves.

*Jeena Umeed ka Mamla Hai (To live is a matter of hope)*

From gender justice to sexuality rights, from health equity to inclusive education, and from feminist leadership to solidarity at national and regional spaces, young people continue to come together. We reached out to peers and policy makers in the ecosystem to share lived experiences and enable equal decision making spaces. Young people stand today as equal stakeholders and conscious leaders of social change. Our values of feminist, intersectional, and rights based approaches have been the cornerstones that helped us co-create spaces with you. This report is about the journey we continue to walk together. It reflects the courage of us young people who keep imagining and building collective futures. This year has shown us that even when hopes are challenged, they are not extinguished. They are transformed into collective action, into feminist leadership, into inclusive sexuality education, into health equity, and into everyday acts of solidarity that make change possible. This foreword is a call to continue. A call to recognize that young people, from the remotest realities to the global stage, are weaving together resolutions and resilience, solidarity and strength.

We are better together. *Salam Shukriya!*



# ABOUT US

The YP Foundation (TYPF), founded in 2002, is a youth-led organisation that facilitates feminist and rights-based leadership among young people on issues of health equity, gender justice, sexuality rights, and social justice. TYPF ensures that young people have the information, capacity, and opportunities to inform and lead the development and implementation of programmes and policies that impact their lives and are recognised as skilled and aware leaders of social change.



## VISION

A world where all young people's human rights are realised and they are recognised as equal stakeholders and transformative leaders.

## THEORY OF CHANGE

We empower young people by increasing their access to information, services, and leadership opportunities, thereby enabling them to understand and realise their rights.

## MISSION

To build and influence young people's leadership, collectives, and ecosystems to achieve social equity, justice, and rights through their meaningful participation in decision making.



**YEAR 2024-25**

**435**

**YOUTH LEADERS TRAINED**

**64**

**SOCIAL ACTION PROJECTS DONE BY YOUTH LEADERS**

**6,231**

**YOUNG PERSONS AND ADOLESCENTS ENGAGED**

# IN NUMBERS

42

NUMBER OF CITIES WE WORKED IN

1,093

ALLIES AND PARTNER ORGANISATIONS ENGAGED WITH

1,38,481

TOTAL PERSONS REACHED THROUGH DIGITAL CAMPAIGNS

# FOCUS

## 1. ADOLESCENT AND YOUNG GIRLS FEMINIST LEADERSHIP

Building feminist leadership opportunities for adolescent girls to create change in their own communities.



## 2. COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION

Ensuring awareness about and access to sexual and reproductive health services, rights, and justice.



## 3. GENDER BASED VIOLENCE PREVENTION

Ensuring urban spaces are violence free and youth-affirmative, especially focusing on campus spaces for students.

# AREAS

## 4. MASCULINITIES

Create tools and approaches that engage young people, with a focus on men and boys, to challenge patriarchy and the normalization of violence.



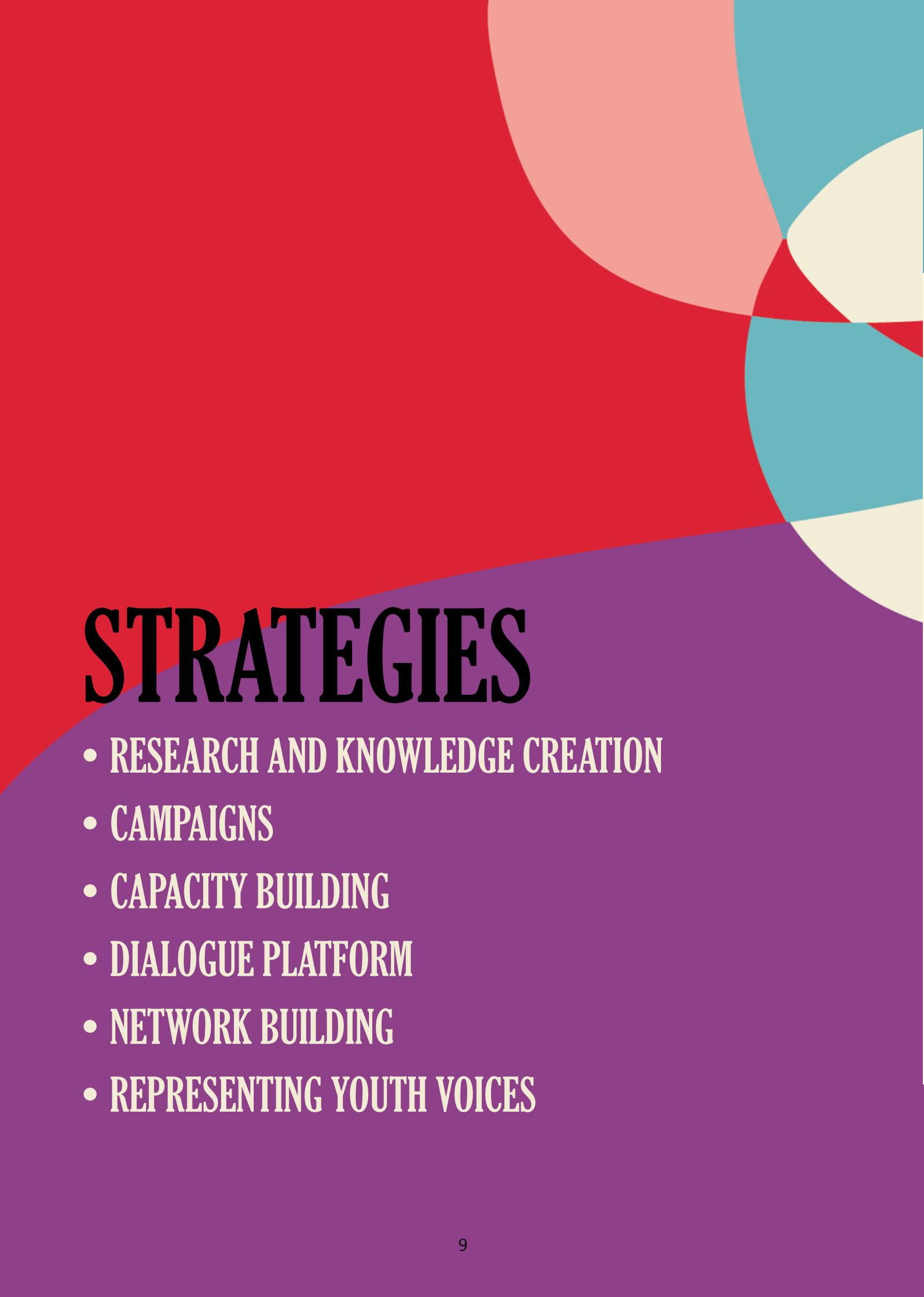
## 5. QUEER RIGHTS

Transform systemic queer-trans\* discrimination and empowering them to amplify their voices in advancing queer rights.



## 6. SAFE ABORTION

To destigmatise abortion by promoting autonomy and informed choice through reliable and inclusive information for all.



# STRATEGIES

- RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE CREATION
- CAMPAIGNS
- CAPACITY BUILDING
- DIALOGUE PLATFORM
- NETWORK BUILDING
- REPRESENTING YOUTH VOICES

# RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE CREATION

## YOUNG QUEER AND TRANS\* PERSONS NAVIGATING WORK, EDUCATION AND HEALTHCARE

In September 2024, we conducted one focused group discussion (FDG) each in Jaipur and Lucknow to understand the issues that young queer and trans\* individuals face in these cities, how they navigate workplaces and healthcare facilities. This led to the beginning of the co-creation of the EQUAL ((Expanding Queer People's Access to Leadership) indicators framework of EQUAL Youth Leadership Programme with them under TYPF's Loud and Queer initiative. In Jaipur, 17 queer and trans individuals and in Lucknow, 12 individuals joined for the FDG.

Through our discussions, participants reflected on ongoing challenges and emerging visibility. As one participant noted, **"There is still invisibilization of queer women in public and community spaces."** Yet signs of change are emerging—**"Many are now sharing their chosen names and participating in events like the Awadh Queer Pride,"** shared another participant from Uttar Pradesh, though they added, **"There is still a lack of awareness on identities like queer and bisexual."** Educational settings remain hostile spaces. **"Harassment over our speech and mannerisms often forces us to abandon our studies,"** recounted several participants. Trans\* individuals described discrimination in government healthcare facilities: **"The absence of gender-neutral washrooms and gendered queues makes it so difficult to access timely care,"** one participant explained. Housing insecurity emerged as another critical barrier. **"Landlords are often unwilling to lease to us, and when they do, the locations are rarely safe,"** participants emphasized, highlighting how discrimination compounds their vulnerability.

## PUSHING THE DIALOGUE FURTHER ON CREATING BEAUTIFUL MASCULINITIES

We updated the "Workshops on Beautiful Masculinities" booklet, a session handbook facilitators can use to explore masculinities, relationships, violence, gender, sexuality and misinformation. We added new and revised activities based on the feedback received from our participants and facilitators after the implementation of this booklet. Keeping in mind the linguistic diversity and lack of resources in vernacular languages, we have translated the booklet in Hindi, ensuring greater reach, dissemination and dialogues around masculinities.

# DEMYSTIFYING LAW: BUILDING AN ADOLESCENT-FRIENDLY POCSO PRIMER

In collaboration with the Child Rights Clinic at Jindal Global Law School, we developed and launched an adolescent-friendly primer on the Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Act, designed specifically for adolescents aged 8 to 12. The initiative responded to a critical gap: while laws such as POCSO are meant to protect children, their language and framing often remain inaccessible to young people themselves.

The POCSO primer translates complex legal concepts into age-appropriate and easy-to-understand content. Alongside explaining key aspects of the POCSO Act, it introduces broader themes of consent, bodily autonomy, healthy relationships, and safety, while locating the law within the wider framework of children's rights. Initially developed in Hindi to ensure accessibility, the primer was later adapted into English. It was piloted with over 70 adolescents across shelter homes and government schools, allowing for feedback on clarity, relevance, and engagement. The primer was officially launched in October 2024 in an event that brought together over 90 participants, including adolescents aged 8 to 13, parents and caregivers, school teachers, civil society organisation representatives, lawyers, and policymakers. The launch created an intergenerational space for dialogue, centering young people's voices and experiences. Discussions during the event highlighted how existing legal systems often create barriers that prevent adolescents from understanding the very laws designed to protect them. The primer marks a step towards affirming adolescents as informed rights-holders with the ability to understand and engage with laws that shape their lives.



# SPORTS, BODILY AUTONOMY AND CHALLENGING CHILD MARRIAGE

With our work in Jharkhand, we observed that many partner organisations were engaging with sports, gender, sexuality, adolescence, and the prevention of child and forced marriage in interconnected ways. This insight led us, in 2024, to initiate collaborative research with partner organisations to explore the links between sports, bodily autonomy, agency, choice, violence, and Child Early and Forced Marriage.

The guiding research question was: How can sports programmes that promote bodily autonomy and gender equality contribute to the prevention of Child Early and Forced Marriage among adolescent girls in Jharkhand? The larger objective of this work was to generate evidence and co-create a context-specific curriculum with partner organisations, focusing on the intersection of sports and bodily autonomy within Jharkhand.

The research was conducted in two phases. Between August and December, we undertook secondary data collection to map existing evidence and frameworks related to sports, gender, and marriage prevention. From January to March, we carried out primary research with 11 partner organisations across eight districts of Jharkhand. This phase included focus group discussions and field visits with programme implementation teams and coaches involved in sports-based programmes with adolescents.

Through this process, TYPF examined how sports-based programming shapes adolescents' bodily autonomy, agency, leadership, and experiences of violence in relation to early and forced marriage. The research foregrounds sports as a potential site for feminist leadership-building and marriage prevention, grounded in the everyday practices and insights of field teams and coaches.



# CAMPAIGNS

TYPF crafts and curates diverse and impactful on-ground and online campaigns that sheds light on the experiences, challenges, and realities of young people. These campaigns act as a way to inform diverse stakeholders about the challenges faced by young people in accessing their sexual and reproductive health and rights, fostering understanding and scope for narrative building and youth led efforts. In the past year, TYPF has conducted several online and public campaigns across the country engaging with diverse adolescents and young people.

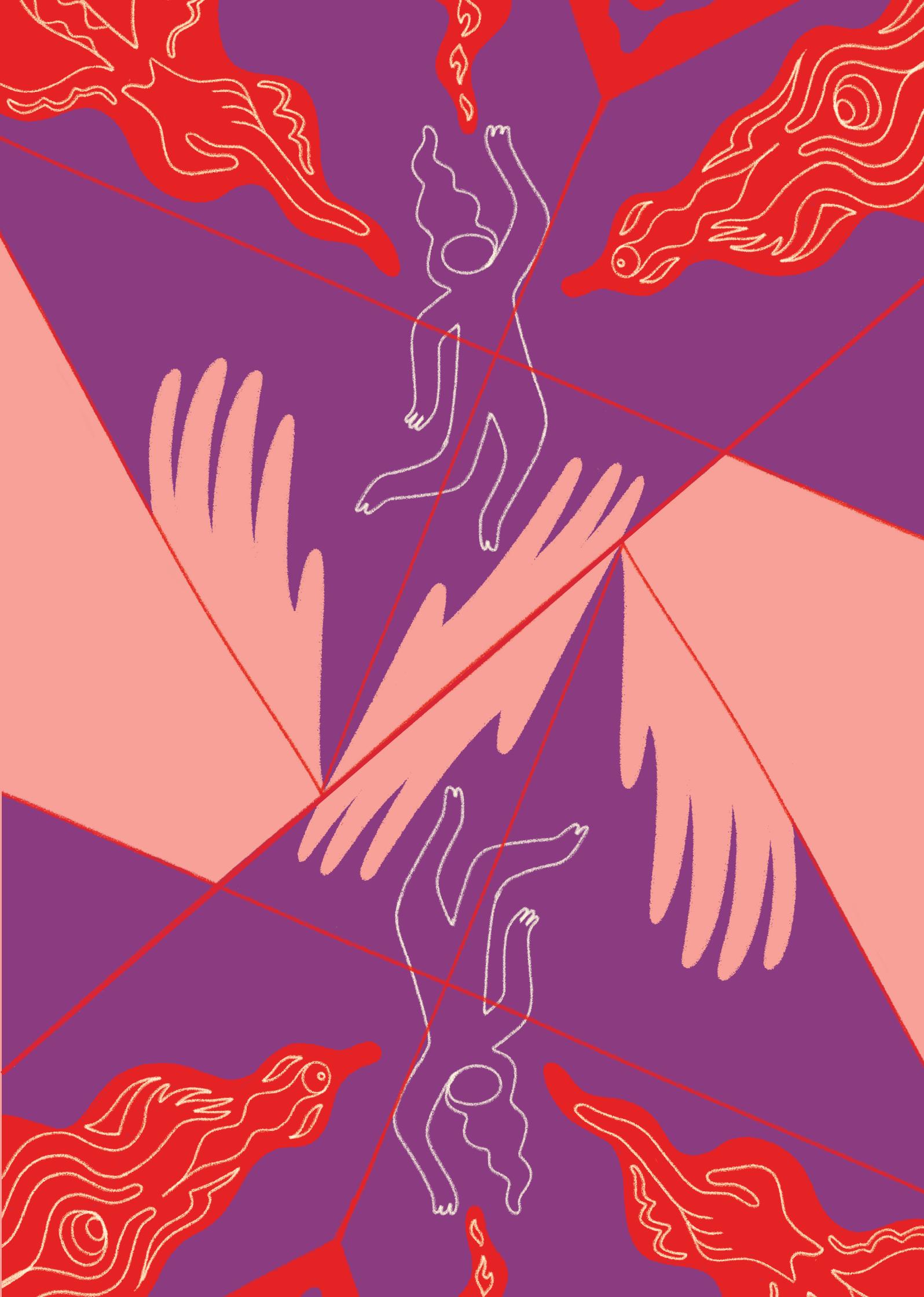
## OCCUPYING PUBLIC SPACES: 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

We marked the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, a global campaign calling for the elimination of violence against women and queer communities, through a series of public, community led, and digital engagements that foregrounded collective action, solidarity, and youth leadership.

In Delhi, we came together with 40 community organisations working with youth, women, men, queer, trans, disabled, minority, and migrant communities to launch the campaign Hissedaari on 25 November, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. The programme was held at Nehru Place Market and transformed the public space into a site of dialogue and resistance through flash mobs, collective singing, street plays, public speeches, interactive games, reading and painting corners, exhibitions, and sustained conversations with local audiences.

Parallel campaigns were also organised in Calicut, Kerala, where TYPF, in collaboration with Gender Park, the Department of Women and Child Welfare, and UN Women India, led joint efforts to commemorate the 16 Days of Activism. These activities included an awareness session on violence with 21 participants, as well as game-based sessions with frontline health workers and young community leaders aimed at challenging myths around contraception and abortion. Through personal reflections and discussions on structural inequities, participants developed a deeper understanding of how violence manifests and the social norms that enable it. Additionally, a public opinion poll with 15 individuals at Sarovaram Park captured community perceptions of violence..

On the digital front, The YP Foundation hosted an online discussion centring youth perspectives on Comprehensive Sexuality Education, barriers to accessing quality sexual and reproductive health services, and the need to recognise sexual and reproductive health and rights as constitutional fundamental rights. The campaign used memes, audio-visual content, and interactive bingo games to reach and engage young audiences, expanding conversations beyond physical spaces and sustaining momentum throughout the campaign period.



# PRIDE ALL YEAR AROUND: OFFLINE AND ONLINE CAMPAIGNS ON LGBTQIA+ RIGHTS

On Transgender Day of Visibility, we created a digital circle of voices through an Instagram Live conversation that honoured intersectional trans\* identities shaped by caste, region, and religion. The dialogue moved gently yet powerfully through questions of visibility, media representation, access to healthcare and rights, and the many ways trans\* joy is lived and expressed. Alongside this, we shared digital stories on intersectional representation and the role of media, inviting our audience to reflect through polls and interactive narratives on allyship, inclusion, and the systems that still create barriers.

In Delhi, a two-day gathering titled Cruising Queer Belongingness unfolded as a space of art, cinema, and community at Naz LGBTQIA+ Centre. Short films curated through an open call met zines and visual art, while conversations with filmmakers and artists blended with storytelling, performances, and open mics. Queer-owned enterprises found room to be seen and celebrated. The event became a living archive of queer presence, drawing together more than two hundred people in shared belonging.

In Jaipur, youth leaders shaped a space of learning and expression with the screening of *Please Mind the Gap*, followed by an open mic that carried stories from the heart. Parallel workshops on “gender and sexuality” and “pleasure and desire” opened pathways for dialogue and reflection, led by the youth leaders themselves. Allies, queer, and trans\* participants came together to listen, speak, and imagine more just futures.

Together, these moments remind us that Pride is not confined to a single month or day—it is a practice of visibility, care, and joy that continues all year round.

## VOICES UNITED: TOWARDS ABORTION RIGHTS FOR ALL

Voices United: Towards Abortion Rights For All was an on-ground campaign held in Delhi on 28th September 2024 to mark International Safe Abortion Day (ISAD). Organised by The YP Foundation, the event focused on strengthening cross-movement solidarity and shifting public perspectives on abortion through a rights-based lens. The theme, Abortion Solidarity, was developed in collaboration with the Women’s Global Network for Reproductive Rights (WGNRR), of which TYPF is a member.

The campaign brought together around 100 participants, including youth leaders, media professionals, civil society organisations (CSOs) working on SRHR, and young people associated with TYPF’s programs. It featured diverse panels, interactive sessions, and performances by movement artists. The campaign was enriched with insights on working on abortion rights from queer trans\* practitioners, researchers, gynaecologists, and development sector professionals.

The space encouraged dialogue across disciplines, strengthened collective advocacy strategies, and highlighted lived experiences alongside legal and medical perspectives, reinforcing abortion as a matter of justice, dignity, and bodily autonomy for all.

# AMPLIFYING YOUTH VOICES IN SRHR POLICY

TYPF's work on youth-centered sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) gained broader visibility through a podcast episode titled "Empowering Youth: Navigating SRHR Policy," published on Spotify by the Social Policy Research Foundation (SPRF). The episode highlighted TYPF's multi-pronged approach to advancing youth participation in SRHR policy, including the **1.8 Billion Young People for Change** Campaign, which advocates for youth-centric health policies globally, and the *What Young People Want* survey, through which we mobilized over 50,000 youth responses capturing diverse needs and aspirations related to health and well-being. The discussion also featured insights from the PEARL leadership journey, which has supported youth leaders across 10 Indian states in meaningfully engaging with RKSK (Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram) officials to strengthen local implementation of adolescent health programs.

## STRENGTHENING CONTRACEPTIVE ACCESS THROUGH CONSULTATIONS

We convened grassroots practitioners and SRHR advocates for consultations focused on improving contraceptive access within existing service delivery frameworks. Participants examined critical gaps in quality, availability, and equity of contraceptive choices, emphasizing the need for rights-based, gender-responsive, and youth-inclusive approaches. The discussions surfaced persistent barriers including supply chain gaps, inadequate trained providers, and stigma surrounding contraceptive use. Drawing from these insights, we developed actionable recommendations now being used to advocate for more responsive, inclusive, and equitable SRHR policies at the state level, ensuring family planning services better reflect the evolving needs of communities.

## ON SAFETY, DIGNITY, AND FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT

We submitted a comprehensive set of recommendations to UN Women as part of a collaborative effort to address Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in public spaces. This task force was formed to develop actionable strategies and policies to ensure the safety, dignity, and freedom of movement for women and girls across the city. We submitted insights on the lived realities of women and gender-diverse individuals, highlighting everyday forms of harassment, the impact of poor urban infrastructure, and the lack of gender-sensitive public services. We also recommended the implementation of comprehensive safety audits, better street lighting, increased women's representation in decision-making bodies, capacity building of frontline service providers, and the creation of accessible reporting and redressal mechanisms. We emphasized an intersectional approach that account for the distinct experiences of young women, girls, and those from marginalized communities—including Dalit, Adivasi, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and persons with disabilities—to ensure the task force develops rights-based policies that genuinely ensure safety, dignity, and freedom of movement for all.

# CAPACITY BUILDING

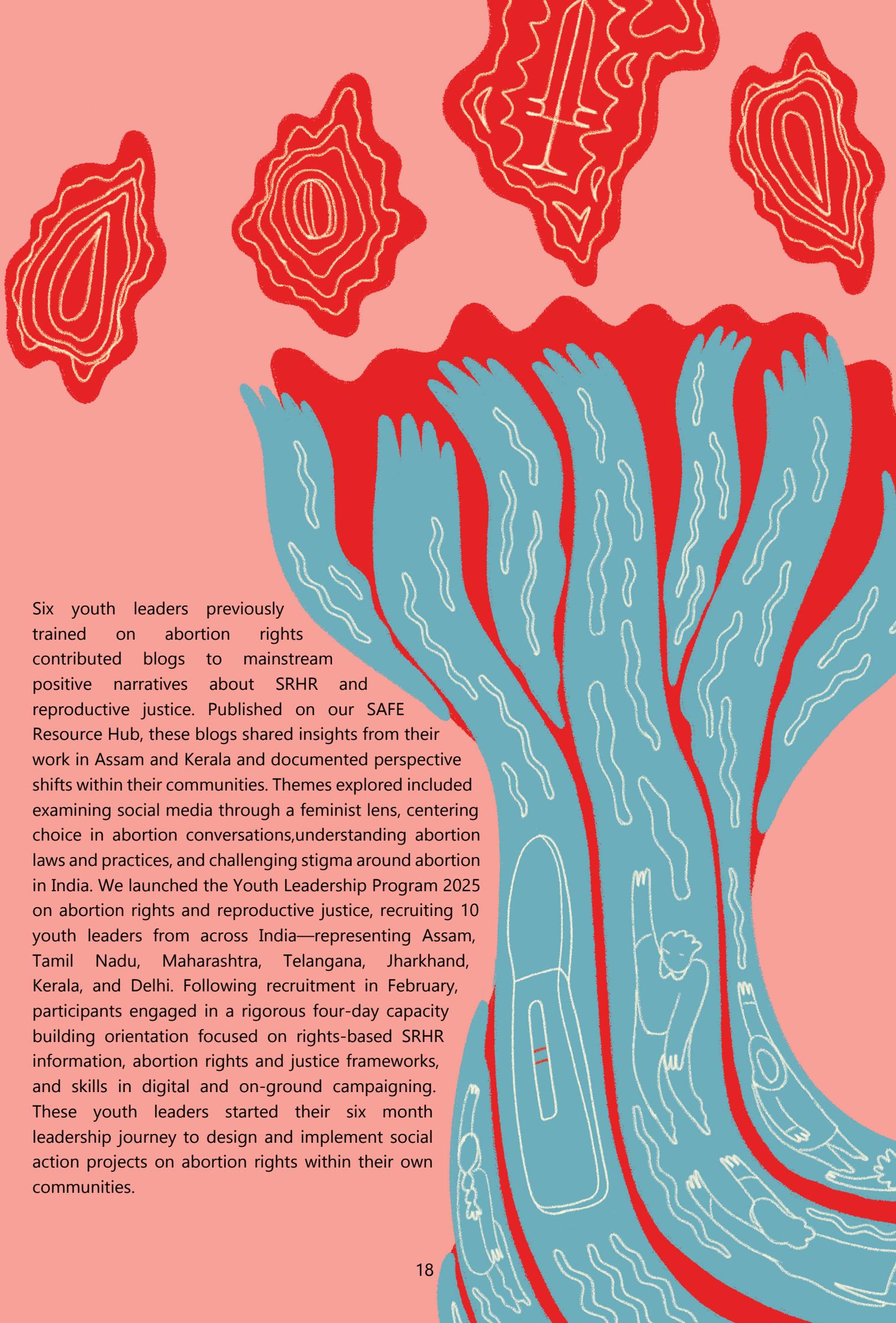
The YP Foundation's capacity building initiatives create spaces for meaningful perspective, knowledge, and attitude shifts on gender, sexuality, and rights. We engage diverse participants—from young people and parents to educators and community members—across varied settings including schools, community centers, organizational spaces, and digital platforms. Our approach is grounded in the understanding that transformative change happens when young individuals across contexts are equipped not just with information, but with critical consciousness and tools to challenge harmful norms and build more inclusive communities.

## LEADING ACTION ON REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE AND SAFE ABORTIONS

Access to abortion is conditional and regulated by complex socio-legal restrictions. Despite the availability of safe and legal abortion in India, socio-cultural stigmas and taboos, prevalent myths, misinformation and inaccessibility of medico-legal information, and bureaucratic delays adversely impacts an abortion seeker's bodily autonomy, agency and rights. Our work aims to destigmatize abortion seeking and provide accurate information to abortion seekers and the ecosystem of caregivers.

We advocate for a rights-based perspective to abortion and the right of all pregnant persons to make autonomous decisions around when, how, with whom and whether or not to get pregnant or give birth. Our immersive youth leadership programme, anchored by the SAFE (Safe Abortion For Everyone) Programme, empowers young people to design community-specific interventions on abortion. It nurtures sensitivity and care while challenging fear, misinformation, myths, and stigma surrounding abortion-related healthcare in India.

We engaged with organizations including The ANT (Chirang district), The Eco Hub (Tezpur district), and Akam Foundation (Guwahati) in Assam, as well as Khadeeja Mariam Foundation, University of Kerala, and Vanaja Collective in Kerala to share our new programme model and co-design collaborative approaches on abortion rights and reproductive justice. In Tezpur, we conducted a session with 23 students from the Social Work Department at Tezpur University, exploring SRH needs and challenges faced by young people on campus and identifying potential entry points for collaboration. Leading up to International Safe Abortion Day (ISAD), we facilitated a session on reproductive justice and abortion related communication with students at Janki Devi Memorial College, University of Delhi. Participants developed foundational understanding of SRHR and the reproductive justice framework, examined their own perceptions about abortion, and practiced recognizing and rewriting negative media narratives around abortion.



Six youth leaders previously trained on abortion rights contributed blogs to mainstream positive narratives about SRHR and reproductive justice. Published on our SAFE Resource Hub, these blogs shared insights from their work in Assam and Kerala and documented perspective shifts within their communities. Themes explored included examining social media through a feminist lens, centering choice in abortion conversations, understanding abortion laws and practices, and challenging stigma around abortion in India. We launched the Youth Leadership Program 2025 on abortion rights and reproductive justice, recruiting 10 youth leaders from across India—representing Assam, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Telangana, Jharkhand, Kerala, and Delhi. Following recruitment in February, participants engaged in a rigorous four-day capacity building orientation focused on rights-based SRHR information, abortion rights and justice frameworks, and skills in digital and on-ground campaigning. These youth leaders started their six month leadership journey to design and implement social action projects on abortion rights within their own communities.

# LEARNING AND UNLEARNING DIVERSE DEFINITIONS OF MASCULINITIES

The Mardon Wali Baat Programme works with young people to understand, reflect on, and transform their perceptions and practices of masculinity away from the patriarchal norms that perpetuate sexist, violent, and harmful competitiveness. Through our work, we engage with young people, specifically young men and boys recognising that their participation in conversations around gender, patriarchy and gender based violence is crucial- for building allyship as well as foregrounding the understanding of patriarchal systems that harm people across different gender(s). We engaged with more than 1200 college students from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi through 24 sessions focusing on understanding gender based violence, gender roles, expectations and patriarchy. This campus engagement created crucial spaces for self-reflective conversations which for many students was their first such discussions since entering college. Sessions reached out to the general student body as well as students who also hold Positions of Responsibilities (PORs) and hold decision making power to drive institutional change.

## THE REVAMP INSTITUTE

The Rethinking Violence and Masculinities Perspectives (REVAMP) Institute creates a space for young practitioners working with young men and boys to reflect and rethink masculinities in programming through intersectional approaches that center the lived realities of young men and boys in addressing gender inequalities. Through REVAMP 2.0, we onboarded 25 practitioners from 14 organisations across 9 states including Odisha, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, New Delhi and Assam. One of the participants also had joined from Nepal. Partner organisations included JEETA, Urja Trust, Ritinjali, Asmita, Meraki Chhen among others. Participants applied their learning through community-level interventions, reaching 382 individuals in their respective locations with workshop sessions and awareness-building activities on re-imagining masculinities and challenging gender-based violence.



# YOUTH LEADERSHIP ON MODERN CONTRACEPTIVES AND INFORMED DECISIONS

Youth Ke Bol believes all young people in India, irrespective of gender, sexuality, marital status, caste, class or geography must be able to access modern contraceptives and make informed decisions about their bodies and sexual and reproductive health. In order to realise this aspiration, we integrate a Quality of Life lens in all the work that we do. Capacity-building sessions for youth buddies from Varanasi, Dumka, and Ranchi were conducted throughout the year on contraceptives, relationships, consent, and pleasure. Following these trainings, youth buddies led peer sessions, conducted surveys, and strengthened community awareness on issues of contraceptive access.

At the end of the programme the youth leaders co-created a community fair in Jarmundi with 400+ participants and around 68 young people.



Youth Buddies facilitating session at Varanasi about contraceptives tools



EQUAL 2.0 Orientation

# EXPANDING QUEER PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO LEADERSHIP (EQUAL) 2.0

Expanding Queer People's Access to Leadership (EQUAL) 2.0 was launched in 2024–25 with the aim of developing indicators to assess queer and trans\* affirmativeness across three key spaces: public spaces, healthcare facilities, and private workspaces. These indicators—ranging from safe to neutral to affirmative, were co-created with queer and trans\* youth leaders from Jaipur, Banaras, and Lucknow.

Loud and Queer conducted its residential orientation in October 2024, bringing together ten young queer and trans persons to explore themes of gender, sex, sexuality, intersectionality, caste, religion, disability, citizenship, desire, pleasure, and legal rights. The programme combined multimedia tools with technical sessions led by experienced facilitators and resource persons. Participants deepened their understanding of the links between caste and queer identities, pleasure and desire, and the everyday diversities that shape life choices and lived realities.

# UNDERSTANDING POWER, PRIVILEGE AND MARGINALISATION IN CAMPUSES

*"Why me? Because I'm a Muslim girl who has lived through silences, stereotypes, and struggles. And I know how much it matters to find someone who gets it. I want to be that space — that voice — for someone else."*

— Muskan Bano, Youth Leader

*"I no longer feel confused about what needs to change. There's clarity — but there's also a weight. A responsibility that this clarity brings. I can't stay silent anymore. I must act."*

— Jaineet, Youth Participant

Campus Caravan is focused on addressing the complexities of campus life through critical discussions on masculinity, gender, caste, class, and religion. Three residential perspective building workshops with 20 youth leaders were conducted. Each workshop spanned 2–3 days with follow-up reflection circles to support integration of learnings. These sessions were planned to challenge existing narratives and support youth in developing a critical, reflective worldview using participatory tools like theatre of the oppressed, privilege mapping, and case study analyses. Many participants noted that it was their first exposure to terms like intersectionality or systemic bias in an interactive format.



To transform passion into purposeful action, skill building workshops were designed on communication, campaign planning, documentation, digital rights, public narrative building, and conflict resolution. Recognising the vital role institutional staff play in shaping campus culture, targeted workshops were also conducted for teaching and non-teaching personnel to build understanding of mental health, gender sensitivity, inclusive pedagogies, and processes for institutionalising policy change. Over seventy staff members across two campuses participated. Faculty sessions focused on inclusive classroom practices, responding to student distress, and fostering democratic learning spaces, while non-teaching staff workshops centred on respectful communication, conflict resolution, and creating safer physical environments. These efforts contributed to the formation of grievance redressal committees with student representation in select institutions.

The Student's Council Learning Institute was a structured capacity-building initiative for elected student leaders, focused on governance and inclusive leadership. It encouraged participants to unlearn biases rooted in privilege and power while adopting feedback loops, inclusive decision-making practices, and student-led grievance processes. More than fifty student leaders were trained through this programme.

Change Action Projects (CAPs) served as the practical application of this learning. At JK LakshmiPat University, a peer support network was created and later recognised by campus leadership for institutional adoption. These interventions also enabled the formation of student-led elected bodies across campuses. In total, forty workshops, twenty community engagements, multiple surveys and interviews, ten creative resources, and ten narrative stories were produced. Youth leaders directly trained 683 students and indirectly reached over 2,000 individuals. The CAPs created lasting ripple effects—strengthening leadership, nurturing civic consciousness, and building safer, more inclusive campuses.



Youth leaders and the YP Foundation facilitators in a student council session at JKLU

# RETHINKING APPROACHES TO SRHR AND VISITING ONE STOP CRISIS CENTERS

A series of capacity-building workshops was conducted with members of the Advocating Reproductive Choices (ARC) Coalition across Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan. These sessions focused on gender, masculinities, and reimagining approaches to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) through a gender-inclusive lens. The discussions moved beyond one-dimensional understandings of SRHR access to examine the intersections of identity, socio-cultural context, and structural barriers that shape access to services.

The workshops also explored the role of multiple government stakeholders—including the Departments of Health, Women and Child Development, Panchayati Raj Institutions, and Education—in collaboratively strengthening SRHR services through policies and programmes tailored to the specific needs of adolescents and youth. Trust-building exercises were integrated to foster deeper connection, mutual accountability, and shared understanding among ARC Coalition members. Participation included 22 members from Uttar Pradesh, 14 from Jharkhand, and 24 from Bihar.

In continuation of this focus on youth leadership and policy engagement, a national-level capacity-building initiative was organised in December with 43 youth leaders from 22 states and union territories. The programme centred on gender-based violence, health, and the broader SRHRJ movement through critical engagement with relevant policies and government programmes, enabling participants to link grassroots realities with institutional frameworks.

A key component of this initiative was an interactive learning module on Mission Shakti, which included field visits to local One Stop Centres (OSCs). Youth leaders assessed accessibility, quality of services, and overall functionality of the centres. Through direct interaction with OSC staff, participants documented the range of services available to survivors, including medical care, legal aid, psychological counselling, and shelter support. The cohort also examined awareness and outreach activities conducted by OSCs, identifying key initiatives such as workshops, campaigns, and community engagement programmes addressing gender-based violence.

These visits enabled youth leaders to reflect on strategic avenues for collaboration between OSCs and young people and to propose practical recommendations for strengthening referral pathways and visibility of services. In Dumka, Jharkhand, youth leaders further improved access to support services by locating the district's One Stop Centre and mapping it on Google for community use, removing a critical barrier for survivors seeking timely information and assistance.

## PEER-LED YOUTH LEADERSHIP ON COMPREHENSIVE SEXUALITY EDUCATION (CSE)

The Know Your Body Know Your Rights (KYBK YR) programme at TYPF launched a Youth Leadership journey with 17 young leaders from diverse social and educational backgrounds. The cohort received approximately 35 hours of intensive training, developing a strong conceptual and practical understanding of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE). These youth leaders reached nearly 200 adolescents, initiating sustained conversations on mental well-being, bodily autonomy, and self-advocacy. At the culmination of the implementation phase, the leaders engaged their communities in Delhi through Social Action Projects conducted in Khirki Extension, South Extension, and Kapashera, translating learning into locally rooted action.

The second cohort comprised six youth leaders who worked with children aged 9–13 years, facilitating age-appropriate discussions on consent, gender, emotions, puberty, and violence. Expert-led sessions on emotional regulation strengthened the youth leaders' capacity to manage group dynamics, respond to sensitive disclosures, and enhance their overall facilitation skills. These sessions also improved their confidence in creating safer and participatory learning spaces for adolescents.

KYBK YR's approach centres on understanding and responding to young people's realities not in isolation, but within their broader ecosystems, where families, institutions, and community stakeholders play interconnected roles. Once capacitated, youth leaders voiced their perspectives and shared their work across multiple public platforms. One youth leader, was invited as a panellist for International Safe Abortion Day, while another participated as a panellist at the launch of the adolescent-friendly POCSO Guide. In early 2025, Two youth leaders also anchored interactive stalls at the BAAT: Bebaak Aur Aazad Tarane event in Delhi. One youth leader assumed a role as a community organiser with IYRC, leading theatre-based engagements on access to SRHR services. These outcomes demonstrate the programme's effectiveness in nurturing leadership that extends beyond formal training structures into sustained civic and community engagement.

Recognising the pervasive influence of the digital landscape on adolescents' lives, the programme piloted "Internet and Power" sessions addressing digital literacy, power relations, and online safety. These sessions enabled participants to critically reflect on how social positioning shapes digital access and risk, while building practical skills for navigating online spaces safely and ethically. This component has now been integrated into broader boot camps, reaching approximately 500 adolescents with essential digital rights education.

Overall, KYBK YR has fostered honest, youth-led conversations on gender, sex, bodily autonomy, consent, violence, emotions, and identity, strengthening adolescents' agency and creating pathways for informed decision-making and collective action.

## DIALOGUE PLATFORMS

TYPF's Dialogue platforms bring together young people to share their perspectives, skills and lived experiences with each other as well as researchers, practitioners, parents, policy makers, administrators, teachers, NGOs and community members both online and on ground. These dialogue platforms, co-created with young people, celebrate youth leadership, share programming strategies and build solidarities across various issues of gender.

### YOUVAANI: A NATIONAL DIALOGUE PLATFORM

YouVaani, a national dialogue platform spotlighting youth-driven innovation and evidence-based action in SRHR was held in October 2024 with 43 youth leaders from 22 states and union territories. The gathering centered around advancing the Agenda for Action for Adolescents (AAA) and strengthened participants' capacities through targeted sessions on key government initiatives like the National Adolescent Health Programme (Rashtriya Kishore Swasthya Karyakram) and Mission Shakti.

In March, 2025 the platform was co-created with 84 youth leaders across 22 states. This dialogue was organised in collaboration with Institute of Social Studies Trust (ISST), Sahaj and Feminist Policy Collective with an aim to critically examine and review the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 5 (Gender Equality), and 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) through a youth-led perspective. It deepened participants' understanding of the SDGs, India's engagement with the Voluntary National Review (VNR) process, and the role young people can play in shaping development narratives both nationally and globally especially in the lead-up to India's 2025 VNR. Through a mix of interactive discussions, collaborative group work, and structured learning spaces, youth leaders identified key achievements and persisting challenges in the implementation of these goals. The collective coming across cities and villages, diverse identities, languages, and lived realities drafted 25 recommendations to advance progress and accelerate SDG implementation in India.

### YOUTH MELA FOR YOUNG AND FEMINIST ADOLESCENTS

On March 8, 2025, the Youth Mela brought together adolescents, youth leaders, and community members from across Dumka, Jharkhand. The Mela, organised in partnership with Adithi an NGO, celebrated youth leadership and created a space for expression and joy. It witnessed a turnout of over 400 participants. The Mela was a celebration of the incredible journey of our youth buddies, a colorful space that brought together young people from nearby communities to connect, share stories, and celebrate their collective spirit. The mela was organised under the Youth Ke Bol (YKB), a project that aims and believes all young people in India, irrespective of gender, sexuality, marital status, caste, class or geography must be able to access modern contraceptives and make informed decisions about their bodies and sexual and reproductive health.

# GBV PREVENTION MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS SYMPOSIUM

A multi-stakeholder symposium created a rare and necessary space of dialogue between students, faculty, administrators, NGOs, and community partners in Jaipur, Rajasthan. The symposium was held across four different campuses with 113 direct participants, centering on exploring gender based violence in an intersectional perspective including caste, class, region, religion and sexuality. Youth-led reflection circles, interactive breakout discussions, and keynote panels fostered authentic participation and trust, while policy dialogues led to the co-creation of an inclusive campus charter.

This platform directly resulted in the creation of “campus commons” - a space where administrators and students could engage as equal stakeholders for inclusive and participatory campuses. It also led to the co-creation of a charter for inclusive campus practices, and thematic policy recommendation shared with educational leadership, allowing for actionable solutions.

## BAAT: BEBAK AUR AAZAD TARANE

BAAT is a multi stakeholder learning and sharing platform within the communities as a step necessary to mainstream conversations on Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) across stakeholders.

On January 2025, the event brought together over 150 young people, artists, civil society, practitioners, parents, care givers, and educators, fostering intergenerational dialogue and celebrating rights-based education on CSE. This multi-stakeholder approach has generated something tangible like the co-creating of CSE Dictionary and a song on understanding consent. BAAT emerged as a foundational platform for a growing network of practitioners across the Delhi NCR, collectively re-imagining comprehensive sexuality education through intersectional, rights-based approaches.



Delegates of BAAT, a platform that brought together multi-stakeholder voices to envision CSE with openness, creativity, and collective learning.



## MANY MIRRORS MANY MASCULINITIES CONCLAVE

The Many Mirrors, Many Masculinities conclave, organised in partnership with Talash Society, provided a dynamic space for reflection, dialogue, and exploration of masculinities beyond rigid societal constructs. Held on 13-14 February 2025 at Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, New Delhi, the conclave brought together researchers, artists, and practitioners committed to reimagining gender narratives and deconstructing hegemonic masculinity. The Many Mirrors Many Masculinities Conclave witnessed a footfall of more than 300 participants over two days with 60+ organisations and their youth leaders engaged from all across India.

The two days covered conversations on violence, digital media, diverse expressions of gender, done using unique methodologies like theatre and art-based workshops, installations, panel discussions, zine-making, stand up comic, etc. to talk about masculinities and its intersection with media, caste, religion, queerness, transness, etc. Dissemination of our knowledge resources through this platform also ensured that young people have the resources to further engage and facilitate these discussions. Some panelists like Achal Dodia, Aleena Varghese and Jasmine Kalha and performers like Manjeet Sarkar and Atari Devi led dialogue on diverse masculinities.

# MANY MIRRORS MANY MASCULINITIES

13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025 | Vishwa Yuvak Kendra, New Delhi



# NETWORK BUILDING

The YP Foundation's network-building approach amplifies young people's voices by strengthening them as effective stakeholders. We work with both established and emerging networks to become independent, collaborative spaces that engage meaningfully in social justice.

## CONSULTATION WITH QUEER AND TRANS\* LEADERS IN KOLKATA

The team and nine youth leaders visited Kolkata to consult on the indicators which measure whether spaces of work, health, and education are queer trans\* affirming. The consultation was held in Porshi Cafe, run by Sappho for Equality, and was attended by 20+ queer trans\* practitioners. In addition to this, the youth leaders also engaged with the Sappho for Equality, an organisation in the region to understand their work and build networks and scope possible collaborations.



EQUAL 2.0 Youth Leaders in consultation with members of Sappho for Equality



# ADVOCATING REPRODUCTIVE CHOICES (ARC)

A comprehensive review of the Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) policy and programme landscape at the regional level was carried out to assess existing gaps and identify opportunities for strengthening access to SRHR information and services in India. As part of this initiative, a series of three regional consultations in the cities of Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), Patna (Bihar), and Udaipur (Rajasthan), engaging a total of 72 participants from various civil society organisations and members of the Advocating Reproductive Choices (ARC) Coalition. The discussions focused on improving the quality, availability, and equity of contraceptive choices within the existing service delivery frameworks. Participants highlighted barriers such as supply chain gaps, lack of trained providers, and stigma surrounding contraceptive use. Based on these in-depth discussions, a set of actionable recommendations was collated, aiming at influencing policy dialogues and enhancing state-level responses to the evolving family planning and reproductive health needs of the population.

A national consultation was held in collaboration with the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH) and the FP2030 Asia Pacific Hub, bringing together civil society members to engage in strategic discussions on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) in the Indian context. The platform served as a cross state learning and collective action, witnessing the participation of 107 civil society organisations (CSOs). The discussion centred around strengthening SRHR and family planning systems, with particular attention to the specific needs and realities of adolescents and young people. The consultation explored systemic gaps, challenges in service delivery, and opportunities to integrate youth voices into decision-making spaces. Key outcomes and recommendations from this dialogue were documented to inform national and regional efforts and to build a more equitable and responsive SRHR ecosystem in India.



Delegates from 107 civil society organizations across seven states at a national consultation hosted with PMNCH and FP2030 Asia Pacific Hub to advance SRHR in India.

## 6. REPRESENTING YOUTH VOICES

TYPF represents youth voices and issues in various national, regional, and international platforms. This helps contextualise local issues within the larger landscape of SRHR-J and GBV issues. This includes engagement with stakeholders like government representatives, civil society actors, technical experts, and youth leaders.

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TYPF participated in the Global Youth Dialogue as the FP2030 Youth Focal Point to mark the 30th anniversary of the **International Conference of Population and Development (ICPD)** in Cotonou, Benin. As a part of the dialogue, we participated in multiple sessions and interacted with youth leaders from different countries to advance understanding of the larger landscape of SRHR issues while also building a network. We further contributed to the final statement of the global dialogue.

We also delivered an oral presentation at the 10th **International Conference On Public Health (ICOPH)** in Bangkok, Thailand on “Meaningful engagement of young people in the implementation of sexual reproductive health (SRH) programmes for enhanced access to information and services among young people in India.” Adolescent Health and Wellness Days were highlighted through the presentation and the paper.

We also represented young people as a youth delegate and panelist at the **South Asia Regional Meet** organized by the World Health Organization – South-East Asia Regional Office (WHO-SEARO) on Adolescent-Responsive Health Systems. The convening brought together key stakeholders, including government representatives, civil society actors, technical experts, and youth leaders from across the region, to collectively discuss strategies for strengthening health systems that are responsive to the unique needs of adolescents and the lived experiences of young people, particularly in accessing sexual and reproductive health services, mental health care, and nutrition support, while also advocating for the meaningful inclusion.

In September 2024, we were also engaged in the **Summit of the Future** in New York, USA where world leaders came together to agree on a Pact of the Future on peace and security, sustainable development, and climate change, digital security, human rights, gender, youth and transformative change. . TYPF actively engaged in the Action Days that determined youth demands including action items and demands on policy interventions on sexual and reproductive health and rights, young feminist leadership and meaningful participation and gender based violence. This year **TYPF got selected as a steering committee member of the Asia Pacific Regional Committee** on Beijing+30 organised by UN Women and UNESCAP. With this process, TYPF anchored and facilitated a young feminist forum, and facilitated the participation of young feminists to meaningfully contribute to the process and Platform for Action document.

TYPF also facilitated meetings with key officials including Niti Ayog representatives, Joint Secretary of Women and Child Development, Government of India and other officials with the India level CSOs and youth representatives. Alongside that, we engaged with CSW Revitalisation process and explore the avenues that mainstream young people and their voices.

Serving as the dedicated youth focal point, TYPF brought the voices, concerns, and leadership of young people to the forefront of key regional dialogues, In this strategic position, TYPF actively contributed to drafting the adolescent and youth recommendations, ensuring that the lived experiences, priorities, and intersectional realities of diverse youth populations across the Asia-Pacific region were reflected meaningfully in the outcomes. These recommendations emphasized the need for comprehensive sexuality education, equitable access to SRHR services, youth participation in decision-making, and the dismantling of structural barriers related to gender, disability, caste, and other intersecting identities. TYPF also helped shape a more inclusive and responsive policy agenda. Our role ensured that youth perspectives were not only acknowledged but also central to shaping commitments and regional advocacy efforts aimed at advancing gender equality and health rights in the next decade.

As a part of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) revitalization process, we played an instrumental role in facilitating strategic discussions aimed at strengthening youth engagement in global policy spaces. We actively contributed to shaping dialogues that emphasized intersectional and rights-based frameworks, ensuring that the experiences and voices of young people, particularly those from marginalized backgrounds, were centered. These efforts were carried out through a series of virtual engagements during the NGO-CSW events, where we collaborated with global and regional partners to highlight gaps in current youth participation mechanisms and advocate for meaningful representation across decision-making platforms. Additionally, we were present for in-person panel discussions at CSW69 in New York, where we shared key insights on how to institutionalize youth leadership within the global gender equality agenda. Our contributions focused on the importance of co-creating policy spaces with young people, building accountability mechanisms, and integrating youth-generated evidence into global commitments.

TYPF also took part as a panel speaker at UN Women's official side-event at CSW69 - **"Reflections and Resolve: Civil Society Pathways to Push Forward for Gender Equality**. During the Panel to End Child Marriage hosted by Girls not Brides, TYPF emphasized the urgency of youth-led interventions in addressing systemic barriers to ending child marriage. Drawing from grassroots experiences, we highlighted community-driven strategies that center the rights of girls in all their diversities, agency, and empowerment.

TYPF was invited in two other critical forums at the national level. One was with Common Health which organised a strategizing meeting on Centering Abortion Rights in India and the second was Gender At Work's Regional Consultation in South India of Feminist Youth Leadership. The team also participated in - **Beyond Mitigating the Impact of the US Dobbs Decision: Advancing Feminist Narratives on Abortion in India, Kenya, and Nigeria**; a FOS Feminista FOS panel where they spoke about our digital campaign #AbortTheStigma. It was a learning session organised by Fòs Feminista and partners in collaboration with the Center for Transformative Narratives (CTN) where we shared our experience in organizing digital communications campaigns that advance evidence-based feminist narratives on abortion and SRHRJ following a particularly challenging moment for the global abortion rights movement.

# WAY FORWARD

HERE ARE SOME INITIATIVES WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO...

## PLAY TO POWER

Building on our learnings and successes, we will deepen our focus on leveraging sports as a transformative tool to prevent child, early, and forced marriages (CEFM). Our future efforts will strengthen gender-integrated, community-rooted programs that promote bodily autonomy, leadership, and life skills among adolescent girls. We aim to expand safe spaces, particularly in underserved regions like Jharkhand, where gender norms are deeply entrenched. Moving forward, we will enhance evidence-building, policy advocacy, and cross-sector collaborations to scale impactful interventions that shift harmful social norms, safeguard rights, and create enabling ecosystems for girls to thrive and lead.

## VERTICAL ON CARE

Keeping in mind contextual challenges, we have recalibrated strategies that can push the needle on social justice while ensuring the safety of those at the frontlines. We need better systems and institutions rooted in care and accountability to generate momentum on gender equality and social equity. As a result, we have reiterated the internal emphasis on collective care and shared aspirations. We are approaching care not simply as rest and recreation but as a material framework of support that is embedded in our organisational culture.

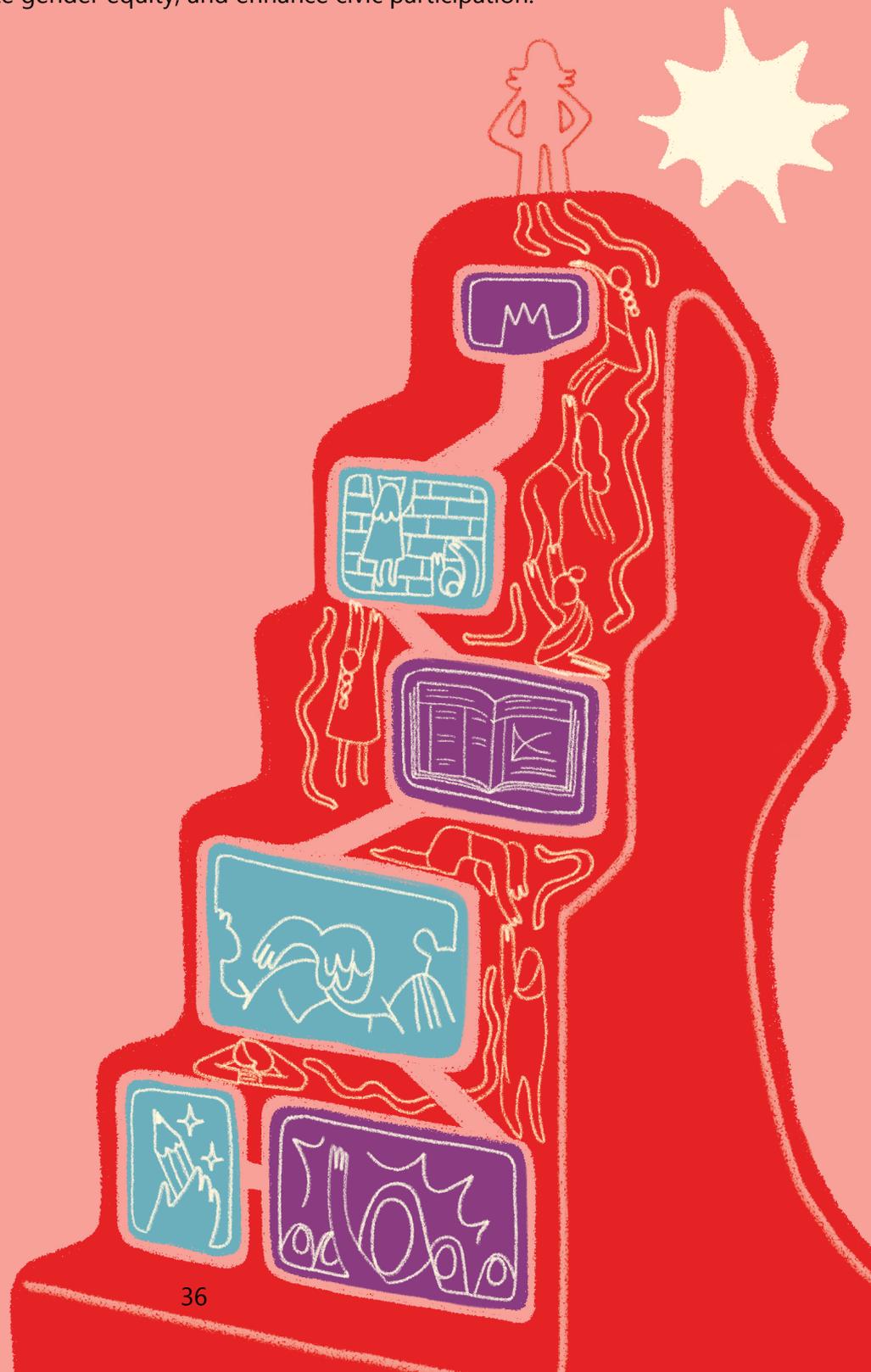
Our programme HOLD - Centering Collective Care, marks a deeper exploration of care for young people. The emphasis on care also stems from the reflections of TYPF staff and alumni who highlighted the critical role of care within and beyond the workplace. We continue to adapt program thinking and design to co-define care as a strategic framework that can equip young people to organise as leaders and better respond to their local contexts.

## BUILDING WORK ON TFGBV IN RAJASTHAN

TYPF will continue to strengthen youth-led efforts to challenge and transform harmful social norms that perpetuate gender-based violence. Our focus will be on enabling young people—particularly from marginalized identities—to lead dialogues, demand institutional accountability, and advocate for inclusive policies and redress mechanisms in technological platforms. By expanding safe spaces, access to information, and community-based support structures, we aim to build ecosystems that recognize and respond effectively to GBV. We remain committed to nurturing youth leadership that shifts power, promotes autonomy, and drives sustainable change across urban and semi-urban communities in Tier 1 and Tier 2 cities.

# EXPANDING WORK ON ADOLESCENT GIRLS FEMINIST LEADERSHIP

In the coming year, we aim to deepen our engagement with youth and adolescent communities through strengthened partnerships, inclusive leadership development, and sustained grassroots mobilization. Building on past learnings, we will focus on creating safe, enabling spaces that support young people—especially adolescent girls—to exercise their rights, voice their concerns, and influence change in communities of Kapashera where we have previously engaged on issues of financial literacy, experiential storytelling, bodily autonomy and expression. Emphasis will be placed on intersectional approaches to address systemic barriers, promote gender equity, and enhance civic participation.



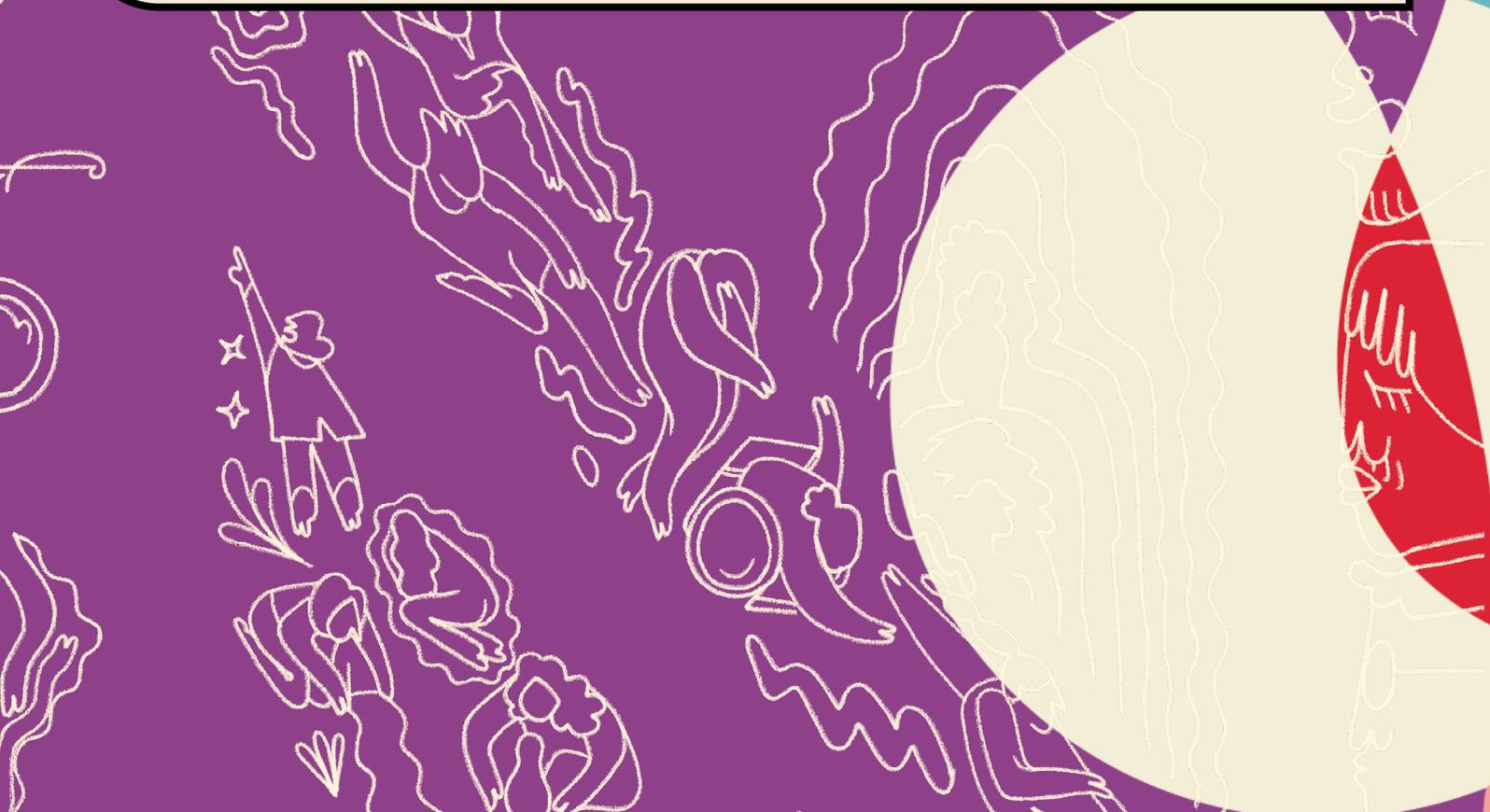
# YOUTH LEADERS SPEAK

**“I used to lack confidence when talking about these (LGBT) issues. Going to TYPF and learning about concepts like gender expression, roles, and power validated my thoughts and built on them. I wish I had joined TYPF earlier—I was already 25 when I entered the program. Gaining this knowledge earlier would have helped in building a stronger foundation for these ideas.**

**Before, I didn’t think much about Dalit and Muslim issues. But through an intersectional lens—understanding gender, caste, and power—I started seeing things differently. It was all very new to me, and it has stayed with me. Now, when I look at the broader spectrum, I realize that the challenges faced by someone who is both Dalit and queer are very different from those of someone from an upper-caste background. These are new perspectives I’ve gained. I wouldn’t have been this expressive before—TYPF gave me that voice.”**



**“This one participant asked me specifically “how to have sex?” The challenges are about how you orient yourself as a facilitator to these random questions thrown at you by young people. It was more about the delivery and the conversational aspect of it. How would you respond if a young person were to ask you a question that you know that you cannot respond right now. Or you can only tell them in a limited way, and not shun them away. That skill and art of conversing with young people has been a learning for me. Being a youth leader has helped me understand how to go around that conversation, but still keep the person interested and not make them feel guilty about what they are asking.”**



# BEHIND THE SCENES

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WeBhor





# DESIGN NOTE



Artwork by Mia Jose  
([www.miajose.com](http://www.miajose.com))



The body is an active site of agency. There is a fluidity that is marked within them throughout the report. These chart our transitions as we hold onto self determination. We've tried to critically dismantle normative representations of personhood centered around how diverse bodies are illustrated. Instead we draw movements and gestures that open up to selves, identity, relationships, health and human rights. The lines intersect through diverse realities of young people - the reds, purples and blues of intimacy, community and lived realities.



# ACRONYMS GLOSSARY

- AAA – Agenda for Action for Adolescents**
- ARC – Advocating Reproductive Choices (Coalition)**
- BAAT – Bebaak Aur Aazad Tarane**
- CAPs – Change Action Projects**
- CEFM – Child, Early and Forced Marriage**
- CSE – Comprehensive Sexuality Education**
- CSF / CSO / CSOs – Civil Society Organisation(s)**
- CSJ – Center for Social Justice**
- CSW – Commission on the Status of Women**
- CTN – Center for Transformative Narratives**
- EQUAL – Expanding Queer People’s Access to Leadership**
- FDG / FGD – Focused Group Discussion / Focus Group Discussion**
- FP2030 – Family Planning 2030**
- GBV – Gender-Based Violence**
- ICOPH – International Conference on Public Health**
- ICPD – International Conference on Population and Development**
- IIT – Indian Institute of Technology**
- ISAD – International Safe Abortion Day**
- ISST – Institute of Social Studies Trust**
- IYRC – Indian Youth Resource Centre**
- JKLU – J.K. Lakshmipat University**
- KYBKRYR – Know Your Body, Know Your Rights**
- NGO – Non-Governmental Organisation**

**OSCC – One Stop Crisis Centre**

**PEARL – (Youth leadership journey under SRHR engagement; used as named programme)**

**POCSO – Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act**

**POR – Position of Responsibility**

**REVAMP – Rethinking Violence and Masculinities Perspectives**

**RKSK – Rashtriya Kishor Swasthya Karyakram (National Adolescent Health Programme)**

**SDGs – Sustainable Development Goals**

**SEARO – South-East Asia Regional Office (World Health Organization)**

**SLAP – Street Level Awareness Programme**

**SPRF – Social Policy Research Foundation**

**SRH – Sexual and Reproductive Health**

**SRHR – Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights**

**SRHRJ – Sexual and Reproductive Health, Rights and Justice**

**TYPF – The YP Foundation**

**UN – United Nations**

**UNESCAP – United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific**

**UN Women – United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women**

**VNR – Voluntary National Review**

**WGNRR – Women’s Global Network for Reproductive Rights**

**WHO – World Health Organization**

**WHO-SEARO – World Health Organization – South-East Asia Regional Office**

**YKB – Youth Ke Bol**

# YP

the yp foundation  
feminist · intersectional · rights-based

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