



Dear Ms. Deepa Gopalan Wadhwa,
Ambassador of India to Japan

22th January, 2012

Request: Strengthening Measures to Tackle Violence against Women in India

The YWCA of Japan is an affiliated organization of the World YWCA, which works for a safe world for women and children in more than 120 countries throughout the world, including India. The YWCA of Japan has been working closely with the YWCA of India through different occasions including youth programs on peace and environment preservation.

As you are aware, repeated cases of gang-rape, assault and murder in India have recently raised international concerns. Despite the major protest in many areas within India triggered by the brutal incident where a 23 year-old female student died as a result of gang-rape, vicious cases of sexual assault and murder are being repeated as of January.

Given this situation, the YWCA of India has issued the below call to action towards the Indian Government, in order to realize non-violence and justice. The YWCA of Japan fully supports and endorses this call to action, and requests its implementation:

1. Increase patrolling and deployment of police, including police women in public places so that such incidents can be prevented, and women's safety assured; improved infrastructure to make cities safer for women.
2. Fast track courts to deal with rape cases, hearings to be held on a day to day basis, so that sentence can be delivered within a period of 6 months. Police investigation to be conducted in a time bound manner.
3. Standardise investigation procedures to be circulated to all police stations, with action taken against police personnel who do not implement them properly.
4. Increase sensitisation, effective investigation and accountability of the police in dealing with heinous crimes against women.
5. Immediate relief, legal and medical assistance, and long term rehabilitation measures to be provided to survivors of rape, without delays or hassles.

Sincerely yours,

俣野尚子

Naoko Matano
President
YWCA of Japan

Mikako Nishihara

Mikako Nishihara
General Secretary
YWCA of Japan