



PROJECT SAFE STAY



Women's Hostels & PG's Audit Report



Assessing Safety.

Empowering Women.

Building Trust

AN INITIATIVE BY

SOCIETY FOR CYBERABAD SECURITY COUNCIL



Acknowledgements

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the individuals and institutions whose leadership, collaboration, and tireless efforts made Project Safe Stay pioneering safety audit for hostels in Cyberabad region.

Our deepest respect goes to Sri Avinash Mohanty, IPS., Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad, whose vision for creating safer spaces for women has been the guiding force behind this initiative.

We are immensely grateful to Ms. Srujana Karnam, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Women & Child Safety Wing, Cyberabad, for her unwavering support, for continuous deployment and coordination of the SHE Teams, whose presence strengthened engagement with hostel stakeholders.

We sincerely thank the SCSC Secretary General Mr. Ramesh Kaza, the SCSC Executive Committee for their valuable insights and guidance. Special appreciation is due to the leadership team - Jt. Secretary & Co-Lead of SCSC Women's Safety Forum, whose operational insights enabled the project to scale smoothly across six clusters. A special note of acknowledgement for Ms. Lalita Tims, Women's Forum Secretariat, her exceptional coordination and deep involvement at every stage of this project.

We acknowledge the pivotal role of Anusandhan Social Consultants as the research and implementation partner for this safety audit. As an independent agency, they ensured the study remained neutral, unbiased, and objective in its approach and findings. Their team, comprising Ms. Ayesha, Ms. Suma Niveditha, and Dr. Harinder, designed and executed the audit methodology, coordinated large-scale field data collection, managed the integration of volunteers in the field, led the analysis, reporting, and design. Their professional expertise, commitment to methodological rigour, and strong on-ground presence were integral to transforming this ambitious initiative into a credible, evidence-based study.

We also acknowledge with great appreciation the contributions of the Core committee members, who played a vital role in shaping the overall audit framework and ensuring methodological rigour throughout the study.

A sincere thank you goes out to our diverse and dedicated volunteer base, including corporate professionals, civil society members, and students. We are thankful to the SHE Team constables who accompanied the audit teams, their presence created an enabling environment for data collection and resident interaction.

Lastly, we thank the hostel management & association, in-charges, and residents who welcomed our teams, shared insights, and engaged openly with the survey process. Project Safe Stay stands as a powerful example of what can be achieved when Law enforcement, governance, corporate support, and community effort come together to drive real change. Together, we are taking bold steps toward making the Cyberabad region a benchmark for women's urban safety.

Naved Alam Khan
CEO
SCSC



**PROJECT
SAFE STAY 2.0**

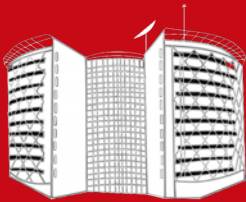
NUMBERS AT A GLANCE



1005

Covering Hyderabad's most densely populated working women and student hubs.

6



6 Urban Clusters Covered in Cyberabad



307

307 Corporate Volunteers, Community members & Students



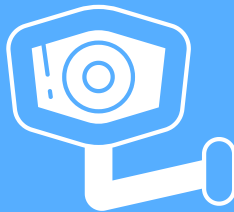
122

SHE Team Constables Deployed



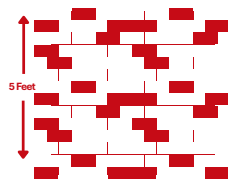
Locker Access

86.8%



CCTV Coverage

93.5%



Compound Wall

80.1%



Access Control

96.4%

Resident ID Proof validation



81.5%

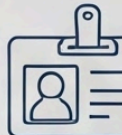


Staff ID

63.1%

**SAFETY IS
EVERYONE'S
RESPONSIBILITY**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

The Project Safe Stay Consolidated Report is a landmark documentation of one of the most extensive hostel safety audits conducted till date, covering 1,005 hostels and PG accommodations across six high-density clusters in the Cyberabad region of Hyderabad. Spearheaded by the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate and the Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC), and executed by Anusandhan Social Consultants, this initiative represents a pioneering public-private-citizen collaboration in urban safety governance, especially targeting women's accommodation spaces.

Hyderabad, particularly the Cyberabad region, has evolved into a hub for education, employment, and technology, attracting a high influx of young working women and students from across India. With this demographic shift, the safety of women's accommodation facilities has emerged as a critical urban development issue. Project Safe Stay was envisioned not just as a compliance audit but as a strategic intervention to institutionalize safety norms, promote infrastructure accountability, and empower residents through participatory safety practices.

The project is aligned with the broader goal of making Hyderabad a model city for gender-responsive urban development, leveraging technology and community engagement (SHE Teams, SCSC forums) to build safer ecosystems for women.

METHODOLOGY

The Project Safe Stay audit employed a structured, multi-layered methodology to assess safety standards across 1,005 hostels and PG accommodations in six high-density clusters of Hyderabad's Cyberabad region - Gachibowli, Madhapur, Kukatpally, Kondapur, Gopanpally, and Raidurgam. A team of 307 trained volunteers (corporate, community, and student) conducted field visits, supported by 122 SHE Team constables to ensure legitimacy, smooth hostel entry, and safety for female auditors.

Hostel assessments were carried out using digitized checklists via Google Forms, capturing infrastructure images, safety practices, and compliance with the 10 Commandments issued by the Cyberabad Police. Parallely, a QR-based feedback survey was administered to hostel residents to understand their lived safety experiences. Cleaned data sets were analyzed using SPSS v25, enabling univariate and bivariate analysis. This rigorous methodology, supported by multi-stage training, real-time field support, and expert review, ensured that findings were not only data-rich but also grounded in operational realities, making the study one of the most comprehensive hostel safety assessments till date.

KEY COMPLIANCE INSIGHTS

INFRASTRUCTURE READINESS – STRONG BUT UNEVEN

While foundational safety infrastructure such as gates, surveillance, and personal storage are widely adopted, the consistency of compliance across clusters remains uneven. Some clusters have achieved near-universal adherence to physical security norms, while others exhibit legacy infrastructure gaps or partial implementation.

ACCESS CONTROL



96%

Overall Compliance

Most clusters had secured main gates, but Kukatpally, despite being an older, established hostel zone, had slightly lower adoption, indicating legacy infrastructure gaps.

↑ Highest: Raidurgam (100%)

↓ Lowest: Kukatpally (92%)

Surveillance adoption is high, but a small portion of hostels still lack complete camera coverage, especially in Gachibowli and Kukatpally, where entry/exit coverage is inconsistent.

CCTV COVERAGE



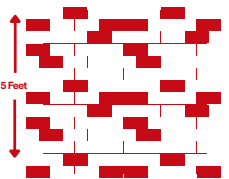
90.5%

Overall Compliance

↑ Highest: Raidurgam (98.4%)

↓ Lowest: Kukatpally (85.3%)

COMPOUND WALL



56.1%

Overall Compliance

Compound wall coverage shows the widest variation. Newer clusters like Raidurgam and Kondapur meet height requirements, but older clusters, especially Kukatpally & Gachibowli, lack physical perimeters, raising concerns about open access and external intrusion risks.

↑ Highest: Raidurgam (86.9%)

↓ Lowest: Gachibowli (40.8%)

Personal storage facilities are widely available. However, Raidurgam, despite high external security, underperforms in internal safeguards, such as lockers.

INDIVIDUAL LOCKERS



86.8%

Overall Compliance

↑ Highest: Gopanpally (94.2%)

↓ Lowest: Raidurgam (70.5%)

KEY COMPLIANCE INSIGHTS

HUMAN SURVEILLANCE & EMERGENCY READINESS – A KEY GAP

Human surveillance, real-time monitoring, and emergency preparedness systems are equally, if not more critical, especially in environments where residents live communally and vulnerabilities can escalate rapidly. Despite physical barriers, there are serious gaps in human-led monitoring and emergency preparedness infrastructure.

24/7 SECURITY



36%

Overall Compliance

The availability of dedicated round-the-clock security personnel is alarmingly low across the city. Even in clusters with high CCTV coverage, the absence of human surveillance creates a critical vacuum in real-time threat response and night-time safety.

↑ Highest: Raidurgam (82%)

↓ Lowest: Kondapur (48.1%)

Fire safety infrastructure is inconsistently present, with some clusters having high-end hostels that still overlook basic fire prevention protocols. This reflects a prioritization of aesthetic infrastructure over essential emergency readiness

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS



56.1%

Overall Compliance

↑ Highest: Gopanpally (68.6%)

↓ Lowest: Kondapur (40.6%)

VISITORS REGISTER



24.6%

Overall Compliance

The absence of proper visitor logging mechanisms is a serious concern. Without documented records of outsiders entering hostel premises, tracing incidents or enforcing accountability becomes difficult, particularly in emergencies or cases of harassment or theft.

↑ Highest: Raidurgam (47.5%)

↓ Lowest: Kukatpally (11.5%)

KEY COMPLIANCE INSIGHTS

ENGAGEMENT & SOFT SAFETY – FRAGMENTED IMPLEMENTATION

While external surveillance and structural control have received moderate attention, the internal safety culture, especially resident communication, grievance mechanisms, and documentation protocols remains largely underdeveloped and fragmented across clusters.

COMPLIANT BOX

22.2%

Overall Compliance



A critical feedback mechanism, the complaint box is absent in nearly 4 out of 5 hostels.

↑ Highest: Madhapur (28.6%)

↓ Lowest: Kukatpally (16.5%)

NOTICE BOARD

31.6%

Overall Compliance



There absence suggests a lack of structured communication between hostel management and residents, especially in older zones.

↑ Highest: Raidurgam (60.7%)

↓ Lowest: Kukatpally (28%)

FIRST AID BOX



56.1%

Overall Compliance

A minimum emergency requirement, first aid kits are missing in nearly 60% of hostels. Clusters like Kukatpally and Gachibowli perform poorly, underscoring systemic neglect of health safety basics.

↑ Highest: Madhapur (53.4%)

↓ Lowest: Kukatpally (22%)

Verifying and retaining ID proofs at admission is a key administrative protocol. While Gopanpally excels, some fast-expanding clusters like Madhapur appear less stringent.

↑ Highest: Gopanpally (90.5%)

↓ Lowest: Madhapur (73.1%)

ID PROOF VALIDATION



81.5%

Overall Compliance

STAFF ID ISSUED



63.1%

Overall Compliance

Staff identity verification and record-keeping are inconsistently followed. This is a major concern in Gachibowli, where infrastructure is robust but backend documentation is weak.

↑ Highest: Gopanpally (77.4%)

↓ Lowest: Gachibowli (51.7%)

CLUSTER WISE

KEY STRENGTHS & GAPS

63

Strength

1. Access Control
2. CCTV Coverage
3. Watchmen

Weakness

1. Soft Safety Facilities
2. Visitor Register

RAIDURGAM

Strongest in Surveillance and Guard Deployment

137

GOPANPALLY

High on Locker & ID Systems,
Weak on Visitor Oversight

Strength

1. Individual Lockers
2. CCTV Coverage
3. Resident ID Proof

Weakness

1. Soft Safety Facilities
2. Visitor Register

234

Strength

1. Access Control
2. CCTV Coverage
3. Individual Lockers

Weakness

1. Soft Safety Facilities
2. Visitor Register

MADHAPUR

Well-Guarded and Structured, but Needs Documentation Focus

133

KONDAPUR

Good External Security, Weak on Emergency Tools

Strength

1. Access Control
2. CCTV Coverage
3. Individual Lockers

Weakness

1. Soft Safety Facilities
2. Visitor Register

240

Strength

1. Access Control
2. CCTV Coverage
3. Watchmen

Weakness

1. Soft Safety Facilities
2. Visitor Register

GACHIBOWLI

Strong Gate Security and Fire Safety, but Weak in Soft Systems

200

KUKATPALLY

Strong on ID Validation, Weak Across Most Other Areas

Strength

1. Access Control
2. CCTV Coverage
3. Watchmen

Weakness

1. Soft Safety Facilities
2. Visitor Register

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS & ACTIONABLES

FOCUS AREA	LEAD AGENCY	ACTIONABLES
Annual Safety Audits & Grading System	Cyberabad Police, SCSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Conduct annual audits of all hostels2. Introduce Hostel Safety Scorecard3. Suspend licenses for repeated non-compliance
Licensing Linked to Safety Norms	Municipal Authorities	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Make 10 Commandments mandatory for registration2. Use checklist-based inspections3. Link compliance to listing approvals
Capacity Building of Hostel Operators & Staff	SCSC, Hostel Associations	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Certify hostel managers on safety SOPs2. Train staff in emergency response & documentation3. Create multilingual SOP posters for hostels
Resident Grievance & Feedback Systems	SCSC, Women's Safety Forum, Hostel Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Install QR-linked complaint boxes2. Enable App-based feedback3. Monthly feedback through digital forms
Strengthen Surveillance & Emergency Systems	Hostel Management, SCSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mandate trained watchmen 24/7.2. Digitise visitor tracking3. Maintain CCTV/fire/first aid kits with logbook checks

WAY FORWARD



This report is more than a diagnostic document; it is a blueprint for transforming urban residential safety through evidence-based policymaking, community engagement, and systemic reform. The findings from over 1,000 hostel audits reveal both strengths and gaps in infrastructure, surveillance, emergency preparedness, and resident engagement mechanisms. Addressing these through coordinated action can significantly improve the lived experiences of women residing in hostels across Hyderabad. A multi-stakeholder implementation model where city enforcement agencies, civic departments, hostel operators, student bodies, and residents work in unison is not just ideal, but imperative. Each safety commandment assessed in this audit offers an actionable metric that can be tied into routine inspection checklists, digital dashboards, and reward-based compliance systems.

Project Safe Stay has demonstrated that public safety is not only a matter of infrastructure, but also of visibility, responsiveness, and accountability. More broadly, Project Safe Stay stands as a scalable, replicable model for urban centers across India that aspire to embed gender-sensitive planning into everyday governance. It bridges urban planning, policing, and community voice through a shared accountability framework. With a well-documented methodology, structured monitoring protocols, and strong public participation, Hyderabad is well-positioned to emerge as India's safest city for women and a national leader in women-centric urban policy innovation.

PROJECT SAFE STAY PHOTOS

KICK OFF SESSIONS

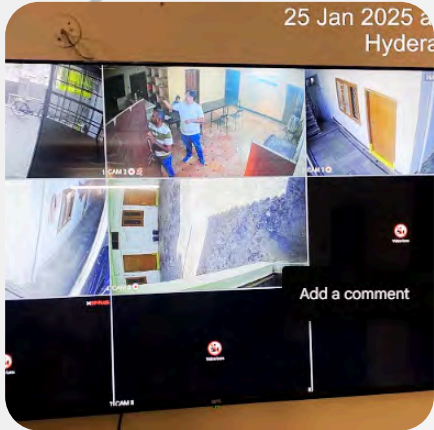




PRE AUDIT PREP



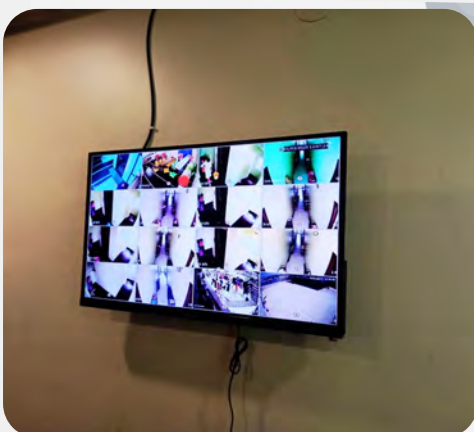
KONDAPUR



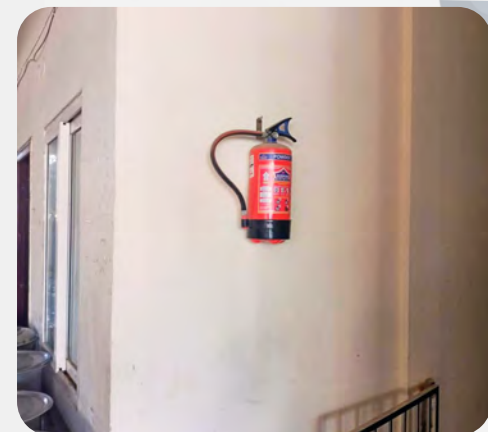
RAIDURGAM



GACHIBOWLI



GOPANPALLY



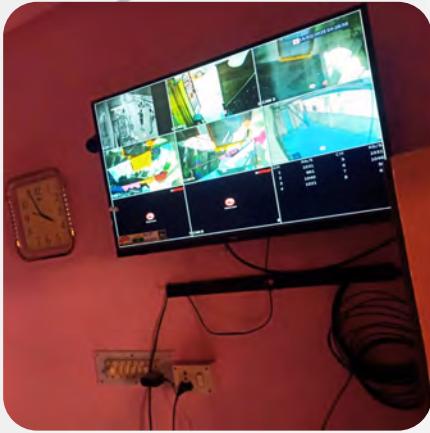
SRI HANI SREE SUPER LUXURY WOMEN'S HOSTEL

RULES & REGULATIONS

- MUST SUBMIT ADDRESS PROOF, ID & PHOTO.
- PAY HOSTEL FEE BEFORE 5th OF EVERY MONTH.
- IF ANY BODY WANTS TO VACATE THE HOSTEL, SHOULD INFORM 15 DAYS BEFORE OTHER WISE ADVANCE WILL NOT BE REFUND.
- ADVANCE AMOUNT WILL BE 3000/- REFUNDABLE AMOUNT 2000/- MAINTENANCE CHARGES 1000/-
- PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN PLATES & CLEAN YOURSELF.
- WITH OUT PERMISSION OUT SIDE PERSONS NOT ALLOWED.
- IF ANYBODY OF YOUR GUEST NEED TO BE STAY IN HOSTEL, PLEASE PAY RUPEES 400/- PER DAY.
- THE MANAGEMENT IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR BELONGINGS (GOLD, CASH, CELLPHONE, LAPTOP ETC...)
- PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT ALL THE LIGHTS, FANS, GEYSER ARE SWITCHED OFF BEFORE LEAVE ROOM.
- IF DAMAGED ANYTHING BELONGING TO PG YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR THAT.
- TV BOX, ELECTRICAL COOKERS & HEATERS ECT., ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BRING IN HOSTEL.
- CONSUMPTION ALCOHOL & SMOKING IN THE HOSTEL PREMISES STRICTLY PROHIBITED AND GUEST ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ACTION AGAINST ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES.
- IN CASE OF NOT FOLLOWING THE RULES, MANAGEMENT HAVE RIGHT IN VACTING THE CANDIDATE

3866081 / 6304337422

KUKATPALLY



**TOGETHER, WE
BUILD
SAFE CITY.**



Society for Cyberabad Security Council
A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO SAFETY & SECURITY



REPORT BY

anUsandhan

ANUSANDHAN SOCIAL CONSULTANTS LLP