Collective Conversations

The Working Group on Philanthropy for Gender Equality in India was co-chaired by EdelGive Foundation, Tata Trusts and Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) at Edelweiss House on 9th January, as an attempt to bring together diverse perspectives on how philanthropy and CSR could invest more towards women empowerment. The day witnessed insightful discussions on India’s Private Giving Report by OECD, the EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy Report and India Justice Report. Over 30 participants, who represented philanthropic funding institutions, family foundations, companies engaging in CSR and high net worth individuals discussed the opportunity inherent in domestic philanthropy to steer opinion and support for issues like rights and justice.

In the News

With the recent Citizenship Amendment Act, 2019 coming into play, we bring to you a glimpse of its possible effects and meanings for women. A report by Women against Sexual Violence and State Repression found that lack of documentation, such as birth certificates, marriage certificates, compounded with low levels of female literacy make women among the most vulnerable stakeholders in the system. The burden of producing proof of documentation required to prove citizenship through paternal families becomes extremely high since in the still existing patriarchal system seem like far-fetched privileges for most women. The rarity of marriage certificates further stems problems for women, who have had to change their surnames after marriage to establish paternal legacy. “Owing to the history and tradition of being denied land and lineage entitlements, and inherent gender bias in the process of implementation in the patriarchal system, women stand to lose the most as opposed to their male counterparts—Muslim female students from JMI and AMU or the mothers sitting in at Shaheen Bagh, women taking a stand at social media are reportedly receiving rape threats for voicing their dissent”, says Evita Rodrigues, Author at Bastion. However, with the increased participation of women exhibits that the vulnerability does not deter women across the country, the visibility of women continues to increase.