

Memorandum  
National Forum for Single Women's Rights

1. We, Single Women should be recognized as heads of independent household units and should immediately be given separate Ration Cards. All poor Single Women should be added to the BPL list, irrespective of whether they are living in their natal or marital home.
2. The Government of India should take note of deserted, abandoned, separated women and make some schemes, laws, policies which will help these single women to survive and bring up their children.
3. Rules should be made such that state governments desiring support from the Union Government have to remove the "quota system" in the implementation of government schemes and programmes.
4. All poor Single Women should receive social security pension of Rs. 1000 / month.
5. Health care for Single Women -
  - Free health care for Single Women and their children should be ensured.
  - Disabled Single Women should have access to specialized health care and should also be entitled to a special pension.
  - The Union Government should continue to make the First Line medicines for HIV/AIDS available free of cost and should also make the Second Line Medicines for HIV/AIDS available free of cost.
6. Single Women and access to land -
  - All women, regardless of their religion, caste, class or community should have rights to property as male relatives do, both in their natal and marital families.
  - At the time of registration of marriage the wife's name should be added to the documents of land and/or property ownership. In case of sale or transfer of land and / or property the consent of women should be made a legal necessity.
  - If a woman is fighting a case for right over land or property, then, for the duration that the case is being fought in the court, possession of that land or property should be granted to the woman.
  - Land should be allotted for building a house and for earning a living to all homeless and landless Single Women.
7. An effective law like the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 should also be passed and implemented for atrocities against Single Women at the earliest.
8. Fast track courts should be set up at the block and the district levels for timely justice in the cases of violation of women's rights.
9. There should be a separate budget head for single women.
10. In the 2011 Population Census, figures of separate categories of Single Women should be recorded and socio-economic data about the women in these categories collected and tabulated.
  - a. Widowed
  - b. Divorced
  - c. Separated, abandoned, deserted
  - d. Unmarried