



Why we must break the culture of silence



Himanshi Dhawan | TNN | Dec 21, 2020, 18:37 IST



Committed to addressing the socio-economic inequalities that prevent women and girls from achieving their [full potential](#), EdelGive Foundation, the [philanthropic arm](#) of Edelweiss Group, concluded its [annual flagship conference EDGE 2020](#), recently. EDGE is a collaborative platform initiated by the Foundation to connect

the funding fraternity with non-profit organisations.

The evening theme 'Whose Voice is it Anyway – building for the gender narrative' dealt with challenges faced by women including violence, justice, financial stability and leadership.



Speaking on the occasion, actor and social advocate Nandita Das highlighted the need for men in the conversation. “Of course we must speak up. But it’s easier said than done for women who are conditioned to keep quiet. There is such a culture of silence that until we don’t begin to listen; women are not going to speak up. People who have the power to influence have to ask themselves how to get engaged and involved because there is no dearth of issues, no dearth of messaging that is required,” she said.

Experts also underlined the need for the wealthy to give back to society. “From our experience with [the EdelGive Hurun Philanthropy List](#), we find that there is a great reluctance or shyness about any conversation on what the wealthy are doing for public good. It's pertinent for philanthropy to be bigger, bolder and more edgy moving forward, because it is only with discussions, sharing of experiences and thus collaborations, that we can increase our impact,” [Vidya Shah](#), [Chairperson](#) and CEO, EdelGive Foundation said.
