

Minutes of the Special Commission's Meeting held on 1st May, 2013 at 1100 hrs. in the Chamber of Hon'ble Chairperson, National Commission for Women, New Delhi.

The following attended the meeting:-

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| 1. Mrs. Mamta Sharma | Chairperson |
| 2. Dr. Charu WaliKhanna | Member |
| 3. Ms. Nirmala Samant Prabhavalkar | Member |
| 4. Ms. Hemlata kheria | Member |
| 5. Ms. Shamina Shafiq | Member |
| 6. Ms. K. Ratna Prabha | Member Secretary |

In attendance were:-

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| 1. Shri Raj Singh | Deputy Secretary |
| 2. Ms. Richa Ojha | Sr. Research Officer |
| 3. Shri J.K. Uniyal | Pay & Account Officer |
| 4. Ms. Sudha Choudhary | Law Officer |
| 5. Shri Jawahari Singh | Sr. Research Consultant |

At the outset, Hon'ble Chairperson and all the Members and officers of the Commission were welcomed.

As per the agenda, the Result Framework Document (RFD) for the year 2013-14 of the Commission was discussed. It was presented by Member Secretary that the Commission requires to formulate some core focus areas for the year 2013-14 which would be reflected in all the activities of the Commission.

Member Secretary suggested that Members may provide issues/priority areas as per the mandate of the Commission for conducting Seminars and Research Studies. The target of Seminars to be proposed in the RFD for the year 2013-14 was agreed to be 70 (including 5 National, 15 Regional and 50 State level Seminars). It was clarified that the RFD targets include North Eastern Region (NER). However, the Commission may conduct

more numbers of activities against the RFD targets which would indicate higher achievements of the Commission. Member (NSP) suggested the Research topic on Status of Women in Mental Hospitals/Homes in the country. Member (SS) suggested a Study on Status of Deserted Muslim Women subsequent to the Re-marriage of their Spouse. It was also proposed the topics of Research Studies approved in the Commission's meeting held on 26.2.2013 for the year 2013-14 may be circulated to the Members for suggesting the topics for Research Studies.

The topics may be selected for conducting programmes in the year 2013-14 as recommended by Members of the Commission and the selected topics may be placed on the website for seeking proposals from NGOs/Institution/Universities etc. within a stipulated time frame. The proposals received after the due or last date may not be considered for further examination. The Pre-Screening Committee headed by Member Secretary with members as Deputy Secretary, SRO, Legal Cell representative and NRI Cell representative may screen all the proposals received w.r.t. the requirement of documents as per the guidelines and other stipulated parameters like clarity in objective and contents of the proposals expected outcome, whether the proposal falls within the priority of the Commission, the relevant experiences to conduct the programme or any financial assistance received from NCW in the past etc.

The shortlisted proposals of reputed NGOs, Universities, Institute of Research, Autonomous bodies may be placed before the Screening Committee for approval. It was therefore considered to devise a system of call for proposals from reputed organizations and Pre-Screening Committee to examine that all documents are complete before placing the proposals in the Screening Committee, to avoid delay, wastage of time and also to ensure that funds are released to only reputed and capable NGOs for more transparency and streamlining.

It was also agreed that the Commission may conduct most of the programmes on identified issues on its own however in case of programmes to be conducted through other organizations, the material i.e. publications of NCW and others relevant information, may be provided by the Commission to have a uniform dissemination of information in all states. It was also considered to fund more State Commissions, Universities and reputed institutions.

Regarding the review of laws and recommendations for amendments to the same, the Members of the Commission recommended that NCW may review the existing provisions of IPC on Acid Attack. M (NSP) suggested that some amendments may also be proposed in the recently reviewed MTP Act. The Commission agreed to the proposal for review of two Acts as reflected in the RFD. However, the Commission proposed to also consider the following for further review:

- i) Maternity Benefit Act and other related provisions.
- ii) Information Technology Act

It was also agreed to undertake drafting of legislation on the following issues:

- a) Land Rights
- b) Surrogacy
- c) Witch Hunting

The Commission also discussed regarding the Legal Awareness Programmes (LAP) and Awareness Programmes proposed in the RFD and decided that targets may be specified for "Awareness Programmes" which would also include Legal Awareness. Therefore, all the programmes including Legal Awareness would be considered as Awareness Programme. The RFD target for 40 Awareness Programmes was approved by the Commission. Member Secretary also proposed that the Awareness material prepared and printed in NCW may be disseminated and distributed during

the programmes. It was also considered to standardize the format and the contents of the Awareness Programmes, so that the same message is conveyed from NCW throughout the country. It was also considered by the Commission to replace the terms "sponsored by NCW" with the terms "organized by..... in association with NCW", in all the banners and placard or invitation cards prepared by NGOs during any programme funded by NCW. A copy of standardized banner/format may be given alongwith sanction orders.

As proposed in the RFD, targets and activities were approved by the Commission.

Agenda Item No.2 (Annual Action Plan 2013-14).

The Commission has decided that the Annual Action Plan 2013-14 already submitted to the MWCD, has to be revised in line with the targets approved for RFD 2013-14. It was further decided that the Members would provide further inputs on the Annual Action Plan 2013-14 prepared and circulated with the agenda. The areas of concern discussed for the RFD would be synchronized with the Annual Action Plan.

Agenda Item No.3 (MOU with HUDCO).

Member Secretary informed the Commission that the MOU would be signed on 7th May, 2013 at 12.00 noon in the Chamber of Hon'ble Minister of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Shri Ajay Maken, Nirman Bhawan, New Delhi. It was also decided to circulate a copy of the MOU to all Members for information.

In addition to the agenda, the following were also discussed with the permission of the Chair.

1. Gender Sensitization of the Police through Police Departments at Divisional Headquarters of the States throughout the country. The Commission agreed to the proposal to conduct gender sensitization throughout the country.

2. Regarding publicity on functioning of NCW.

It was also agreed that publicity of NCW through hoardings throughout the country in association with State Commissions may be undertaken in order to provide visibility and generate awareness regarding the National Commission.


3. Regarding wider dissemination of material prepared by NCW.

The Commission has decided that the material prepared for publicity and awareness by NCW, may be provided to State Commissions for translating into regional languages and printing for further dissemination. It was decided that the Commission may provide the funds for the same to the State Commissions. However, the standardization of quality of printing material may be ensured by the National Commission for Women.

4. It was also decided to conduct a meeting with MOIA and MEA regarding NRI matters in order to develop better coordination.

5. Member Secretary proposed to forward a copy of letters in complaint matters to the State Commissions, for better networking and cooperation.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.


Member Secretary

14/5/2013


Chairperson

30/5/13