

Minutes of the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on  
4<sup>th</sup> Feb 1999

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Mrs Vibha Parthasarathi, Chairperson - Vibha Parthasarathi

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON 4-2-99

A meeting of the Commission was held under the Chairpersonship of Mrs. Vibha Parthasarathi, CP, NCW. The following were present:

1. Dr. (Mrs) Indira Basavaraj - Member
2. Ms Sukeshi Oram - Member
3. Smt. Vijay Daksh - Member
4. Ms Poornima Advani - Member
5. Mrs. Binoo Sen, Member Secretary
6. Mrs. Leena Mahendale, Joint Secretary
7. Shri Chaitanya Kr. Prasad, Under Secretary

Members were informed of a lecture 'Listening to Widows by Dr. Marty Chen' on the 15th of February at 6.30 PM at India International Centre. The session would be chaired by Mrs. Giri.

Before moving on to the agenda, attention was drawn to the notes circulated by Member Secretary for holding lectures in the NCW on issues relating to women. Chairperson elaborated on this proposal and suggested that we could have a series of monthly lectures on various issues in collaboration with the IIC. This was welcomed by all. All Members and Officers were requested to give their suggestions by next Tuesday so that the programme for the whole year could be chalked out in consultation with the IIC

Authenticated by - A. A. Das  
Smt Bines Sen, Member Secy -

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It was agreed in principle that NCW could collaborate with the International Society Against Dowry and Bride Burning in India, based in Boston for holding of a Conference in November/December, 1999 in New Delhi. However, reservations were expressed on the language of the document.

The proposal of the Guild of Service for holding of a Conference on 'Widows' was agreed in principle. However, it was felt that the proposal needs to be more specific. It was agreed that we may sponsor two Conferences one at Calcutta and Delhi as per norms of the Commission.

The proposal submitted by Prometheus for dowry and strategy was discussed and it was felt that while it was desirable to have a data base, we may first establish whether any such studies have been done in the past. It was agreed that JS would write letters to all Universities/ICSSR/IIPA/Institute of Social Sciences/Schools of Social Work, Economic and Political Weekly Seminar magazine, to identify research studies on the subject. It was also suggested that a newsitem could be inserted requesting people to let us have copies of their research studies.

The proposal of Free Legal Aid Committee (FLAC) Jamshedpur to conduct awareness against Dain Pratha among the people of the area was approved. It was felt that once we see the outcome of this awareness generation, such attempts in other

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The proposal of Srikrishna Institute of Public Administration (SKIP), Ranchi for a study on assessment of prevalence of Dain Pratha was approved, subject to the condition that not more than Rs. 2.00 lacs will be given for the study. They would also be requested to give us the final report within three months from the date of sanction.

The programmes for the International Women's Week and International Women's Day were discussed in detail. The following was decided:-

(a) Meeting with NGO's to be held on 7th of March at Vigyan Bhawan. All participating NGO's to be invited for the 8th March function. It was clarified that we should pay TA/DA to them. In the budget proposed to the Government, TA/DA has been included.

(b) A seminar on 'Women in India - Past and Present' was agreed to be organised on the 9th of March. Venue and Participants etc, to be decided.

(c) National debate on 'Rape Laws' to be held at IIC on the 10th of March at 9.30 AM, to be inaugurated by HRM, Home Minister will be invited for the valedictory function.

(d) It was decided to have a meeting with NGO's working in Agriculture on the 11th of March - Venue and list of NGO's to be decided.

(e) The programme for the 8th of March was, as discussed earlier, <sup>was</sup> agreed to. Budget of Rs.21 lakhs has been sent to the Department already, expenditure on other funds would be additional.

(f) Chairperson suggested that we may take up from now with the Department of Posts to bring out a Stamp on International Women's Day in Y2K.

(g) For the dance performance, it was also felt that we could find out about Kanak Srinivasan, a dancer who recently performed in New Delhi and she could be approached. Ms Leela Samson has informed that thematic presentation may be difficult.

(h) The note circulated by JS on Sec(10)(b) of NCW Act, 1990 was welcomed by all. It was agreed that the report of the NCW on Anjana Mishra Rape case and Chitra be forwarded to be placed in Parliament and State Assemblies.

(i) It was suggested by M(PA) that at every meeting, of the Commission one agenda should be, the efforts made to raise the status of the Commission.

Chairperson left to attend a function organised by UNESCO.

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graphical and functional allocation of work in the NCW. There  
s no consensus on the subject. Members also raised the question  
f having a protocol officer to receive them just as is done for  
Chairperson. Discussions remained inconclusive.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.