

**National Commission for Women**

**Minutes of the 33rd Meeting of the**

**National Commission for Women held on 4.7.1997**

The 33rd meeting of the National Commission for Women held on 4.7.1997 was chaired by Dr. V. Mohini Giri, Chairperson, NCW, All Members and Member Secretary except Ms. Kokila Vyas, Member were present. The Deputy Secretary, P&AO and other Consultants were in attendance.

With the permission of the Chair, the Member Secretary initiated the proceedings by welcoming everyone and stated that as usual, the proceedings would commence with the confirmation of the earlier minutes of the meeting held on 6.5.1997.

**Item No. 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 32nd meeting of the Commission held on 6.5.1997**

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**Item No. 2: Action taken Report in respect of decisions taken at the 32nd meeting of the Commission held on 6.5.1997.**

The Commission took up items 1 & 2 together. After a brief discussion, it was pointed out by the Member Secretary that generally, action taken reports on minutes of the meeting of the Commission are not being received regularly and in time from the concerned consultant. She impressed upon everyone of the need to make available well in advance of the subsequent meeting, the action taken report on the previous meeting.

After perusing the action taken report and the progress made in respect of other items discussed in the 32nd meeting, the minutes of the 32nd meeting held on 6.5.1997 were confirmed.

**Item No. 3: Payment of extra amount of Rs.800/- for having incurred expenditure on video-taping of the proceedings of the Adalat.**

It was explained by Member(KP) that the video cassette of the Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat, Gaya has been received in the Commission. The Commission approved the payment of extra amount of Rs.800/-, as proposed in the agenda item.



**Item No. 4: Payment of an extra amount of Rs.5930/- for having incurred expenditure on holding Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat, Kolhapur.**

The Commission gave its approval to the payment of Rs.5930/- on account of publication of 1000 copies of Hindi version of the booklet originally published in English on Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalat.

**Item No. 5: Request received through M(IB) for financial assistance to Ms. Kavitha N.**

Member (IB) explained the case. Taking into consideration the fact that NCW is not a funding agency and that we have no provision to meet such requests for financial help, it was advised that the applicant may be directed to approach the State Government or any other appropriate agency for assistance.

**Item No. 6: Proposal for collaboration of NCW with UNDP in various areas of interest to NCW.**

The Member Secretary explained the background leading to the submission of the agenda item before the Commission. Earlier, some preliminary meetings had been held to explore the areas to be covered under the collaborative efforts. Usually UNDP routes its fund through the Department of Expenditure, wherein it was noticed that at all times things do not go satisfactorily from the point of view of UNDP. Thus, another route i.e. farm out projects through other agencies such as national level organisations and NGOs was thought of. It is in this context that NCW has a role to play with UN agencies for the benefit of women and girl children. It was decided that a separate meeting may be arranged specifically to consider the issues involved and work out both the areas of collaboration and the mode of channalising financial resources, etc. (action MS/C(KM))

**Item No. 7: Ex-facto approval of NCW in respect of its sponsored projects**

The Commission considered NCW sponsored projects listed from Sr. No. 40 to Sr. No.56 forming a part of the agenda note. In addition, the Commission also considered another 6 projects from Sr.No.57 to 62 presented during the meeting. The complete list of projects accorded ex-post facto concurrence of the Commission during the 33rd meeting is at Annexure. The Chairperson directed that the workshop at Sr. No. 49 of the list i.e. sensitization and rehabilitation of children exploited for commercial sex at Surat to be conducted by CSD, New Delhi may be postponed from 10-11 July, 1997 if possible after consultation with Dr. C. Rajyalakshmi particularly because Member(KV) is not likely to attend. It was also directed the the file at Sr.No.56 regarding training camp in Prakasam District in Andhra Pradesh may be shown to Chairperson. {action C(PSKM)}



**Item No. 8: Financial assistance from NCW to State Commissions for Women**

The Member Secretary explained the case in detail. It was decided that NCW may write to the Chief Ministers of the States to provide adequate financial provision to the State Commissions for Women. A suggestion was also made that NCW could assist State Commissions through project based approach. Some State Commissions have also asked for financial assistance to produce short documentary films. It was suggested that the issue could be discussed in ensuing meeting of the State Commissions for Women (30.7.1997). {action C(PSKM)}

**Item No. 9: Participation of Institutions equivalent to NCW in other SAARC countries-arrangements for the delegates**

The Chairperson observed that the work is not progressing in the manner in which one would have desired. We will now need to hasten our efforts to ensure that all the related issues are sorted out well in time before the scheduled meeting on 8th March, 1998. Accordingly, it was decided that (1) to book venue, Main Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi; (2) Address SAARC Secretariat direct to obtain all relevant information without further waiting for Sri Sudhir Vyas (Ministry of External Affairs) to respond; (3) an appointment need to be fixed with Ms. Kamla Sinha, State Minister for External Affairs urgently; (4) NHRC has to be involved; (5) a sub-committee in NCW may be formed to continuously monitor progress; and (6) Member (SSH) may obtain a list of NGOs in SAARC countries. {action C(Padmaja)}

**Item No. 10: Conference at Goa on 23-24 July, 1997 on Child Prostitution**

The position with reference to the Conference at Goa on Child Prostitution was reviewed. It was noted that every thing is proceeding according to the schedule and is under control.

**Item No. 11: Study entrusted to Ms. Veena Majumdar - Status of the study**

Explaining the background, the Member Secretary stated that two meetings on the issue had already been held, when Dr. Veena Majumdar and Ms. Vibha Puri Das participated. The Commission did not support the suggestion to involve the Planning Commission at this stage. It was decided that one more meeting to further consider the issue may be held soon. It was emphasised that NCW is keen to have the study undertaken and completed expeditiously {action MS/C(KM)}.

**Item No. 12: Conference of State Home Ministers - 31st July-1st August, 1997**

The progress of the study was reviewed. It was decided to hold a Press Conference on 2nd August 1997 for which venue may be booked in IIC, New Delhi {action C(TNS)}.



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**Item No. 13: Consolidation of work done by the Commission during its 2 years tenure in July, 1997**

The Chairperson emphasised the need to have enough literature to disseminate information about NCW periodically and effectively. The proposed calender of events and a brochure in simple form showing the results achieved in the thrust areas taken up by NCW should be brought out. Member (SSH) would suggest a format for the pamphlet and a calender of events.

**Item No. 14: Celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Indian Independence year long celebrations from 15.8.1997 to 15.8.1998 - Programme to be organised by NCW decision thereon**

At the outset, Chairperson mentioned that this matter requires thorough study by a small group of Officers in the Commission. On receipt of the recommendations of this group, a meeting of the Members of the Commission may be convened to take a final view in this regard.

It was explained by the Chairperson that the NCW is proposing to accept the invitation of the Ministry of Defence to participate in the Republic Day Parade on 26th January, 1998 with a Tablues depicting the progress of women in 50 years. A meeting in this regard was held recently and the ideas are yet to crystalise. It was decided that Member (SSH) would represent NCW in all meetings in the Ministry of Defence in this regard.

**Item No. 15: National Communal Harmony Awards Recommendations of the Organisations dedicated to the promotion of communal harmony.**

It was decided that Justice (Rtd.) V.R. Krishna Iyer may be recommended for the Communal Harmony Award.

**Item No. 16: Work Distribution review for Consulant**

It was explained by the Member Secretary that the list of work distribution amongst Consultants is being updated and the shortcomings in the existing order would be rectified.

**Item No. 17: Audit para 9 of 95-96. Half Pay leave granted/availed by Consultants - audit objections regarding**

It was decided that action as per rules and procedure may be taken.



Item No. 18: Recommendation of Committee on Subordinate Legislation-directives regarding appointment of Consultant

During the discussion on the subject various suggestions, such as, redesignating the present incumbents, disbursement of salary through NGO's associating Staff Members in study projects, were considered. It was decided that the Deputy Secretary will prepare a comprehensive note of the issue for consideration by the Commission. Chairperson directed that all cases of extension of tenure of Consultant may be shown to her.

Item No. 19: Introduction to ACTC (AIWC) Computer Training

This was not agreed to.

Item No. 20: Projects files

Item No. 21: Film Files

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Item No. 22: Purchase of furniture

To streamline, the procedure for purchases to be made above Rs. 10,000/- it was decided that there will be a "Purchase Committee". The Committee will be chaired by a Member of the Commission, MS/DS, P&AO and Consultant (Finance Desk). The Member could be any one present on the day of opening tenders or taking a decision as needed. It was emphasised that no consultant should be associated with any purchase other than those from Finance Desk.

Member (SSH) desired to have some changes in the "Computer Printer" purchased for her, as she required draft printing rather than quality printing. It was decided that the representative of HCL would meet Member (SSH) and discuss the difficulties being experienced by her.

For the Publication of NCW literature, a panel consisting of printers should be drawn. Here also a Committee similar to the Purchase Committee "PC" should be constituted, chaired by a Member of the Commission, consisting of MS/DS, P&AO, Librarian and Consultant (Finance Desk).

Item No. 23: Any other item with the permission of Chair .

Member(SSH) raised the issue of access on computer vis-a-vis networking, both at national and international levels. The progress made in this connection for procurement of E-Mail facility was reported and it was decided that as these details are technical. Views of all Members would be taken and decision would be taken accordingly.



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During the course of the discussion, the Chairperson pointed out the necessity to have a Public Relations Officer in the Commission. It was decided to designate Shri P.S. Madhavan as PRO.

The deployment of stenographers and typists needed to be toned up to get better output. There is acute shortage of stenographers. Efforts should be made to recruit stenographers on ad hoc basis immediately. The sharing of stenographers does not seem to work satisfactorily. The Chairperson suggested that a letter from her to HRD Minister about the non-availability of stenographers may be put up.

The deployment of Class IV Peons and Drivers was discussed. It was decided that a meeting will be taken by Chairperson of all drivers and peons, which may be arranged immediately.

Appointment of staff for operation of computers was discussed. It was explained that the interviews had been held recently. The Chairperson remarked that persons presently working in NCW should also be considered on merits.

Adviser (PS) pointed out the deficiencies in adjustment of tour advance, etc. It was suggested that these may be sorted out.

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



NCW Sponsored Projects

As on June, 1997

| <u>S.No.</u> | <u>Project description</u>   | <u>Organisation</u>                             | <u>Amount Sanctioned/ Released</u> | <u>Remarks</u> |
|--------------|--|---|------------------------------------|----------------|
| 40.          | Study on survey in Goa in Child Prostitution and Paedophilia   | Desterro Eves Mahila Mandal Goa                 | Rs.1.20 lakhs<br>Rs.60,000/-       |                |
| 41.          | Convening a meeting of Labour Secretaries, Labour Commissioners, concerned District Collectors and SPs of Seven States on 6.6.1997 | Kerala Women's Commission, Thiruvananthapuram   | Rs.30,000/-                        |                |
| 42.          | A study of Children in Prostitution in Tamil Nadu  | South India Aids Action programme, Madras       | Rs.30,000/-<br>Rs.20,000/-         |                |
| 43.          | A study on demography and special needs of a vulnerable population of women with mental illness                                    | Schizophrenia Research Foundation, Chennai      | Rs.2.12 lakhs<br>Rs.1,06,000       |                |
| 44.          | NCW publication Child Prostitution and Trafficking   | Dr. Deepti Bhargava, New Delhi.                 | Rs.30,000/-<br>Rs.15,000/-         |                |
| 45.          | A study on the State of Child Prostitution in India particularly in Rajasthan  | Prof. K.K. Mukherjee, Gram Niyojan Kendra, U.P. | Rs.40,000/-<br>Rs.30,000/-         |                |
| 46.          | Survey of child prostitution amongst Bedia Community in Morena   | Abhyuday Ashram, Morena, Madhya Pradesh.        | Rs.10,000/-<br>Rs.10,000/-         |                |
| 47.          | A training programme for women elected and contested for Panchayats in Pasumpon Muthuramalinga Thevar Dist.                        | Dept.of Women's Studiess, Karaikudi             | Rs.15,000/-<br>Rs.12,000/-         |                |
| 48.          | Workshop on sensitization and rehabilitation of children exploited for commercial sex at Jaipur on 23-24 June, 1997                | Council for Social Develop- New Delhi           | Rs.50,000/-<br>Rs.40,000/-         |                |



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| 49. | Workshop on sensitization and rehabilitation of children exploited for commercial sex at Surat on 10-11 July, 1997 | Council for Social Develop-<br>New Delhi                                 | Rs.50,000/-<br>Rs.40,000/-                                       |
| 50. | A seminar on women rights at Gwalior on 10.7.1997  | Adarsh Samaj<br>Seva Shiksha<br>Samitee, Gwalior                         | Rs.15,000/-<br>Rs.10,000/-                                       |
| 51. | A workshop on Panchayati Raj for women at Chopal, Shimla on 18-20/7/97   | Manav Kalyan<br>Sewa Samiti,<br>Shimla, H.P.                             | Rs.20,000/-<br>Rs.16,000/-                                       |
| 52. | One-day seminar on the theme Gender Equality with Social Justice on December 24, 1996                              | Mahila Utpeedan<br>Virodhi and<br>Vikas Samiti, +<br>Ranchi              | Rs.92,000/- Report<br>Rs.60,000/- & a/cs<br>Rs.28,000/- received |
| 53. | Study of Women and Girls in Prostitution in Orissa; Their needs, problems and perspectives                         | Jeevan Rekha<br>Parishad,<br>Bhubaneswar. +                              | Rs.50,000/- Study in<br>Rs.25,000/- progress<br>+ Rs.20,000/-    |
| 54. | A study on Prostitution in Andhra Pradesh  | AWARE,<br>Hyderabad  | Rs.70,000/-<br>Rs.50,000/-                                       |
| 55. | Two day Sathin Sammelan in Jaipur on 15th & 16th October, 96.  | Mahila Vikas<br>Abhikaran<br>Sathin Karmchari<br>Sangh, Ajmer.           | Rs.35,000/-<br>+Rs. 497/-  |
| 56. | Holding five camps on three-days duration each in 5 Mandals of Prakasam District in Andhra Pradesh                 | Social<br>Activities for<br>Rural Develop-<br>ment Society,<br>Tangutur. | Rs.60,000/-<br>Rs.30,000/-                                       |



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| 57. | Seminar on Women's Education and their Development in August, 1997  | Community Development Society, Imphal.                                | Rs. 40,000/-<br>Rs. 35,000/-                 |
| 58. | One-day symposium on Participation of women in Public Affairs on February 4, 1997                             | Madabhushi Ananthasayanam Institute of Public Affairs, Tirupati.      | Rs. 35,000/-<br>Rs. 30,000/-<br>+Rs. 5,000/- |
| 59. | Two day workshop on Custodial Care for Women in August, 1997.   | Kamla Kumar, Bangalore  | Rs. 45,000/-<br>Rs. 36,000/-                 |
| 60. | A study of customary laws pertaining to family and marriage of the Tangkhul tribe of Manipur                  | Joint Women's Programme, Manipur                                      | Rs. 10,000/-<br>Rs. 8,000/-                  |
| 61. | Workshop on tribal women and Panchayati Raj and awareness programme for tribal women in June, 1997            | Karnataka State Commission, Bangalore.                                | Rs. 25,000/-<br>Rs. 20,000/-                 |
| 62. | Workshop for training of women elected to local bodies in five different regions during April-September, 1997 | KARUNA, All India Society for Welfare of Women & Children, New Delhi. | Rs. 1,50,000/-<br>Rs. 1,20,000/-             |