No.1/6/2008-NCW(A) NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN ADMINISTRATION SECTION

Dated 10th February, 2009

Subject: Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Commission held on 6th February, 2009.

The minutes of the special meeting of the Commission held on 06.02.2009 are enclosed for information and necessary action.

It is requested that the action taken report, if any, on the decision taken in the meeting may please be furnished to the undersigned at the earliest.

UNDER SECRETARY

PS to CP

PS to all Members

Ref

PS to MS/JS/DS/PRO/SRO/PAO/DA

No.1/6/2008-NCW(A) NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN ADMINISTRATION SECTION

Dated 6th February

Subject:

Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Commission 6th February, 2009 at 9.00 a.m. in the Conference So

the Commission.

The following attended the meeting:

1. Dr. Girija Vyas Chairperson 2. Ms. Neeva Konwar Member Ms. Yasmeen Abrar 3. Member 4. Ms. Wansuk Syeim Member Ms. Nirmala Venkatesh 5. Member Shri S. Chatterjee 6. Member-Secretary In attendance were: 1. Ms. Vijaya Moorthy Joint Secretary Ms. Kusum Mishra 2. Deputy Secretary Sh. Abdus Salam 3. Under Secretary & S.R.C

Sh. Yogesh Mehta 4. Law Officer

Ms. Kareena B. Thenganiam 5. P.R.O.

6. Sh. S.C.Kaushik Pay & Accounts Officer 7. Ms. M. Lilabati, Ms. Kudsia Shamim & Ms. Smita Jha C

Co-ordinators

Item No.1. Leave of absence

Leave of absence was granted to Ms. Manju S. Hembrom, Member, National Commission for Women.

Item No. 2. Constitution of an Inquiry Committee to enquire into the incident of mysterious death of Ms. Scarlette Eden Keeling.

Law Officer pointed out the report was already placed in the Commission meeting held on 24th September, 2008. No further action is required. The case is closed.

(Action: C&I Cell)

Item No.3. Constitution of an Inquiry Committee to enquire into the incident of a 45 yrs. old women burnt to death in Bargarh District of Orissa.

The Inquiry Committee is to be submit a final report expeditiously.

(Action: C&I Cell)

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Item No.4. Constitution of an Inquiry Committee to enquire into the incident of violence & Vandalism in Udipi & Chikmanglur of Karnataka against Christian Community.

The Member should submit final report expeditiously.

(Action: C&I Cell)

Item No.5. Constitution of an Inquiry Committee to enquire into the incident of Gangrape of a girl student in Noida.

The Inquiry Committee is to be submit a final report expeditiously. The girl was not willing to be interviewed and police have already taken action, and case is being investigated by police.

(Action: C&I Cell)

Item No.6. Constitution of an Inquiry Committee to enquire into the incident wherein girls assaulted by Hindu Outfit Members in a pub in Karnataka.

The Commission has seen the report submitted by the Member, Smt.Nirmala Venkatesh with respect to the incident which took place in Mangalore at the pub 'Amnesia'. The Committee was constituted in view of an attack on women by some self appointed moral police which the Commission had condemned.

The Commission is of the opinion that the report is lacking in the following areas:

a. The Constitution of the Committee as per the order No.8/5(1) C & I/2009-NCW dated 27.1.2009 from the Commission required a local social activist and a local advocate. However an activist was not associated.

b. None of the persons attacked were contacted/interviewed. It is not clear as to steps taken by the Committee to meet the victims except to say that they had left

Mangalore:

c. The report focuses on the nature of licence issued to the bar owners when that was not part of the terms of reference issued to the Committee. In any event, even if the pub did not have a licence, there was no reason for anybody to beat up women;

d. The reasons for raiding another premises is not clear.

As far as the report and recommendations are concerned, even if it was not possible to meet the victims, the fact that the accused allegedly admitted that they did beat up the victims under certain circumstances should be enough for the Committee of the National Commission for Women to condemn those acts and make recommendations accordingly. The Women's Commission is set up to address issues relating to women and make recommendations for their protection and empowerment. The Commission condemns all forms of violence against women including the attack in question.

In the circumstances, the Commission cannot accept this report. Ordinarily, the Commission would have deputed another Committee to look into the matter. In view of the fact that the Ministry has already sent a team, and a report of that team would have

been ready, the Commission is not sending any additional team at this time.

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