

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

4, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Marg,
New Delhi - 110 002

MINUTES OF THE 26TH MEETING OF THE NATIONAL
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN HELD ON THE 6TH AUGUST, 1996

The twenty-sixth meeting of the National Commission for Women was held on Tuesday the 6th of August, 1996, under the Chairmanship of Smt. Mohini Giri, Chairperson, National Commission for Women. The following present :

1. Ms. Monini Giri, Chairperson
2. Ms. Kokila Vyas, Member
3. Ms. Kailashpati, Member
4. Ms. Padma Seth, Member
5. Ms. Nisha Sahai Achuthan, Member Secretary.

Ms. Deviki Jain, Honorary Adviser, attended the meeting as a special invitee.

Sh. S.C. Ghoshal, Pay & Accounts Officer, all Consultants and Counsellors, Section Officer, and Assistant-in-charge were in attendance to render assistance as and when required of them.

Welcoming the Members to the Meeting, Chairperson at the outset thanked the Members and the Staff of the Commission for making the week-long celebrations from July 22nd to July 30th, 1996 a grand success.

The agenda items were then taken up for consideration as follows :

ITEM 1 : Confirmation of the Minutes fo the 24th Meeting of the NCW held on 21st June, 1996.

The minutes were confirmed.

at action on
upon
respective
to
3/9/96
(M. S. Khan)

1996.

The minutes were confirmed.

ITEM 3 : Follow-up action on the minutes of t
of the NCW held on 21.06.96 and 18.0

(i) With regard to the appoi
subject Consultant to be at
each Member of the Commissio
decided that Member themse
responsible for getting
Consultants appointed. It
that interview was being
appoint Personal Consultants.

✓(ii)

Action taken

It was noted that an Office
been issued granting a
remuneration of Rs.4,500/- o
basis initially for six mont
Sadiq Jalani, Legal Consultan

(iii) It was mentioned in the mee
action had been initiated
representation of Class IV
regularisation of their app
It was decided that a comp
letter should be sent to the
by the Administration

SU (Admin)
Mr. Padme to take
on. a

✓(iv)

Action taken

It was noted that action was
for clearing payment to all p
a priority basis.

(v) With regard to the distrib
"Legal Awareness" booklets to
Women's Colleges - both nat
regional, it was decided tha
first instance Member(PS)
identify various topics fo
included in the booklet,
compilation and printing is un

that the Administration would pass an Order for the setting up of a Pre-Litigation Centre in the Commission and that the Administration Section would seek the help of Consultant(SJ) for stipulating the functions of the Pre-Litigation Centre. One more Counsellor will be appointed for the Litigation Cell. Member(PS) will be in-charge of the Centre.

(vii) Appointment of Legal Adviser - to decide terms and conditions : It was decided that a letter should be sent to Sh. S. Ramiah stating that his appointment as Legal Adviser to the Commission would be on a monthly salary of Rs.8,000/- plus provision of conveyance to him free of cost or Rs.10,000/- P.M. without conveyance. Sh. Ramiah's draft appointment Order will be prepared by the Administration/P & A.O. and approved by the Member Secretary before issue.

(viii) Legal Awareness Programme : It was decided that the proposal to conduct one more legal awareness training programme at NLSU and for organising regional legal awareness training programme should be discussed as and when proposals are received in the Commission.

(ix) Publication of Newsletter : It was suggested that a sub-committee should be constituted with Member(PS) and Consultant(PSK) as Members and with Chairperson chairing the Committee to

15. Padma & letter
SO (Admin)
in action

- SECRET
- (x) Proof reading of Annual Reports of Commission : It was suggested that Librarian might render assistance to Consultant (Ms. Nag) in proof reading of the material received from Press. It was also suggested that Consultant (Ms. Nag) should be given 15 days' time to submit the reports to Press for printing.
- (xi) Reports on the status of SC & ST work : Member(KP) stated that the reports were being translated in Hindi before being sent for Printing of both the English and Hindi versions. In this context Member(KP) desired that the three reports received on (a) Urban Slum (b) Credit facilities for women entrepreneurs and (c) Mentally handicapped women, should be translated in English.
- (xii) Appointment of a part-time Consultant (legal) for the morning session : It was suggested that the Legal Unit would furnish bio-data of prospective candidates, who could be considered for appointment as Part-time Legal Consultant.

It was reiterated in the meeting that the review of old projects was to be undertaken by Consultant (PSK) and that of new ones to be undertaken by C(CRS).

The statements indicating the position of the studies/projects as obtaining on 5.5.95 were taken up for discussion and following decisions/suggestions were made :

- (a) Awareness raising and inculcating self-reliance among rural women in 20 villages of Periyar District of Tamil Nadu : Item 17 of the Statement.

It was suggested that Consultant (Ms. Nag) should pursue the matter for getting the final report on the project from KGNMT, Madras.

- (b) Creation of mother -friendly work places/Deptt. of Pediatrics, LTMG Hospital, Bombay: Item 18 of the Statement.

It was suggested that the Member Secretary would re-open the case and also identify with an expert NGO who could be associated with in finalising the project.

- (c) Impact of SAP, on employment of women in food processing in U.P. - G.R. Sharma Archaeological Society, Alhabad - item 20 of the statemnt.

It was suggested that the Member(KP)

-: 6 :-

would look into this to find
was the outcome of the study

- (d) Action Plan-cum-Training M
potential durable employment
for the women of slums in
item 8 of the statement.

It was decided that the Member (KV)
with the project and Consultant
would process the proposal.

- (e) Study on data base on women
with special reference to four
States.

It was noted that no further action
study was called for as it was
compendium pooling up the data.

- (f) Preparation of Directory
Teachers in Colleges and Un
in Maharashtra State - item
Statement.

The project is still pending
It was decided that Member(KV) will
follow-up action and Consultant
would render assistance to Member (KV)

- (g) Study on political empowerment
through Panchayat Raj in
States of India : item 27
statement.

It was noted that a report had been
by the Institute of Social Sciences, Delhi.
decided that Consultant (PSK) would make a study
report, make requisite number of copies of the
and supply each Member of the Commission a copy
after getting the copies printed.

officials in Gujarat : Gujarat Kelavani Trust, Ahmedabd : item 30 of the Statement.

It was suggested that Memembr (KV) would look into this.

- (j) Study-Action and Public Hearing on Women in un-organised sector in Tamil Nadu/Centre for Labour Education and Development, Madras
- (k) Study of impact of Maintenance Law on divorcee women in Kerala - item 22 of the statement.
- (l) Production of joint publication containing major judicial decisions and legislations affecting the Status and rights of women/National Law School of India University- item 23 of the Statement.
- (m) Role of women in administration of Panchayati Raj - West Bengal experience/National Law School of India University, Bangalore.

It was suggested that Memembr(PS) would look into these project reports for follow-up action.

living in leums in Delhi/Prachi Education
Society Delhi - item 26 of the statemnt.

It was decided that consultnt (Ms.)
would look into this.

- (p) Organisation of Mahila shibirs in r
areas/Jyoto Sangh Ahmedabad : item 32 of
statement.

It was decided that Memebr(KV) w
look into this.

- (q) Brining out the publication of a Documenta
on the women and Media Initiative : item 3
the statement.

It was suggested that the Memebr
would check inter Ms. Akhila Sivadas of P
Advisory Group.

The following decisions were also taken in regard to the studies/projects :-

- (a) In future each Member of the Commission will consult academics concerned with the field of study with a view to identifying Institutions, NGOs, academics etc. who could conduct informed, dispassionate studies, before entrusting such studies/projects to them and also funding such studies./
- (b) Adviser(DJ) will guide the Commission as to whom the Studies/Project reports should be entrusted for critical review.
- (c) P & AO will be in overall charge of all the files relating to the studies/projects and Consultant (RNB) and Consultant (Ms. Nag) will coordinate in identifying the files.

ITEM 5 :

Agenda items and thrust areas suggested by Ms. Padma Seth, Member.

1) Legal Awareness Programme for women and girls.

- (a) It was noted that the Training of Trainer Programme would be conducted at Bangalore in September, 1996 and that a communication had been sent to the Dr. Madhav Menon Director NLSUT, Bangalore, to organise the programme.

- D) Training of Trainers Programme at levels would be conducted in Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Assam, West Bengal and Odisha as to cover all the regions of the country.
- (c) Legal Awareness Programme would be conducted to begin with in 50 States. The Chairperson desired that all women members of the Panchayats. It was decided that the proposals regarding the programme would be received from all State organisations.

(ii) Pariwarik/Mahila Lok Adalat

It was decided that the Members of the Lok Adalats with various States should write to the State Government and NGOs for organising the Adalats.

(iii) Honorarium to Sh. Ramaiah, Adviser, for drafting Ordinance on Child rape.

It was decided that payment must be made without further delay.

(iv) Allowance to be paid to Sh. P.M.Bakshi, Adviser

P & A O will coordinate with the Member and the Consultant to file a case. In this context it was decided that the notice of the Commission Adviser(DJ) had not been paid since 1996. This matter should also be taken into account.

They to be paid to Dr. Chakravorty for preparing Sathins' Report.

& A O has to coordinate to trace the file so that the payment is made without any delay. The report on Sathin is available with Member(PS).

Appointment of Sh. Ramaiah as Legal Adviser.

Assistant(SJ) should take necessary action to effect the appointment letter stating the terms and conditions of appointment of Sh. Ramaiah as Legal Adviser.

Release of a grant of Rs.50,000/- to KARUNA to enable it to organise Workshop on Panchayats Training Programme.

Commission gave its approval for the proposal desired that the case may be processed for the release of the grant.

Follow-up action to be taken on the Charter of Awards/Reports.

It was noted in the meeting.

Letter from Deptt. of W & C D requesting the Commission to (a) review all laws which discriminate against women (b) expedite orders regarding recommendations already made and (c) take new ones for review.

It was suggested that a report on the matter regarding all the items should be sent immediately to Deptt. of Women & Child Development.

- (i) Proposal to organise workshop on "Devi of Women in Electronic and Printed Media by Media Women's Forum."

After a short discussion the following suggestions were made with reference to proposal :

- (a) the organisation should be asked to submit a detailed proposal indicating the various topics to be discussed in workshop;
- (b) to reduce the expenditure on travel allowance, stationery etc. so that budget estimate of Rs.4 lakhs could be pruned down.

Member(KV) mentioned that the Workshop would be in the name of the NCW and that 30 delegates from each State would be attending the workshop. The purpose was approved in principle, subject to the condition (a) & (b) above, in the meeting.

- (ii) Proposal of NILPA for organising Training for women in Panchayat.

The proposal has been approved. It was mentioned that the Commission would have objection to lending its name with regard to the workshop.

- ITEM 7 : Project for Women's Development in the Kumaon region- proposal submitted by Member Secretary.

- (a) "Women in Horticultural Development of the Kumaon Region" from the Centre for Technology (Bangalore) and Kumaon

Development Centre (New Delhi) - an NGO of which Member Secretary is in the Board of Directors and is on their Expert Committee on Women.

Empowerment of women in forest related activities in Kumaon region - a research proposal of Kumaon Development Centre (Coordinators: Member Secretary and Ms. Usha Venkateshwaran)

It was decided that both these projects could along with anti-arrack movement project and the discussion points with Sh. Sunder Lal Bahuguna (Notes of the meeting are taken down by C(CRS) and given to Chairperson) be taken up under a strategy paper to be formulated on "Women Development in Uttarakhand Region".

Proposal for inclusion in the Chapter on "Women in Decision Making" in the country paper a reference to "Women in Bureaucracy"- proposal submitted by Member Secretary.

The proposal was discussed in brief and it was decided that a research paper on "Women in decision making" should form part of the work being handled by the Expert Committee on Political Empowerment.

M 8 : Agenda items of the Administration Wing (8 items).

Recruitment of Consultants

The existing deployment of Consultants was reviewed. It was suggested that a detailed letter should be sent to the Department of Women & Child Development with reference to the latest correspondence on Subordinate Legislation in respect of Consultants recruited for the mission from among the retired Government employees.

(ii) Budget Statements for the Annual Fun

The Commission approved the Rs.6,72,758/- incurred on the Annual Function held during the period 22.07.96 to . Commission also gave its approval to the incurred on the printing of reports for t suggested that the Printer should be pai his dues.

(iii) Setting up of Computer Cell

It was noted in the meeting the proposed to procure 12 Desk tops in the C each for Chairperson, Member(PS), Member(M Member(Vacant), Member (Vacant), complaint Legal Unit, Administration and Cash Unit - be attached with the existing computer in This proposal was approved.

The following suggestions were al meeting :

- (i) The Main Frame Computer should Chairperson's room.
- (ii) Jet Printers should be obtained w Printer to be installed in CP's room.
- (iii) The rooms should be air-conditioned are to be installed.
- (iv) Two soft & wares in addition to th should be obtained in addition to th should be obtained.
- (v) A small orientation course should b one hour in the Commission for the staff of the Commission with the help
- (vi) Adviser(DJ) will furnish a deta organising Computer Cell.

Under
mcey
ASA
3/1/96

The Commission endorsed all the recomm

(vii) Proposal for Hindi Cell

Chairperson suggested that a should be set up in the Commission. It that pending setting up of a regular one Hindi Translator should be appointed as the Consultants/Counsellors in the C Pre-Litigation Cells badly in need translation assistance. The staff o th be utilised for Hindi translation. Ad Division should take action for (i) a Hindi Cell and (ii) draw up a panel appointment of Hindi translator.

(viii) Proposal for upgrading Reception-Room.

It was decided that the exist. Romm should be renovated as had been case of Rashtriya Mahila Kosh. All renovation of the Room the Fax num telephone number should be changed.

(ix) Proposal to purchase motor-cycle/wheeler.

It was decided that a three closed doors should be purchase and the Three Wheeler should be recruited.

(x) Ex-post-facto approval of the Commission payment of TA/DA to Ms. Shyamala Nataraj May Thomas, Members of the Expert Prostitution.

The Commission agreed to give sanction.

Under process
MS
3/9

A claim
for
consultant

(xi) Upgradation of Inter com system

The proposal for upgradation of Upton Talkman Mx 3202 Model to that of 6402 Model (with 48 lines) is discussed. Chairperson desired that all proposals should be examined from various angles before placing order for upgradation.

The following decisions were taken regarding the items concerning Administration

Pao to address Mrs. Padma's letter to the President on 3/9

Ms. Padma's letter not to be considered

DA (A) HSA 3/9

NA (A) HSA 3/9

Library to be checked by the Secretary

Pao to be considered on 3/9

DA (A) HSA 3/9

(i) If a Member is absent from his/her office during the period, the staff of the Member should be called where they are needed.

(ii) The room occupied by the Advisory Committee should be renovated.

(iii) Corridor in the second floor should be ~~utilised~~ *utilised for accommodating* the Computer Centre.

(iv) Each Member should be provided with a separate office.

(v) Library Room should be re-arranged to provide space for the book cases and a photocopier should be provided.

The suggestions made in the IAS report regarding the "Expansion of Library" was accepted.

(vi) Inventories/Stores checking will be done by the P & AO with the assistance of the Section Officer and other staff of the Administration Section. S.O. and P & AO are to submit a detailed report after inspection.

(vii) A letter should be written to the University authorities for block of flats at Asiad Village, which are to be handed over to the Society. It is to take possession of these flats.

typical
subject
35A
1/9

Action should be action to occupy Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, which is to be vacated shortly by Jain Commission, for use by the NCW till such time as a regular building is constructed for the Commission.

Administration's Section file relating to purchase of land for the NCW should be submitted to Chairperson.

Any private Fax messages and STD calls be paid by the Members or the staff of the Commission, as the case may be.

PAs attached to the Members should report the matter regarding private calls; a register should be maintained to monitor FAX messages and STD calls.

Librarian should ensure that all the member of the Expert Committees are provided with new sets of books; the Members concerned should put up demands.

their requirements.

Librarian will prepare and allum of all the news items concerning women issues and the NCW.

A letter should be sent to the President, War Widows Association requesting him to pay Rs.200/- per week to the Attendant (Ms. Arti) of the child, Meenu, who fell from the teirace of Shaheed Bhawan, till such time as the findings of the NCW on the case of Meenu's fall, are ready.

9 : Any other items with the approval of the Chair.

Follow-up Action on the week-long Seminars/Workshops in July, 1996.

(i) It was noted that Consult consolidate and compile discussed with the PM in the 26th July, 1996 meeting c Members with him. The Membe the notes to Member Sec photographs relating to this procured from Shastri Bhwa floor) Consultant(PKSM) a would prepare over-view note proceedings within a fortnigh

(ii) Consolidated of all the Semin

It was noted that some of t been got typed by Consultant to Memebr Secretary. It wa same Consultnat and M consolidate and send the Secretary. It was further Rappateurs would coordinat Consultant(PKSM) and that the entrust their work to t Secretaries till such t Consultant(MJ) arrived.

(iii) Computerisation of the list o alphabetical order and also ca

It was suggested that Advi entrust this job to Knowledge and that one person shoul consolidated report.

PERT Chart on the organisational efforts involved in holding the Annual Function..

It was suggested that Consultant(CRS) might, with the help of S.O. (Admn.) and DA(A), compile a detailed chart with all the required information as indicated in the Agenda Note.

Budget Statement showing the expenditure incurred for this for the week-long programmes.

The Budget Statement has approved in the meeting after a short-discussion.

Project proposals and studies to be sponsored the Commission during the ensuing months.

Training Women to look after handi-capped children.

Para-legal training for women.

Setting up of Legal Library.

Study of reports received on (a) Urban slums (b) dit facilities and (c) mentally hand-capped en to be undertaken.

RE proposal for a Seminar on "Anti-Arrack ement" at Beshampur (P & AO to look into DS's ld for tracing this file).

It was suggested that the afore said proposals should be processed and submitted for Commission's consideration in the next meeting the session.

A screening Committee should be set up with er(KP) as Chairperson, and Member Secretary, ultant(CRS), Consultant(Ms.Nag) and Consultant

(KNS) as Members to examine all the Research Study proposals received by the Commission. All the proposals should in instance be referred to the Member who would coordinate with the Screening Committee.

Further suggestions were made with regard to new proposals :

(i) Adviser(DJ) will invite new subjects filling into her programme NGOs; thereafter the question of projects should be taken up in accordance with prescribed guide lines.

(ii) The Commission should find various issues pertaining to women and publish concerted research papers/studies so as to refer to the Commission to judge whether it is an important issue that would come under informed consideration.

(iii) Librarian should also be included in the Screening Committee.

(iv) New areas should be charted for Research Studies. The Commission should decide about the feasibility of such studies.

III. News Letter

Member Secretary would identify the person to do the editing work. Member Secretary will be the final Editor.

IV. Panchayat

It was suggested that the Panchayats should have a Judicial Wing and there should be Nyaya Panchayats. Adviser(DJ) will give attention on Legal Awareness among Panchayati Women.

-: 21 :-

A study on rape on Dalit women to be undertaken without delay.

Editing of documents/reports.research studies.

A person with professional competent to edit the documents should be requisitioned and posted under Member Secretary for editorial work.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks.