

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION'S MEETING HELD
ON 11th JUNE, 2003

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
Smt. Nafisa Hussain	:	Member
Smt. Baby Rani Maurya	:	Member
Dr. Sudha Malaiya	:	Member
Smt. Sunila Basant	:	Member Secretary
Smt. Nita Kapoor	:	Joint Secretary
Shri S.K. Garg	:	Under Secretary
Smt. Romi Sharma	:	Us-cum-PRO
Shri H. Kumar	:	Sr. Research Officer
Shri S.K. Kalra	:	Legal Officer

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members/officers to the meeting.

Agenda Item No.1

Leave of absence

Leave of absence was Nil.

Agenda Item No.2

Confirmation of the minutes of the special meetings of the Commission held 29th April, 13th May & 27th May, 2003 and meeting of the Commission held on 28th may, 2003 – Adoption by the Commission

Minutes of the Special meetings of the Commission held on 29th April, 13th May, 27th May and meeting of the Commission held on 28th May, 2003 were adopted.

Agenda Item No.3

Presentation by Chairperson, Members and Member Secretary

A written presentation of M(NH) was received in the meeting and enclosed at *Annexure – I*.

Agenda Item No.4

Filing of review petition against the Delhi High Court Judgement dated 19th May, 2003 regarding dowry

It was decided that a meeting may be convened for a full discussion on the Judgement of Delhi High Court dated 19th May, 2003 regarding dowry especially on Section 498 (A) of the IPC. For the meeting, representatives from the Police, Lawyers, NGOs may be invited. Jt. Commissioners of Police in the Crime against women Cell with 2-3 of her officers, Ms. Kawaljeet Singh, IPS, representative from Nav Jyoti and DG Police, UP or his representative may also be invited for the meeting.

(Action: Legal Cell)

Agenda Item No.5

Report of National Workshop for Women Mayors held on April, 20-21, 2003 at Uttan, Bhayander organised by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, Thane – Report for approval/adoption by the Commission

It was observed that the report is incomplete. We may write to the organization to give a detailed report.

It was also decided that we may send the Charter of Commitments by Women Mayors to all Women Mayors for their views and also ask them to send good practices regarding the cause of women adopted/implemented in their Municipal Committee. A letter may also be issued to all Women Mayors to confirm whether they have constituted a Committee for sexual harassment at workplace, if not, then they may be asked to get it constituted immediately. Specific views on Charter on Commitments at Sl.1 & 12 may be called for.

(Action : Research & Studies Cell)

Agenda Item No.6

Private Member's Resolution moved by Shri Viren J. Shah on 6th May, 1994 was adopted, without any vote against by Rajya Sabha on 24th March, 1995 regarding increasing incidents of rape, molestation, abduction, kidnapping and atrocities being committed on women in the country

Resolution adopted by Rajya Sabha on 24th March, 1995 was discussed and it was decided that we may ask Home Ministry about the implementation of

the Resolution adopted by Rajya Sabha. It was also observed that ***Item No. (b) “our laws are written in the local languages of the people”*** is very important. ***For (f)***, the Commission decided that we may write to the Chief Justice of India with copy to Chief Justice of all States for issuing of a directive that at least two days in a week may be allotted for hearing cases relating to the Crime against Women.

For (g), it was observed that scheme of compensation should be implemented. Letter to the concerned Deptt. should be addressed on this issue.

(Action: Legal Cell)

Agenda Item No.7

Final Accounts for the Financial Year 2002-2003 – for approval/adoption by the Commission

The Final Accounts for the Financial year 2002-03 were approved by the Commission .

During the discussions it was decided that the matter regarding action to be taken against the defaulter organisations which have been granted advance by the National Commission for Women for conducting Legal Awareness Programmes/PMLA/Studies or for some other work of the Commission should be discussed in a separate meeting in order to find out a method to be adopted for settlement of the pending cases and to avoid recurrence of such cases in future.

(Action: Accounts Section)

Agenda item No.8 to 12

Deferred

Agenda Item No.13

Next Conference of the Chairperson of State Commissions for Women – Fixation of venue and agenda for the meeting

Agenda approved for the meeting of the Chairpersons of State Commission for Women. After discussions, it was finally decided that the meeting of the Conference may be convened either at Wardha or Chittrakoot.

Agenda Item No.2 may be read as ***“Campaign against Female Foeticide”*** and implementation of PNDT Act.

Agenda Item No.4 stands deleted.

Item No.6 of the Agenda may be read as *“progress report of Media Watch Group”*.

Item No.7 to be discussed on the first day of the conference. Rest of the items to be taken thereafter.

Agenda Item No.8 & 11 stands deleted.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.14

Comments on the report to be furnished to the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)

Deferred

Agenda Item No.15

Laws to be taken on priority in the Expert Committee meetings (list indicating the laws reviewed by the Commission as well as the date of review)

To be discussed in a special meeting of the Commission.

Agenda item No.16

Public Hearing on Construction Workers

It was decided that a Committee of Experts who have done Legal work or other work relating to the Construction Workers may be constituted.

It was also decided that Swami Agnivesh, who has worked a lot for the welfare of the bonded labourers should also be involved in the Expert Committee.

It was decided to have public hearings at five places as under:

- (i) Delhi/Gurgaon
- (ii) Rajasthan
- (iii) Bihar
- (iv) Karnataka
- (v) Maharashtra

It was also decided that we may have one representative from National Campaign Committee on Construction Workers (headed by Justice K. Iyer) should be included in the Expert Committee. One Research Adviser may also be

engaged for this project for assimilating reports of all public hearings. This should be in the same manner as the Commission has approved for the Beedi and Cigar Act.

(Action Legal Cell)

Agenda Item No.17

Items of Supplementary agenda

Recommendations of the Screening Committee meeting held on 26th May, 03 were approved.

It was decided that **Ms. Kusum Kumar** may be appointed as Research Adviser on the project for assimilating reports of four (4) public hearings on Beedi and Cigar Workers. She will also work on consultation meetings on Personal Laws alongwith Shri Afsal Wani.

It was also decided that it will be the responsibility of the Members of the Commission, according to their geographical allocation to check the antecedents of the NGOs.

(Action: R & S Cell)

2. Report of the Public Hearings of the Fisher Women

Deferred

3. Investigation report on mortal attack against Shivwati of Village Junwani, Distt. Raipur, Chattisgarh by declaring her as Dayan

Recommendation No.8 was amended to the extent that there should be a ban on the practice of witch craft by BAGGA/OZHA. Except for this modification in the recommendations, the report was approved and adopted by the Commission.

It was decided that action be taken immediately to communicate the decision of the Commission to all concerned.

(Action: C & I Cell)

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Note: The minutes of the special meetings of the Commission held on 30th May and 10th June, 2003 will form the part of the minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 11th June, 2003.

No.F1/9/2003-NCW(A)
National Commission for Women

Dated the 17th June, 2003.

**Subject: Meeting of the Commission held on 11th June, 2003-
Circulation of Minutes regarding.**

The minutes, as approved by CP, of the meeting of the Commission held on 11th June 2003 is enclosed.

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

(S.K.GARG)
UNDER SECRETARY

PS to CP

PS to Members

PS to MS

PS to JS

SRO/TNS

PAO

PRO

LO

SO(A)

Mon.Cell