

Minutes of the Commission's meeting held on 14th & 15th July, 99

Date: 14th July, 1999

Time : 10.30 A.M.

Venue: Chairperson's Chamber

At the outset Chairperson welcomed all present.

Agenda items were then taken up

Agenda Item No .1

Confirmation of the minutes of the preceding meeting of the Commission held on 9th, 10th & 14th June, 1999

- (i) With reference to para (v) it was suggested by Member (P.Advani) that the meeting held on 23rd April, 99 was postponed after 10 minutes of the commencement of the meeting. This should have been recorded in the minutes giving the reasons therefor.
- (ii) With reference to para (vi) Member (P.Advani) said that she had already sent a typed copy the minutes recorded by her on 13.4.99. CP said a copy of the hand written notes of Member (P.Advani) which were shown in the meeting were to be furnished for incorporation. Member (P.Advani) said she would try to look for the same.
- (iii) With regard to the Agenda Item No.2 CP desired, a copy of the draft response sent by Member (S.S.Hameed). Member (S.S.Hameed) clarified that the points were sent by all Members, not just herself.

Shame

- (iv) With regard to Agenda Item No.3 CP clarified that she had gone into the earlier minutes in detail to verify the statement of Member (P.Advani) that her note given at the Commission's meeting on 4th March,99 was adopted and resolved. CP said suggestions were made on the note but nothing was adopted or resolved. The minutes recorded of the meeting of 4th March,99 were confirmed and never questioned in subsequent meetings.
- (v) (a) With regard to Agenda Item No.4- para 2 should read as "CP wanted to know..... comprise both review and amendments".
- (b) Member (P.Advani) clarified on 14.7.99 that the review of law relating to Dowry comprise not only critical analysis but also suggestions for amendments to the laws relating to Dowry and wanted the title of the agenda item to be changed.
- This clarification, however, could be an addendum as and when Member (P.Addvani) brings it up as additional/ separate agenda and the minutes of 9th July,1999 should not be modified.
- (c) At page 5, the last line relating to Agenda Item No.14 would read as Member (P.Advani) said that the note of the Expert Committee on review of the laws relating to dowry is ready and she would circulate the same. This was also an addendum and not an amendment to the minutes.
- (vii) Member (P.Advani) said that the last line at page 7 was recorded incorrectly. It was never decided to agree to the request. The mandate of the NCW Act does not permit NCW to enter the field of publication and this had been

*P. Advani*



NCW to enter the field of publication and this had been pointed out by her on 9th July itself. The only decision taken was to call for extracts of the book. MS(I/c) said that Member (S.S.Hameed) had asked for the extracts, however, the decision as recorded in the minutes was taken and is correctly reflected. Member (P.Advani) continued to maintain that publication does not come within the purview of the NCW Act and the Commission should proceed as per the Act. Member (S.S.Hameed) said that the Commission should follow rules but should not be painted into a corner. The actions should be innovative and we need not close our options.

) With regard to para 10, Member (V.Daksh) said the minutes are correct. However, she had not taken further action as she had not been able to proceed on any tour in the absence of any decision on the interim procedure.

With regard to item No. 29, Member (P.Advani) said that the special circumstances mentioned as a ground for making an exception in the funds sanctioned per workshop should be specified. MS(I/c) said that the administration has not been able to locate any past precedent of a similar nature as had been stated by Member (I.Basavaraj) in the earlier meeting. The Commission's decision of making an exception would need to be reconsidered.

Member (P.Advani) said that the last para of Agenda Item No.33 was incorrect. According to her the said proposal was accepted and that she (Member (P.Advani) was to make the Annual Reports of the Commission available to the three named for preparing the final bill. She further added that the proposal was sanctioned in principle

*Sham*

and Member (P.Advani) had already communicated this to the 3 persons. MS(i/c) said that the conclusion recorded in the minutes was correct. Member (S.S.Hameed) said, according to her memory, the proposal was sanctioned. CP said that "sanctioned in principle (as already quoted by Member(P.Advani) means the idea is acceptable but does not mean that the proposal is sanctioned". Therefore, there would be no change in the minutes recorded.

- (xi) It was decided that after the minutes recorded with respect to Agenda Item No.38 under "Any other item with the permission of the chair", para (b) will be added stating that -some Members wanted to bring up certain items which the CP declined to have in the meeting.
- (ii) The minutes were confirmed with the changes mentioned at paras (I), (v) (a) & (xi) above to be incorporated.

### Agenda Item No.2

Before the next agenda items were taken up two issues were discussed -

- (a) CP informed that the contribution from the Commission for the Kargil Funds had been collected and was proposed to be sent for rehabilitation of the widows of the Armed Forces. This was agreed to by all Members.
- (b) Member (V.Daksh) wanted to bring to the notice of the Commission the incident which occurred on 9th July, 1999 regarding the behaviour of Shri Champat

*Abhama*



208

5:

Singh, Section Officer, She narrated the incident and wanted to know the action taken . CP said she would look into the matter.

Agenda item No.2 was then taken up.

**State visits of the Commission to Karnataka and Orissa**

The State visit to Karnataka was not taken up as Member (I.Basavaraj) was away.

With regard to the Orissa State visit, Member (S.Oram) suggested that the visit could be fixed for 18-22nd July,1999 as CP was not available on the 18th. The suggestion was that the Commission may proceed on 18th and CP could join them on 19th July,99.

Member (V.Daksh) and Member (P.Advani) said that because the decisions on the interim procedure regarding the tour programme of Members had not been taken it was therefore, they had decided to not go for the state visit. CP said that the interim procedures and state visits are not connected and there is no need to bring in any discussion on the interim procedure at this point. Member (V.Daksh) said that women's cause in Orissa was of great concern to her, however, on principle, she maintained that she would not go for the state visit. CP said that it was a pity that two Members were taking such a stand. The final decision regarding the exact date and other details of the State visit would be decided in consultation with Member (S.Oram) and officials in Orissa. In fairness to Member (S.Oram) the Commission must make every effort to ensure this state visit, even if two Members had decided not to accompany the Commission.

*L. B. Sharma*

No.3

Membership of India International Centre-  
of Members - reg.

nomination of 2 Members for the IIC Membership open for  
was agreed that in addition to CP and MS, nomination of  
asavaraj) and Membr (S.Oram) would be sent .When  
ive tenure ended in October-November,99,thereafter  
advani) and Member (V.Daksh) would be nominated.  
.Hameed) said she already had a personal membership  
eed to be nominated from the NCW.

No.4

on Crime against women in India held on 5th  
Vigyan Bhawan

ated to refer to the minutes of 4th March,99. Discussion  
was therefore, deferred.

No.5 ✕

y on Women in the 1999 Elections - proposal of  
ak

he project was for the long term and not for the forthcoming  
film proposed to document the evaluation of the process of  
werment ,and NCW does see the role of such a film.

raised was that the budget was not given. The Commission  
er the proposal after the budget was received. The proposal  
d that the film will be made with the support of Mrs.Veena  
as now taken over as the Member of the SC/ST Commission.

Bhame

ch  
te  
de  
to

he  
rs

ng  
he

vn  
nd

on  
be

art  
re

he  
er

be  
on

er

in



It was, therefore, to be confirmed as to whether Smt Nayyar, as a Member of the SC/ST Commission could take funds from the NCW. Further, it was mentioned that the proposed film would require conduct of workshops around the film for the year 2000. Details of the workshops and NCW's role therein were not precisely defined.

Member (P.Advani) suggested that Ms.Manju Kak's letter should be sent to other film makers for their quotations. This was turned down as the note being an intellectual property, could not be disseminated to others.

### Agenda Item No.6

#### Sanction for public hearings of Minority Women

The Commission ratified/sanctioned the proposals as below:-

- |   |   |           |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1. Aawaaz-e-Niswaan                               | : | Rs.50,000 |
| 2. Tezpur public hearing,<br>Distt. Mahila Samiti | : | Rs.15,000 |
| 3. Society for Weaker<br>Community, Bhadrak       | : | Rs.25,000 |

### Agenda Item No.7

#### Recording of minutes of Expert Committees/other meetings /workshops - deployment of Pss to Members

CP suggested that if PSSs to CP/Members are to be deployed at least 3 days advance notice may be given to the concerned Member/CP.

It was decided to identify a pool of persons who may be called for recording minutes of Expert Committees/other meetings/workshops organised by

*R. Bhame*

NCW. Members could identify and suggest names of such persons. Such persons could be called for 2 days to take down proceedings and minute them. In principle, the Commission felt that the existing amount payable as conveyance may be raised. However, the rules /norms would have to be seen before raising the limit for the conveyance charges.

#### Agenda Item No.8

#### Research proposal from the Joint Action Council for Women on the subject - 'A comparative study of the voting power and voters awareness of young men and women in Tamil Nadu

Member (V.Daksh) suggested that Members should find out the standing of the organisation. MS (I/c) said the Commission should ask what the organisation's own contribution would be and also if they could cut down on their costs. CP suggested increase of the sample size to 5,000 and cover all districts of Tamil Nadu and also if they could raise funds from elsewhere. MS(I/c) suggested that the Election Commission may be asked to share the funding of the study and NCW could consider part funds. It was decided CP would speak to the organisation before proceeding further. Clarification would be sought on details of the proposal, their experience of self administered questionnaire, other normal details as certificate of incorporation, Audit Report etc. would be called for. A copy of the proposal would be sent to the Election Commission.

#### Agenda Item No.9 & 10

#### Sensitization programme for officers in Karnataka State on Gender issues

#### Proposed public hearing of Devadasis at Raichur Koppal Distt.in Karnataka

These were deferred as Member (I.Basavaraj) was not present.

*R. Sharma*



212

:9:

Agenda Item No.11

Proposal for Research Study on the impact of new Economic Policy on the life of Muslim Women (status of Muslim Women) from Prof. Buxamusa, SNTD University

Member (S.S.Hameed) said that she had earlier thought that study report would be ready earlier and could be used as input. The status of Minority Women Report which she proposes to submit by March 8,2000. She had an alternate proposal which would be discussed under Agenda Item No.20

It was decided that the discussion on this proposal would be deferred for the time being.

Agenda Item No.12

Proposal from Joint Women's Programme, Bangalore for conducting PMLAs at Raichur and Gulbarga

Since some details were awaited from the organisation, discussion on the proposal was deferred. Member (S.Oram) suggested that even if Member (I.Basavaraj) could not attend, some other Members should do so.

Agenda Item No.13

Workshop on gender sensitization of police officials

The idea was considered good. Discussion was deferred till the October meeting.

Agenda Item No.14

Frequent break down of power in NCW's premises

The status note furnished by Administration forming part of the agenda was noted by the Commission.

*[Handwritten signature]*

Agenda Item No.15Proposal for amendment of criminal laws and co-related notification orders/ recommendations- part (3) Dowry Prohibition Act.

CP desired Member (P.Advani) to give a total budget along with break up. MS(I/c) said that there are 3 parts to the proposal for amendment of Criminal Laws and co-related notification/orders/recommendations which are - part (i) Rape Laws; Part (ii) Immoral Traffic Prevention Act; part (iii) Dowry Prohibition Act. Out of these even the first one is not complete. Neither the action points nor the cost of the project are listed. At least a rough estimate of the full budget is necessary, as NCW has a total budget out of which committed expenditure has to be borne, and only the remaining budget can be used for the project/research. She said without a budget commitment it would constitute financial impropriety to sanction this proposal.

Member (P.Advani) referred to CP's statement made in May, 99 that she would sanction 2 projects per Member. CP said emphatically that she stood by the statement. Total budget and its break up are necessary for clarity and planning, however procedures cannot be overlooked. The budgets estimates are required in order to make suitable allocation out of NCW's funds.

Member (S.Oram) and Member (S.S.Hameed) said that the Screening Committees needed to be reactivated as it would help in this regard.

Agenda Item No.16Proposal for study the present modules of Feminist Jurisprudence in Indian Universities and comparative study with Universities abroad

Similar points as under Agenda Item No.15 were raised and Member (P.Advani) was asked to furnish the complete picture of the total cost and other details as decided in June meeting.

*R. Shams*



Agenda Item No.11

Proposal for Research Study on the impact of new Economic Policy on the life of Muslim Women (status of Muslim Women) from Prof. Buxamusa, SNT University

Member (S.S.Hameed) said that she had earlier thought that study report would be ready earlier and could be used as input. The status of Minority Women Report which she proposes to submit by March 8,2000. She had an alternate proposal which would be discussed under Agenda Item No.20

It was decided that the discussion on this proposal would be deferred for the time being.

Agenda Item No.12

Proposal from Joint Women's Programme, Bangalore for conducting PMLAs at Raichur and Gulbarga

Since some details were awaited from the organisation, discussion on the proposal was deferred. Member (S.Oram) suggested that even if Member (I.Basavaraj) could not attend, some other Members should do so.

Agenda Item No.13

Workshop on gender sensitization of police officials

The idea was considered good. Discussion was deferred till the October meeting.

Agenda Item No.14

Frequent break down of power in NCW's premises

The status note furnished by Administration forming part of the agenda was noted by the Commission.

*Bhame*

Agenda Item No.15Proposal for amendment of criminal laws and co-related notification orders/ recommendations- part (3) Dowry Prohibition Act.

CP desired Member (P.Advani) to give a total budget along with break up. MS(l/c) said that there are 3 parts to the proposal for amendment of Criminal Laws and co-related notification/orders/recommendations which are - part (i) Rape Laws; Part (ii) Immoral Traffic Prevention Act; part (iii) Dowry Prohibition Act. Out of these even the first one is not complete. Neither the action points nor the cost of the project are listed. At least a rough estimate of the full budget is necessary, as NCW has a total budget out of which committed expenditure has to be borne, and only the remaining budget can be used for the project/research. She said without a budget commitment it would constitute financial impropriety to sanction this proposal.

Member (P.Advani) referred to CP's statement made in May,99 that she would sanction 2 projects per Member. CP said emphatically that she stood by the statement. Total budget and its break up are necessary for clarity and planning, however procedures cannot be overlooked. The budgets estimates are required in order to make suitable allocation out of NCW's funds.

Member (S.Oram) and Member (S.S.Hameed) said that the Screening Committees needed to be reactivated as it would help in this regard.

Agenda Item No.16Proposal for study the present modules of Feminist Jurisprudence in Indian Universities and comparative study with Universities abroad

Similar points as under Agenda Item No.15 were raised and Member (P.Advani) was asked to furnish the complete picture of the total cost and other details as decided in June meeting.

*R. Bham*



**Agenda Item No.17**

Proposal for amendment of Criminal Laws and correlated notification, orders, recommendations – part (2) of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

Similar queries as in agenda items No.15 and 16 were raised. There was a added query regarding the history of past work of NCW and that the proposal will have to incorporate the details of past work done, lacunae, if remaining and proposal for better follow up. Only then the need for sanctioning fresh proposal could be considered. CP pointed out that merely stating "earlier recommendations reflected in the Annual Reports would be taken care of later" as in the Member (P.Advani)'s note is not enough. Work already done by NCW should form the platform from which new proposal should take off. Such a backward linkage was abundantly necessary, therefore, the files of Smt. Padma Seth must be thoroughly studied.

MS(I/c) suggested an alternate strategy for workshops. She said either workshop details should be mentioned in the original proposal or if an Expert Committee has been constituted the suggestion for a workshop may come out as a recommendation from the Expert Committee and NCW may accept such recommendations and go ahead with the workshop

**Agenda Item No.18****Proposal for finalisation of project on Rape Laws**

It was decided that the report be circulated by Member (P.Advani) to the Commission. The Commission would process it through a special meeting, if necessary. If the report is approved, its publication would be considered.

*R. Sharma*

**Agenda Item No.19****Suggestions on the Medical Reimbursement System**

Discussion was deferred

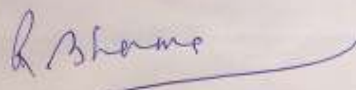
**Agenda Item No.20****Plan of action for the completion of the work on Minorities Women (Thrust Area)**

Member (S.S. Hameed) explained the plan of action. With regard to public hearings at Bangalore she said the reference was to the proposal of AI-Ameen received in the Commission. CP desired that the cost break up be given in respect of the conference, NGOs and meeting of the Expert Committee proposed in the Action Plan.

Member (S.S. Hameed) said she would be needing the services of an Expert researcher and suggested the name of Ms. Seema Qasi as a researcher & associate for her project. The cost would be about Rs.50000-75000 for engaging Ms. Qasi. Member (S. Hameed) would be presenting a formal proposal for her engagement. She said she proposed to finalise the draft report by December, 99 and release the same in January 2000.

The proposal was accepted in principle pending the above details.

The meeting was adjourned to 15.7.99.





## 2nd Session

Date: 15th July, 1999

First the deferred items were taken up.

### Agenda Item No.2

#### State visits of the Commission to Karnataka and Orissa

The Commission decided to go ahead with the State visit to Orissa from 19th to 21st July, 99. Member (S.Oram) was requested to confirm the detailed programme. Dr.P.S.K.Menon would brief the Commission. In the light of the views expressed by Member (V.Daksh) and Member (P.Advani) who declined to be part of the State visit, it was decided that CP, Member (I.Basavaraj), Member (S.Oram), Member (S.S.Hameed) and MS(L/c) would constitute the team for the State visit.

### Agenda Item No.4

#### Workshop on Crime against women in India held on 5th April, 99 at Vigyan Bhawan

Extracts of the minutes of the Commission meeting held on 4th March, 99 were circulated.

Member (V.Daksh) said that as recorded in the minutes of 4th March, the proposal for holding the workshop was welcomed by Members but the budget had not been sanctioned by the Commission. Member (S.S.Hameed) said that under the earlier system, the practice followed was to informally discuss a programme, and if agreed upon, the Commission went ahead with the proposed programme. Member (V.Daksh) said the expenditure was excessive especially as it was incurred without the approval of the Commission. Member (P.Advani) said her dissent should be recorded, that the methodology followed

amounts to financial irregularity and that the expenditure was excessive. Member (V.Daksh) agreed with the views of Member (P.Advani). CP said that in early March Secretary, WCD and Director, CBI and CP had mooted the proposal for the said workshop which as recorded, was welcomed by the Members. As such confirmation to the expenditure was by no means excessive. As such she would take the responsibility for the expenditure. The expenditure was confirmed by the Commission, the dissent of Member (P.Advani) and Member (V.Daksh) was noted.

### Agenda Item No.15

#### Proposal for amendment of criminal laws and co-related notification orders/recommendations - part (3) of Dowry Prohibition Act.

Member (P.Advani) circulated the estimated budget of Rs.2,98,700. CP queried the name of the 4th person of the Sub-Committee for drafting. Member (P.Advani) said that the name of Shri P.M. Bakshi had been suggested that she found his charges would be very high. CP said in view of the 3 persons already named, a fourth person was not necessary. Member (P.Advani) agreed. She said that the expenditure on individual items were in accordance with the norms of NCW. CP observed that her proposed expenditure on conference was comparable to the conference referred to in item No.4. How could Member (P.Advani) then find the expenditure of the NCW's April conference excessive. Member Secretary (i/c) wanted to know where and how the contribution of Members of the Commission would be incorporated. Member (P.Advani) said that this contribution would be taken at every stage. Members would be invited at all the Expert Committee meetings.

Regarding publication it was decided that a copy of the report would first circulated to the Commission for approval. Thereafter, the Commission would consider its publication.

Member (P.Advani) requested Members to name NGOs who could be invited to the workshop.

*R Bhanu*



MS(I/C) wanted to know what would be the status of the early work done in NCW and how it would be linked with the present project. Member (S.S Hameed) queried whether the Annual Report/publications could be collated to prepare a background paper. MS(I/C) said that the reasons for repeating the work on the subject should be stated in the project report. First a stock taking has to be done of the earlier work of the Commission. The lacunae in such work should be identified and linked with the on going work proposed. The Commission should first have a discussion on the reasons for taking on work on a subject already dealt with by the Commission earlier. Member (S.S Hameed) agreed with this and added that a substantial amount of work had already been done by Smt. Padma Seth. CP suggested that a meeting with Smt. Padma Seth. She asked Member (P. Advani) to arrange this.

The proposal was sanctioned in principle, subject to the findings of the review meeting with Smt. Padma Seth.

#### Agenda Item No.16

#### Proposal for study of the present modules of feminist jurisprudence in Indian Universities and comparative studies with Universities abroad

The expenditure and budget estimates proposed were circulated by Member (P. Advani). CP and Member (S.S Hameed) felt that since this is an area of academics, informed support was necessary for NCW and therefore, views of experts would be most necessary. CP further suggested that Member (P. Advani) first prepare a note and then follow it up with a one-day brain storming session of a group of experts which could be held in-house in NCW. A working paper should emerge from such a meeting, which would form the basis of a bigger workshop. Simultaneously, modules of course curriculum should be collected from Indian Universities and from a selected few Universities from abroad. Thus re-sequencing and re-costing is necessary.

*S.S. Hameed*

CP asked Member (P.Advani) the names of Indian Universities which have modules on feminine jurisprudence. Member (P.Advani) said she would clarify after finding out.

In principle, the project was welcome. Sanction was accorded for budget items 1, 2 and 4, viz:-

1. - Project researcher for 3 months @ Rs.10,000/- per month
2. - Office steno @ Rs.6000/- per month for 3 months
4. - Cost of despatch of letters approx. 300 letters @ Rs.15/- per letter.

#### Item No.17

#### Proposal for amendment of Criminal Laws and co-related notification orders, recommendations - part (2) of Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act.

Member (P.Advani) circulated the budget. CP said that forging of backward links is necessary as has been mentioned in Item No.15. Member(S.S.Hameed) said much work had been done in this area as this was a priority of NCW. The draft for SAARC convention was also prepared by NCW. She suggested Ms.Padma Seth could be invited to NCW to discuss the past work.

MS(I/c) said that the past and future are being talked about but the present is being ignored and queried whether the Commission would or would not be pursuing the amendments already sent. She said two alternatives were open - one, to pursue the existing recommendations and the other to relook at the earlier work and say that amendments were needed.

CP said whatever has been done in the past needs to be listed and discussed first.

Member (P.Advani) then requested Members to suggest names of NGOs

*Bhanoor*



for her proposed workshops. CP suggested one workshop at Delhi in addition to the one proposed at Mumbai.

### Agenda Item No.19

#### Suggestions on the Medical Reimbursement System

Suggestions contained in the Agenda Note were further explained by the MS(I/c). She said that since NCW is an autonomous body, perhaps the suggestions which are a deviation from a dated system could be considered. This would also add to the convenience of the NCW users and also ease out the work of administration. On a query from Member (V. Daksh), MS(I/c) informed that expenditure would cost the Commission nearly Rs.50,000/- per annum. Member (V. Daksh) was of the opinion that the scheme could be implemented on a trial basis only for the Members but not for all the employees. Member (S.S Hameed) was of the view that there may not be any distinction between the Members of the Commission and employees as far as such a health related scheme is concerned. Member (P. Advani) did not agree. She said that since the Commission follows Govt. rules in all aspects of administration, we should not deviate from Govt. rules on this issue. However, she said that it may be considered if it is to be implemented only for class IV employees but not for Commission Members.

The discussions were inconclusive, hence the decision was kept pending.

### Agenda Item No.21

#### Work allocation of Secretarial Wing

Member (P. Advani) explained that the purpose for asking for this information was to avoid delays and to mark papers to the right person so that early action could be initiated. Member (V.Daksh) suggested an introductory meeting of the staff members and others which may be of assistance to Members. Member (P. Advani) said that there are 44 Government servants posted against sanctioned posts in the Commission.

*P. Advani*

:18:

Their deployment should be examined. CP suggested getting a management person to work out a suitable scheme for staff deployment.

For urgent work the concerned Member would have to talk to the Head of Administration who will work out deployment according to need.

Agenda Item No.22

Secretarial Assistance for the Members while on tour and enhancement of conveyance allowance

CP said we have to examine what the norms, are and whether the Commission could deviate from the norms.

Agenda Item No.23

Proposal of SAKSHI to take up matters as third party in the Sexual Harassment Complaints Committee at the work place in MCD.

CP queried whether the NCW could on its own send recommendations without receiving a letter from MCD. She also suggested that the proposal could be sent to NHRC as the complaint is against MCD and NHRC deals with human rights violations by Government officials.

MS(I/c) suggested NCW should have a panel of organisations whose names can be suggested to other Government departments for inclusion in the complaints committees from time to time.

L. Blame



Agenda Item No.24Workshop on 'Women's Issues' under the auspices of NCW and Indian Law Institute

CP began by commenting on a very sketchy communications from Indian Law Institute.

Member (P. Advani) said that the budget from Indian Law Institute was awaited. The subject 'Women's issues' was too wide a subject, the Commission could consider specific subjects such as working of family courts, divorce by mutual consent in the light of the Bill on irretrievable break down of marriage (Bill of 1976 which is still pending) etc. On a query from CP, Member (P. Advani) said that Indian law Institute would only be a facilitator and would organise the seminar, the funding would have to be from NCW. CP wanted to know what would be the status of NCW and what say would NCW have on the choice of a subject/choice of speakers and how does the I.L.I visualize it. CP suggested issues which could be burning issues in the next few decade where women would be the worst hit eg. 1) the food rights, (2) rights and rehabilitation of PAP for example in the case of Narmada and Tehri Dams, (3) Rights of women including Muslim women in respect of adoption, (4) Issue pertaining to single parent.

Member (S.S Hameed) also said the proposal was not a concrete proposal and agreed with the CP's views on the new issues.

MS(I/c) was of the view that women's issues go beyond law I.L.I being an academic institution may not be the best choice for issues such as food rights, displacement of PAPs etc. Women's issues comprise not only legal but also social and economic aspects. However, if expertise of I.L.I is to be made use of the subject on which its potential could be used will have to be identified as I.L.I would have conducted studies on several issues. Therefore, I.L.I may be asked to submit proposals on areas of their interest and expertise and furnish background papers for each. CP said that she plans a series of seminar on issues for the next millennium/decade NCW could invite (i) I.L.I (ii) NGOs and (iii) Govt.

*S.S Hameed*



Departments. It was decided that Prof.Verma could be asked to visit NCW so that possibilities could be explored.

MS(L/c) sought CP's approval to prepare a project/conference on project affected persons.

Agenda Item No.25

Sanction of Expert Committee on Amendment of NCW Act - Rules and Procedures

Member (P.Advani) said that in the last meeting expansion of the proposed Drafting Committee was suggested. She circulated a list of proposed Members of the Expert Committee. Member (S.S.Hameed) had attended a meeting at Mumbai in which Shri P.Matai and Shri S.Rama Murthi were present. Member (P.A) said that 10 meetings on the procedure to regulate NCW had already been conducted. CP expressed surprise at the number of meetings.

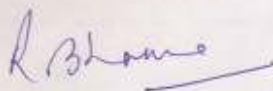
CP said that first the review of NCW Act should be undertaken, then NCW rules, and thereafter procedures. The existing work can be frozen and payment as sitting fee plus conveyance can be paid to the persons who have worked on the procedures. Member (P.Advani) should get all the work done so far to the NCW and circulate it to the Commission.

Before the Expert Committee begins work on the amendment of the NCW Act, areas for amendment should be identified by brain storming with experts and Members of the Commission.

Agenda item No.26

Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Member (V.Daksh) said that taxi bills for her Meerut tour which was undertaken in February 1999 was not paid even though the TA bills of tours of other Members upto February,99 have been paid. Further her





TA bills for her Dehradun visits were not paid even though the project had been approved by CP.

MS(I/c) informed the Commission that no payment have been paid to M/s. Balmer & Lawrie even though the PSs to Members had telephonically booked air tickets through M/s Balmer & Lawrie. If the payment is made without CP's approval it is likely to raise an audit objection.

Member (V. Daksh) also wanted to know whether any Member has taken approval of a tour from CP.

Member (SS. Hameed) mentioned that she had recently visited Ranchi. A note of her proposed visit was sent giving her objectives. The same was discussed with CP and direction requested from CP. CP had directed her to undertake the proposed visit.

CP said she had appreciated the concern of Member (S.S. Hameed) and the pro-active stand taken by her without taking an adversarial stand.

Member (P. Advani) said she had visited Hyderabad and Bangalore in February and had not received reimbursement claimed on a ticket which was cancelled and purchased by her in cash.

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

\*\*\*\*\*

*J. Sharma*

List of those present in the Commission meeting held on 14th  
and 15th July, 1999

.....

1. Smt. Vibha Parthasarathi : In the Chair
2. Kum. Sukeshi Oram : Member, NCW
3. Dr. S. S. Hameed : Member, NCW
4. Smt. Vijay Daksh : Member, NCW
5. Dr. Poornima Advani : Member, NCW
6. Smt. Leena Mehendale : Member Secretary (I/c)
7. Kum. R. Bhama : Deputy Secretary
8. Shri Chaitanya Prasad : Under Secretary

Bhama

\*\*\*\*\*