

F.No.4-181/2018-19/NCW(A)
National Commission for Women
Plot No. 21, Jasola Institutional Area
New Delhi 110025.

8th November, 2018.

Sub: Minutes of the 185th Meeting of the Commission – reg.

The minutes of the 185th Meeting of the Commission held on 17th October, 2018 at 1500 hours in the Conference Hall of the Commission are enclosed for information and necessary action.

Encl: As above.


(Priti Kumar)
Under Secretary

To:

1. PS to CP
2. PS to Member Secretary
3. PS to DS
4. US(PK)/PAO/US(BS)
5. Consultant (OL) - for translating the minutes.
6. Sr. Programmer (IT Cell) for uploading the same in local server.

Minutes of the 185th Meeting of the Commission held on 17th October, 2018 at 1500 hrs. in the Conference Hall of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi.

Present:

1. Ms. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson, NCW
2. Shri Alok Rawat, Member, NCW
3. Dr. Satbir Bedi, Member Secretary, NCW

Also Present:

1. Shri K.L.Sharma, Joint Secretary, NCW
2. Ms. Jyoti Singhal, Deputy Secretary, NCW
3. Ms. Priti Kumar, Under Secretary, NCW

At the outset, referring to note dated 17.10.2018 sent to the Chairperson, the Member Secretary placed on record her observations regarding the "Provisional Agenda" being placed before the Commission's meeting for consideration. The Member Secretary stated that the meeting notice was received in her office on 16.10.2018 and the "Provisional" Agenda was received at 1818 hrs. in her office the previous day. Referring to the Regulations of the Commission, the Member-Secretary stated that the meeting was infructuous owing to not having followed the norms of circulating agenda items atleast three working days prior to the scheduled meeting. The Member Secretary stated that none of the agenda items have been routed through her as per the norms stated in the Regulations and thus, continue to be Provisional in the absence of the clear approvals from Member Secretary. The Member Secretary also stated that notwithstanding the past practice, the Regulations shall henceforth be followed for convening Commission's meetings.

2. Chairperson observed that the Commission had, in the past also, followed the practice of providing agenda items in a similar manner and, invariably, the circulation in most cases, during her stay of over 3 years, has been possible only a few Hrs. in advance and this time was no exception. The Chairperson also pointed out that the agenda items have always continued to be prepared by the Cell concerned and the briefs are only edited to bring clarity/precession in the language.

3. Member (AR) placed the following observations on record:

- i) There were earlier instances of original agenda being delivered at the last hour and sometimes being brought as table items;
- ii) The Procedure laid down in the Regulations required that the agenda be prepared or caused to be prepared by the Member Secretary in consultation with the Chairperson. Member (AR) observed that the present agenda had been brought at short notice on Chairperson's directions, who is the Head of the Commission.
- iii) Member (AR) added that there were 28 agenda items in the list. He suggested that if Member Secretary has reservations, only such agenda items which did not have financial implications, can be taken up. Alternatively, Member (AR) proposed that Agenda item No. 12 relating to training of Elected Women Representative of Himachal Pradesh could be taken up separately and other routine items can be considered in the meeting.

4. Member (AR) also pointed out that even if we take cognizance of the word 'provisional', the agenda item No. 1 relating to 184th meeting of the Commission held on 19.4.2018, the minutes of which were processed on file and bear the signatures of

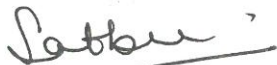
both the Member Secretary and the Chairperson can, by no stretch of imagination, be treated as "provisional". In the three years that Member (AR) had been a Member of the Commission, he could not recollect a single instance where the standard agenda item No. 1, which was minutes of the previous meeting, was not confirmed. The Minutes of previous meetings had always been ratified and therefore, the phrase 'provisional' in the list of agenda items was not at all applicable for this item.

5. Member Secretary put on record that the agenda being "Provisional" could not be placed before the Commission for consideration. On being asked by the Chairperson, Joint Secretary, NCW stated that inclusion of the word "provisional" was perhaps a typographical/clerical error. Member Secretary brought to the notice of the Commission that the agenda remained provisional by virtue of not being routed through her for approval. It was also observed by her that agenda item No. 16 relating to blackmail and sexual abuse of women by priests in Kerala, requires to be placed when Commission has more Members.

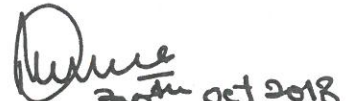
6. The Chairperson placed on record that till early morning of 16th October, 2018, the Chairperson was proposing to have the meeting of the Commission arranged only after joining of new members. However, she had received two notes from the Member Secretary seeking discussion on EWR training in Himachal Pradesh and also inviting Joint Secretary, WCD, to the Commission's meeting. Chairperson pointed out that in both the notes, Member Secretary had not mentioned anywhere about the delay in circulation of agenda. The meeting was arranged for 17th October, 2018 after consultation with Member (AR), who was of the opinion that the meeting can be convened as proposed.

7. No other agenda item was taken up for discussion during the meeting.

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



(Dr. Satbir Bedi)
Member Secretary, NCW



(Rekha Sharma)
Chairperson, NCW