

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
NCW HELD ON 25th FEBRUARY, 1999

At the outset, Chairperson welcomed all present.

Before agenda items were taken up, Members expressed the view that notice of meeting was received very late. It was explained that as on Wednesday NCW had a workshop on Rape Laws, the meeting could not be held. As HRM was meeting CP on the 25th, the notice for meeting could be circulated only after HRM's Office confirmed the time. It was also clarified that infuture if the Commission's Meeting was not held on Wednesday, it would be held on Thursday and if not, then it would be scheduled in the next week. On a query from M(SSH) whether members could have a meeting without Chairperson, it was clarified that all Commission's meetings would have to be chaired by Chairperson.

Member(IB) briefed the Commission on her and JS's visit to Hyderabad and Eluru. A detailed report is being submitted separately. M(IB) also informed the Commission about the suggestions received by her for holding a National Debate on Jail Adalat and on dowry. The feasibility of holding such debates with the Chairpersons of State Commissions and State Departments of Women and Child Development, were decided, to be considered.

Member(SO) raised the Question of appointment of consultants, under the powers bestowed in the Act, to the Commission. It was pointed out by Member Secretary that it was not possible to appoint consultants any more, without Government approval. However, on payment of Conveyance allowance, we could have consultants coming to assist in

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follow-up to meetings, and for drafting of minutes and letters.

It was suggested by Member(SO) that the conveyance allowance be raised to enable consultants to come. It was clarified by Member Secretary that it was for the Commission to decide, what the Charges should be, but the Charges had been fixed for Counsellors, which are being extended to Consultants. Chairperson desired that proposals for increase in conveyance charges be put up by the 1st of March.

Joint Secretary suggested that Section Officer's and Assistants, who are working in the NCW be asked to do some drafting of letters etc. and given additional work. As they already have extra work, after discussions it was not found feasible.

Item No-I Confirmation of the minutes of last Meeting.

Minutes were confirmed.

Item No-II Action Taken Report.

Item-I of the Action Taken Report was taken <sup>up</sup> for discussion. Question of appointment of Shri Jaitly as Counsel for NCW, was discussed, and decided that we may explore the possibility of him taking a special fee from National Commission for Women.

Action Taken Report on items II-V were accepted.

Item No. VI Action Taken Report on the Programmes for Celebrating Women's Week was then taken up for detailed discussion.

(a) Commission was informed that nearly 200 NGO's f

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different States had confirmed their participation, on the 7th and 8th of March. It was also clarified that NCW had circulated a format for voluntary Sector Data base to about 2,000 NGO's, from a list obtained from the Department of Women & Child Development. Out of these, 800 organisations had responded and sent their information. These 800 NGO's had been invited for this consultation. So far as those NGO's who have conducted any programmes for NCW or whom NCW has identified in the Districts, the members can give names and they would be sent an invitation.

The idea is to create a Resource base with NGO's support. The agenda for the Consultation was discussed and the following subjects were identified.

1. ADVOCACY
2. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
3. EDUCATION
4. HEALTH AND NUTRITION
5. WOMEN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
6. CUSTODIAL JUSTICE
7. COMMUNICATION & MEDIA
8. VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Joint Secretary suggested use of a management technique to conduct the Consultation which was

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welcomed and approved. Joint Secretary would draft up the details of the modalities.

- (b) The Commission was briefed on the arrangements for the 8th March function. Members informed that it had been decided to give Saris as mementos to the sarpanches and the Rashtriya Mahila Kosh beneficiaries who were to attend the function. This was approved. It was decided that M(1B) would give the vote of thanks.
- (c) It was decided to postpone the Seminar, proposed for the 9th of March, on 'Women Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow,' to when the Parliament is in Recess.
- (d) As Member(PA) was away, Members and Chairperson were of the view that the National Debate would not now be held on the 10th but after 14/15th March, as the consensus which emerged out of discussions at the workshop, was that the recommendations could not be finalised in such a short time.
- (e) It was decided to have Regional and National consultation with NGO's working in Agriculture in the month of April.

It was decided to take up the Agenda items for discussions at the next meeting.

Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

List of those who were present is attached.

*Kosham*

LIST OF THOSE WHO WERE PRESENT IN THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMISSION HELD ON 25TH FEBRUARY, 1999

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|----|----------------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Mrs. Vibha Parthasarathi   | in Chair         |
| 2. | Dr.(Mrs.) Indira Basavaraj | Member           |
| 3. | Dr.(Mrs.) Syeda S. Hameed  | Member           |
| 4. | Km. Sukeshi Oram           | Member           |
| 5. | Mrs. Vijay Daksh           | Member           |
| 6. | Mrs. Binoo Sen             | Member Secretary |
| 7. | Mrs. Leena Mehendale.      | Joint Secretary  |

*Leena*