

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
HELD ON 27TH JUNE, 2003

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
Smt. Nafisa Hussain	:	Member
Dr. Sudha Malaiya	:	Member
Smt. Sunila Basant	:	Member Secretary
Smt. Nita Kapoor	:	Joint Secretary
Shri S.K. Garg	:	Under Secretary
Shri H. Kumar	:	Sr.Research Officer
Shri S.K. kalra	:	Law Officer

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed all the Members to the Special Meeting of the Commission.

Leave of absence

Leave of absence was granted to M(BRM).

Deferred items of the meeting held on 4th April, 03 and 11th June, 03 were discussed in the Special meeting of the Commission.

Deferred agenda Item No.8 of 11th June, 03

Project Report on “A Vision Statement on Empowerment of Women vis-a-vis Legislation and Judicial Decision prepared by the Indian Trust for Innovation & Social Change, New Delhi – Approval/adoption by the Commission

Project report on *A Vision Statement of Empowerment of Women vis-à-vis Legislation and Judicial Decision*, prepared by Smt. Padma Seth, Executive Director, Indian Trust for Innovation & Social Change, was discussed in the meeting and it was decided that Smt. Padma Seth may be requested to do the following:

- A. Further significant gender related case laws to be added
- B. A suggestive plan of action to be submitted to the Commission
- C. Comments/recommendations to be given subject wise.
- D. Referring and indexing should be done
- E. Subject wise chapters should be given

Focus of the report should be on preparation of manual. The Vision statement can feature at the end of the document.

The Commission also agreed that the study of the gender related judgement approved by the NCW in Nov. 2002 should be included in the present study.

(Action: Legal Cell)

Deferred agenda Item No.9 of 4th April, 03

Report of Study on Women and Media prepared by Joint Women's Programme, New Delhi – Approval/adoption by the Commission

Deferred agenda item No.9 of the meeting of 4th April, 03 was discussed and It was decided that Smt. Jyotsna Chatterjee will make presentation in the Core Committee meeting on Women & Media.

Deferred agenda Item No.10 of 4th April, 03

Report of Regional Seminar on Empowerment of Tribal Women : Problems and prospects held on 3-4 Feb. 2003 at Snagha Niketan, mangalore organised by Hinud Seva Pratisthana, bangalore – Approval/adoption by the Commission

Recommendations of the above workshop was discussed as under:

ADMINISTRATIVE

Recommendation No.1,3 & 4 to be examined.

Recommendation No.2 is not clear. Organisation may be asked to clarify the same.

Recommendation No.5 – identity cards have already been issued by the Election Commission as such this recommendation is not approved.

Recommendation No.6 – training for tribal women should also be in the areas of health.

(Action: R & S Cell)

ECONOMIC

Recommendation No.1-- Women self help groups should also be extended to tribal women.

Recommendation No.2, 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 were approved.

Recommendation No.8 – to promote cultivation of medicinal plant and also its processing and marketing.

(Action: R & S Cell)

EDUCATIONAL

Recommendation No.1 – Anganwadi should also be made available in each tribal village.

Recommendation 2,4 & 6 were approved.

Recommendation No.3 – the teachers of higher primary and high schools including wardens should be given training with the help of established voluntary organisations.

Recommendation No.5 – programmes pertaining to adult education should be implemented in the tribal areas.

(Action: R & S Cell)

HEALTH

Recommendation No.1 – provision of safe drinking water be made available.

Recommendation No.2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11 were approved.

(Action: R & S Cell)

SOCIAL

Recommendation No.1, 2, 3, 5, 6, & 7 were approved.

Recommendation No.4 – A study may be conducted to look into the condition of tribal girls hostel by an NGO/Institutions working in the tribal areas. The study should be conducted in 8 states depending on the density of the tribal population in that state.

(Action: R & S Cell)

CULTURAL

Recommendation No.1 approved.

Recommendation No.2 – this should be as per law of the land.

(Action: R & S Cell)

GOVERNMENT- FOREST DEPARTMENT ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

All recommendations were approved except recommendation No.6, which may be read as under:

“State having high tribal population should have at least one university with Tribal Studies Department”.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Deferred agenda item No.11 of 4th April, 03

Report of Public hearing on Muslim Women held on 22.1.03 at Nasik organised by Mata Balak Pratishtan, Nasik – Approval/adoption by the Commission

Approved.

A copy of the recommendation should be given to Shri Afzal Wali, who is working on Muslim Personal Law and make this recommendation a part of study.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Deferred agenda item No.12 of 4th April, 03

Report of Public hearing on Muslim Women held on 6.1.2003 at Seekar organised by Sanskritiki, jaipur – Approval/adoption by the Commission

Deferred as the report seems to be incomplete. M(NH) may be requested to give a complete report of the public hearing to be circulated to all for discussing the same in the next meeting.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD
ON 25TH JUNE, 2003

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
Smt. Baby Rani Maurya	:	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	:	Law Officer

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed all the Members to the Special Meeting of the Commission.

Leave of absence

Leave of absence was granted to M(NH) and M(SM).

Agenda Item No.1

Adoption of the minutes of the Commission's meeting held on 11th June, 03

It was decided that minutes of the Commission's meeting will be adopted only in the regular meeting of the Commission. Therefore, the minutes of the Commission's meeting held on 11th June, 03 may be taken up in the regular meeting of the Commission to be held in the month of July. However, action would be taken up on approval of the minutes by CP.

(Action: Admn. Section)

Agenda item No.2

Letter of M. Rama Jois, Governor of Jharkhand dated 21st May, 03 regarding Reservation of Women in Parliament /Legislature

The issue of ***Reservation of Women in Parliament/Legislature*** was discussed in the meeting of the Commission and it was decided that a meeting of the Chairpersons of the State Commission for Women may be convened after which the delegation consisting of National Commission for Women,

Chairpersons of the State Commission for Women and representatives of selected NGOs who have been working actively on the issue of Political Empowerment of Women will meet the Ministers for Parliamentary Affairs, Speaker of Lok Sabha and Prime Minister in order to get the reservation of women in Legislature.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.3

Report of Ms. Indrani Sinha titled “Women & Trafficking”

It was decided that a Committee may be constituted to look into the following three points:

- (i) Rehabilitation/rescue of sex workers
- (ii) How to prevent the children of the prostitutes from entering the flesh trade.
- (iii) Review of the procedures of the law enforcement agencies/Review of ITP Act.

Some names suggested for the Committee are –

- (i) Indrani Sinha, SANLAP
- (ii) Colin Gonsalves
- (iii) Roma Banerjee, STOP
- (iv) Jyotsna Chatterjee, JWP
- (v) Tejinder Kaur, I.G.P, NPA, Hyderabad
- (vi) Venketesh, Mumbai Police
- (vii) Hasina Kharbi, Shillong
- (viii) NGO from Gorakhpur
- (ix) National President of Workers Forum
- (x) Girish Kulkarni, Ahmednagar
- (xi) P.M. Nair, NHRC

US-cum-PRO submitted that the number of advertisements regarding massage parlour/friendship is increasing. The Commission should do something to prevent it.

(Action: C&I / P R Cell)

It was decided that a meeting of Police Commissioner, Chief of Crime Against Women Cell, Editors of Newspapers carrying such advertisements, representatives of MCD/NDMC may be called to discuss the issue.

Agenda Item No.4

Report on the workshop on Nutritional and Health Status of Tribal Women in Orissa held on 14-15th Feb. 2003 at Berhampur, Ganjam, Orissa

The Report was discussed and it was observed that the organizers have covered the Objective Nos. 1&2 of the workshop but Objective No.3, i.e. **“To develop plan of action to enhance health status of tribal women in Orissa in general on socio-economic status in particular”** was not covered.

It was decided that they may be asked to develop plan of action as per the Objective No.3 of the workshop and submit to the Commission.

It was also decided to hold four public hearings on **Health of Tribal Women in Orissa**. These hearings will be organised after identification of the districts, where health status of women is low. These public hearings will be organised through State Commission for Women.

It was also decided that a letter may be written to VHAI, Women Studies Centre, Utkal University, Orissa, Lopamudra Mohanty, Ex-chairperson of Orissa State Commission for Women to suggest the names of NGOs working on Health in Orissa.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.5

Meeting of Chairperson with Dalai Lama

C.P informed the Commission about her meeting with Dalai Lama on her personal visit to Leh, where she requested His Holiness to give a message to the country that female foeticide is a sin and it should be stopped. Dalai Lama agreed that he will come to Delhi in winter season. The National Commission for Women may organise a meeting where religious heads of all religions may also be invited and a joint message on social evil of female foeticide, dowry, plight of widows will be delivered to the people of the country from the platform of NCW. Commission decided to hold this meeting in the winter season.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
HELD ON 16TH JUNE, 2003

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
Smt. Nafisa Hussain	:	Member
Smt. Baby Rani Maurya	:	Member
Smt. Sunila Basant	:	Member Secretary
Smt. Nita Kapoor	:	Joint Secretary
Shri S.K. Garg	:	Under Secretary
Smt. Romi Sharma	:	US-cum-PRO
Shri Jaleel Ahmed	:	Counsellor

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members to the Special meeting of the Commission..

Leave of absence

Dr. Sudha Malaiya, Member was on leave.

Agenda Item No.1

Note on the drafting of Charter for Women Victims

It was decided that a Committee for drafting the Charter for Women Victims be constituted preferably under the Chairmanship of a retired Chief Justice of India who is able to devote time for it.

It was also decided that the problems relating to the property cases should also be included in the Charter. Some of the names for the Committee suggested at the meeting were:

Justice Ranganath Mishra, former Chief Justice of India, Dr. Chockalingam, Smt. Kanwaljeet Deol, Jt. Commissioner of Police, Sh. Shanker Sen, IPS(Retd.) Smt. Geeta Rama Krishnan, Ms. Urmila Apte, Ms. Rajat Mitra, Jyotsna Suri, CMO, Safdarjung Hospital, Amod Kanth, Secretary, Prayas, Justice S.N Ray, Former Justice, Calcutta, High Court, West Bengal.

Member Secretary, who joined the meeting after this item was discussed may be requested to suggest some other names.

It was also decided that the term of the Committee may be for one year and terms of reference may be drawn from the note received from the Institute of Social Sciences in order to finalise the matter quickly.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.2

Investigations in 2002-2003

Investigations done by the Commission in the year 2002-03 were discussed in the meeting. It was decided that the Commission should ask State Governments for follow up of the report of the investigations when Commission goes for state visit. It was observed that follow up of the investigations is not satisfactory and the matter should be pursued with the Govt. for additional staff so that follow up could be effective.

(Action: C & I Cell)

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD
ON 13TH 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	:	Law Officer

At the outset, CP welcomed Members to the meeting.

Leave of absence

Nil.

Agenda Item No.(i)

Recommendations of the Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice System

DWCD, Ministry of HRD has sought for the Commission's comments on recommendations of the Committee on Reforms of Criminal Justice System (Justice Mallimath), Chapter 16. OFFENCES AGAINST WOMEN from Nos. 115 to 123. After discussion, the Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Committee except 118 and in the case of 116, the recommendations were approved with a stipulation. The views of the Commission on these two recommendations are as under :-

Recommendation No.116. With objective of punishingt a man in case he "marries again", the Commission agrees with the recommendation.

Recommendation No. 118. The Commission does not agree with this recommendation of the Committee.

(Action: Legal Cell)

Agenda Item No. (ii)

Programme Schedule of Workshop on Water Management – SEWA

The Programme Schedule was discussed and finalized in the meeting. Two Members would be attending and would chair sessions. This may be brought to the notice of the Organisers. It was also decided that Joint Secretary, Ministry of Water Resources and Joint Secretary, Deptt. of Rural Development (Drinking Water) may also be invited for the programme.

(Action: R&S Cell)

Agenda Item No.(iii)

Laws to be reviewed by the Commission.

It was decided that the Commission should review the following laws again:

- (1) Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1056.
- (2) Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929.
- (3) Foreign Marriage Act, 1969.
- (4) Married Women's Property Act, 1874.
- (5) Hindu Succession Act, 1956.
- (6) Inter-State Migrant Wokrmen (Regulation of Employment & Conditions of Service) Act, 1979.

(Action: Legal Cell)

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
HELD ON 12TH JUNE, 2003

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
Smt. Nafisa Hussain	:	Member
Smt. Baby Rani Maurya	:	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

At the outset, CP welcomed Members to the meeting.

Leave of absence

Leave of absence was granted to M(SM).

Agenda Item No.1

Minutes of the meeting of the Expert Committee on Economic Empowerment of Women held on 8.4.2003

It was decided that National Commission for Women should take necessary steps to ensure that Planning Commission/Ministry of Finance is approached for gender budgeting before presentation of the budget as post budget protest by the women activists does not make any dent in this regard.

The following decisions were taken on the recommendations made by the Expert Committee on Economic Empowerment of Women in its meeting held on 8th April, 2003.

1. On recommendation No.1, it was decided that a letter may be sent to Planning Commission requesting them that during Plan discussions with the States and Deptts./Ministries of the Central Government, they should ensure that gender aspect is not over looked and adequate funds are earmarked for gender issues while allocating funds to the states/Central ministries. Also suggestions made by Members in their tour notes, minutes of meeting with NGOs/Govt. officials in State visits, and recommendations approved by Commission be forwarded to the Planning Commission as Plan discussions with States are on.

2. On recommendation No.2, it was decided that a study in this regard may be got done. Some names were suggested for undertaking the study, namely Ms. Kiran Sharma, Dr. T.K. Sarojini, Dr. Mudgil, Dr. Mukul and Ms. Sita Prabhu. Members were also asked to suggest the names in this regard so that a final

decision could be taken to give the study to be carried out. It was also decided to set up an informal group for identifying relevant subjects for study.

3. **On recommendation No.3**, it was pointed out that Members while on tour/visits to various places should find out whether equal wages are being paid at that place and also take steps for awareness in this regard. A conceptual note on the subject to be prepared by the coordinator.

4. **On recommendation No.4**, the study to be undertaken by NCW should be a total product of the findings of the tours/studies/outcome of the hearings on globalisation of the Beedi & Cigar workers, etc.

5. **On recommendation No.5**, Expert Committee may be asked to elaborate this recommendation in the next meeting.

6. **On recommendation No.6**, this recommendation may be discussed in the Study Group. M(BRM) pointed out that the problems of the women working in Ferozabad Churiwala Udyog may also be taken up.

M(NH) pointed out that there are problems in other places also like in Rajasthan – there is a problem of women engaged in Tie & Dye work. Similarly, at other places, problems of the women engaged in other gainful activities should also be included up in the report.

7. **Recommendation No. 7** is part of the recommendation No.6.

8. This recommendation may be kept before the Expert Committee alongwith recommendation No.5 for elaboration.

9. This needs to be done through the coordinator.

10. NCW have already got a study done on displaced women due to the large development projects, cyclone, earthquake etc. by Prof. Susheela Kaushik and follow up action needs to be taken. This matter be also placed before the Study group in view of the very serious problems faced by displaced persons.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.II

Minutes of the meeting of the Expert Committee on the Conditions and Problems of Widows held on 12.5.03

General recommendations

i) Recommendation No.(I) was accepted. A meeting be held in which lawyers, NGO's and religious/community leaders be invited. It was decided that we may request Justice Balakrishnan Eradi to prepare a note on the subject which may be discussed. We may also get the details of the project undertaken by Deptt. of WCD on Widows.

(Action : R & S Cell)

II) It was decided that there should be Review of Laws/Procedures and lacunae/shortcomings in the procedure/laws should be removed such as requirement of the photograph of the husband for the purpose of pension to be granted to widows and recommendation should be made to revise the procedures.

Recommendations (ii) & (iii) accepted.

Recommendation No.(iv) accepted. Ms. Asha Das be requested to formulate a proposal/scheme for single window clearance.

v) Recommendation accepted. A letter may be sent to the Chairpersons of all State Commissions for Women whether they have set up the Media Watch Group as decided in the meeting of the Chairpersons of the State Commissions. If not, they should constitute the same and any material in the electronic and print media which adversely affect the welfare of the widows should be placed before it. The Media Watch Group to be set up in NCW should also include this matter in their ambit.

vi) A letter may be written to the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting on the recommendation giving concrete suggestions for publicity.

vii) A letter may be written to the Ministry of HRD, Deptt. of Education on the recommendation.

viii) Representative from the Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry should be requested to attend the meetings of the Expert Committee. However, there is no necessity of including the name of Dr. Bhanot in the Expert Committee.

Agenda Item No.III

Anyother items with the permission of Chair

III(i) The News item “**SANRAKSHAN VE PAISO KEE MAYA SE DEH VAYAPAR PALLIVIT**” appeared in Dainik Jagran dated 12.6.03 which was discussed in the Special meeting of the Commission. The issue of ***Mutah MARRIAGE*** specially in Mumbai, Andhra Pradesh, where Arab Nationals come to India and enter with a contractual marriage and desert the young wives after a short period ranging from 3 days to 3 months was also discussed in the meeting of the Commission. The vulnerability of the poor at source and the need for poverty reduction was discussed.

It was decided that we may take up the matter with the Ministry of External Affairs to take up the matter with the respective ambassadors/High Commissioners of the Arab countries.

A letter may also be written to DG Police, Mumbai highlighting the problems. A letter may also be written to DG Police, Hyderabad to take prevention action to stop agencies/touts from sending girls to Mumbai.

(Action : C & I Cell)

III(ii) News Item “**AGWA KAR DALIT CHHATRA SE DO MAHINE TAK MUHOO KALA KIYA**” appeared in Jansatta dated 12.6.03, regarding alleged rape of a Dalit girl student was discussed in the meeting and it was decided that a letter may be sent to the Chief Secretary and DG Police, U.P requesting them for a report on the incident to be sent to the Commission within two weeks. In case the report is not received, then the Commission will like to send its investigation team to get the matter investigated.

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
HELD ON 10TH 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 Jaleel Ahmed	:	Counsellor

Agenda Item No.1

The Plan of Action for the State Consultations on National Policy for Empowerment of Women

It was decided that the Commission shall hold consultations in 15 states in collaboration with State Commissions for Women as under:

<u>States</u>	<u>Specialist Institutions</u>
(i) Andhra Pradesh	Women's Development Studies Centre
(ii) Chattisgarh	WDSC, Raipur University
(iii) Kerala	Women's Study Centre
(iv) Maharashtra	Bombay University, Deptt. of Economics, Women Development Cell
(V) Gujarat	Women's Studies Centre, Baroda University
(vi) Haryana	Women's Studies Centre, Kurukshetra University
(vii) West Bengal	Women's Studies Centre, Jhadavpur University
(viii) Uttar Pradesh	Women's Studies Centre, Varanasi
(ix) Madhya Pradesh	Women's Studies Centre, Jabalpur
(x) Rajasthan	Women's Studies Centre, Jaipur
(xi) Uttaranchal	Uttaranchal Mahila March.. Dehradun
(xii) Bihar	

North-eastern States

(i) Arunachal Pradesh	Arunachal Pradesh Women's Welfare Society, Itanagar
(ii) Assam	Women's Studies Centre, Gauwahati University
(iii) Sikkim	North Bengal University, Raja Rammohanpur

It was approved that there should be orientation of the State Women Commission's Chairperson/Women Studies Centre/Specialist Institution. The State Women commission will be the primary organizer of the consultation in collaboration with Women Studies Centre/Specialist Institution who will be given the responsibility for preparing the report.

It was also decided that Rs.50,000/- will be paid to the State Women's Commission for holding consultation for two days and making payment to the Women Studies Centre/Specialist Institution for preparation of the report.

The Commission approved the name of Prof. Susheela Kaushik as resource person, who will collate information/data and pursue the matter with both State Commission for Women and Women Studies Centre/Specialist Institution. Prof. Kaushik will be requested to send the estimate for the work to be done in this regard by her. On receipt of this estimate, the issue of detailed budget will be again discussed in the next meeting of the Commission.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.2

Kothewadi case – Representation from Dr. Neelam Gorhe

A follow up letter will be issued by the Complaint & Investigation Cell to the Maharashtra Govt. -- the Deptt. of Education for opening a school, to the Deptt. of Home for providing security and Deptt. of Animal Husbandry for providing sheds for animals. A letter will also be sent to the Chief Minister, Maharashtra.

(Action: C & I Cell)

Agenda Item No.3

Death of Dalit Women – Tamil Nadu case

It was decided to set up an Inquiry Committee by the Commission where besides the Members to be nominated by the Chairperson, the Secretary, Tamil Nadu, Women & Child Development Department and Chairperson of State Commission for Women, Tamil Nadu will also be the Members. File to be put up for C & I Cell for nomination of other members.

(Action : C & I Cell)

Agenda Item No.4

Report on Public Hearing of Fisher Women/Recommendations therefrom/future course of action

The report will be first circulated and the matter will be taken up in the next meeting of the Commission.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.5

Workshop on Water Management by SEWA – Programme Schedule, role of members, Experts, Invitees etc.

The report will be first circulated and the matter will be taken up in the next meeting of the Commission.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.6

Any other items with the permission of Chair

6(1) The News Item “**AIIMS Workers Rape Patient**”, which appeared in the Asian Age dated 10.6.03 was discussed in the special meeting of the Commission and it was decided that NCW’s team will go and meet the victim.

It was also decided that a report may be called from the police.

(Action: R & S Cell)

6(2) Non-permission of the entry of Dalit Women in Temple, Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh, it was decided that M(BRM) will get the details and the issue will be discussed after the details are obtained.

(Action: C & I Cell)

6(3) The Delhi Times publication depicting women in a derogatory form was discussed in the special meeting of the Commission and it was decided that PRO will find the details and circulate the item for discussion in the Commission’s meeting.

(Action: PR Cell)

6(4) The News item “**SASURAL WALO NE BAHOO KO TEEN DIN TAK BHUKHA PYASA BANDH RAKHKAR MARA PEETA**”, appeared in *Navbharat Times* dated 10.6.03, was discussed and it was decided to summon the boy and his parents, the girl and her parents to the Commission.

(Action: C & I Cell)

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD
ON 27TH MARCH, 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.M. Imran Ali	:	Law Officer
Shri T.N Sabharwal	:	Consultant
Shri Jaleel Ahmed	:	Counsellor

Agenda Item No.1

Report on atrocities on Tribals of Wynad District, Kerala

Approved and adopted. Section 10(1) of the Act mentioned in the Report may be amended to Section 10(1) (a) and 10 (f) of NCW Act, 1990. It was decided that a copy of the Report be sent to Chief Minister of Kerala, NHRC, Ministry of Environment & Forest HRM, MOS, WCD, Ministry of Home Affairs. Recommendations to be sent to HRM & MOS, WCD in the Central Govt., SC/ST Commission and Minister for Tribal Affairs.

Agenda Item No.2

Report of the visit of M(B.R.Maurya) and M(S.Malaiya) to Kurukshetra, Haryana on 4th Feb. 03 regarding investigation into the alleged Police atrocities including lathi charge, indecent behaviour on girl students of Kurukshetra University – approval/adoption by the Commission

A copy of the Report to be sent to Chancellor, Kurukshetra University for taking action against the Vice-Chancellor. A copy may also be sent to Chief Minister of Haryana, Deptt. of WCD(Central Govt.), HRM and Union Minister for Home Affairs. As regards *recommendation No.4*, it may be recommended that there should be a separate Police Mahila Desk in the police station instead of the removal of police station from the University Campus.

Agenda Item No.3

Political Core Committee – Agenda and methodology

It was decided that Members should give the names for constitution of a Political Core Committee. The Political Core Committee should be well-balanced in terms of political affiliation.

Agenda item No.5

Bal Vivah Virodh Abhiyan

It was decided that CP will write to all Chief Ministers/Chairpersons of State Commission for Women, Chief Secretaries, Union Home Ministry, HRM, PM etc. to ensure that no child marriage is performed on the occasion of Akha Teej.

It was also decided that NCW should release an advertisement to create awareness on the subject and carry messages from the Prime Minister, HRM, MOS and Chairperson, NCW

Meeting ended with thanks to Chair.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD
ON 29TH APRIL, 2003

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
Smt. Nafisa Hussain	:	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

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed all the Members to the Commission in the Special meeting convened for discussion on the current issues based on the recent News Items which appeared in the Press.

Agenda Item No.1

Alleged molestation of a girl student of Mata Sundari College.

The Commission took cognizance of the occurrence of the incident of alleged molestation and futile kidnapping of a girl student of Mata Sundari College. The Commission noted that this is a grave incident specially in the light of the recent Maulana Azad College rape incident, as both the incidents have taken place in the same vicinity.

It was decided that Member(N.Hussain) will speak to the Principal of the College to have first hand information about the incident. She will also visit the girl with Madhulika Singh, Co-ordinator to find out as to in which manner her cause can be supported by the Commission.

It was also decided that a copy of the letter written by the College to the Controller of Examinations, Delhi University may be obtained and a letter to the :2:

Delhi University may be sent by the Commission stating that the girl student should be given an opportunity to appear for the paper she has missed, as a special case. In view of the gravity of the incident, a letter may also be written to the Commissioner of Police asking him as to what action has been taken in the matter, a copy of the letter be endorsed to Principal Secretary Home, Govt. of Delhi and a separate letter may be issued to the Chief Minister, Delhi requesting that adequate steps be taken for the safety of the girl students in the light of the recent incidents which has occurred within the vicinity of the Delhi Police Hqrs.

(Action: C&I Cell)

A brief press note may be released stating that the Commission has taken cognizance of the matter and is concerned about the incident of alleged molestation and attempted kidnapping of a girl student of Mata Sundari College.

(Action : US-cum-PRO)

Agenda Item No.2

Alleged sale of two minor girls of Shri Bhopal Singh of Hari Singhpura village of district Haryana.

The Commission noted that the alleged sale of two minor girls by the father is very unfortunate and it was decided that a report may be called for from the Home Secretary, Govt. of Haryana. A letter may also be written to Chief Minister, Harayana, stating the concern of the Commission at such grave incidents.

(Action: C & I Cell)

Agenda Item No.3

Any other items with the permission of Chair

Alleged parading of a naked woman in Samastipur, Bihar

Though the press cutting of the alleged incident of parading a lady naked in Samastipur, Bihar was not available in the meeting but CP informed that she had gone through the press report. The lady was also forced to take human excreta by the Village Panchayat. PRO was directed to obtain the news item.

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It was decided that a report may be requested for from the Chairperson, State Commission for Women. A letter may also be written to Home Secretary, Bihar asking them to investigate the matter and send a report to the Commission.

(Action : C & I Cell)

(ii) Political Core Committee

It was decided that Political Core Committee be constituted. Members were requested to suggest the names for the Committee. It was suggested that names should be across party lines.

It was also decided that Presidents of Women Wing of all political parties be called for the meeting of the Political Core Committee as special invitees. Some political scientists may also be involved in the Political Core Committee.

It was also decided that NCW could meet the Presidents of all political parties regarding reservation of tickets for Parliamentary Seats.

A meeting of the organisations which are lobbying for political empowerment of women may be called for as early as possible.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD
ON 27TH MAY, 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.M. Imran Ali	:	Law Officer

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members and officers to the Special meeting of the Commission.

Agenda Item No.1

Strengthening of State Commission for Women

It was decided that a letter should be written to the Chairpersons of State Commissions for Women enclosing a copy of the Kerala Women's Commission Act, 1990 to get the views of the State Commissions on adoption of the specific provisions of the Kerala Women's Commission Act, 1990 for strengthening State Commissions for Women. The State Commission's Chairperson will be requested to send their views within one month. After receipt of the views of the State Commissions, the matter will be taken up with the concerned State Government/Chief Minister.

(Action : Legal Cell)

:2:

Agenda Item No.2

Action Plan of the Commission for the North Eastern States

The recommendations of the meeting of Expert Committee on North Eastern States held on 30th April, 2003 were approved and adopted by the Commission.

It was decided that the Commission should get studies conducted in Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura and Assam on the impact of insurgency on women.

Agenda Item No.3

Any other items with the permission of the Chair

3 (1) The recommendations of the Malimath Committee regarding payment of maintenance under CrPC/IPC in the case of a woman living with the man for a long period like his wife was discussed.

M(BRM), M(SM) and Member Secretary expressed the view that the recommendations should be accepted in view of the harsh reality of the sufferings of such women and their children who are rejected and thrown out.

M(NH) and CP felt that introduction of such a legal provision would undermine the institution of family.

Keeping in mind the majority view, the Commission endorsed the recommendations of the Malimath Committee that a woman who is living with the man like his wife for a reasonably long period should also be entitled to the benefit of maintenance under Section 125 of the CrPC.

3 (2) News Item “**Alleged rape of a Dalit woman in Seoni, M.P**” was discussed in the meeting and it was decided that M(SM) will speak to the concerned SP and the Chairperson will talk to DGP, Madhya Pradesh to know the details/status of the incident. Letter to be issued to DGP for the Action Taken on the matter.

3 (3) The News Item which appeared in Rashtriya Sahara dated 23.5.03 regarding rape of a Dalit Mahila by her father-in-law was discussed in the meeting and it was decided that first we may check the status from the :3:

concerned SP/DGP, U. P. M(BRM) will contact the concerned SP and the Chairperson will speak to DGP, U.P and after getting the details of the incident, the Commission will then decide whether to conduct an inquiry or not.

3(4) News Item “**Harassed Tribals on the Warpath**” appeared in The Hindu dated 27th April, 03 was discussed in the meeting. It was decided that a letter may be written to the District Administration to know about the details of the incident and action taken by the government.

3(5) News Item “ **This witch couldn’t save self**” which appeared in the Indian Express dated 26th May, 03 was discussed in the meeting and it was decided that the Commission will investigate the incident and after investigation a larger meeting involving the State Government’s representatives/NGOs/traditional and local leaders will be convened.

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD
ON 30TH MAY, 2003**

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
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
Shri H. Kumar	:	Sr.Research Officer

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members and officers to the Special meeting of the Commission.

Agenda Item No.1

Minutes of the meeting of the Expert Committee on Status of Women belonging to Scheduled Caste held on 28th April, 03

The minutes of the meeting of the Expert committee on Status of Women belonging to Scheduled Caste held on 28th April, 03 were approved and adopted by the Commission.

The recommendation made on para 8 of the minutes were approved with the following observations:-

Data available in Research & Studies Cell be put up.

As regards, perspective plan for development and mainstreaming of Dalit Women for equality and justice, it was decided that **Ms. Ruth Manorama** be requested to give a background note for the preparation of the national perspective plan for consideration of the Commission.

Regarding the recommendation of distribution of five acres of cultivable land to each Dalit household, it was decided that this should be discussed in a workshop.

As regards, National Labour Policy for the unorganized sector, it was decided that we may request Ms. R. Manorama to prepare a background note on the subject.

As regards, recommendation to mandate the NCW, NHRC, SC/ST Women, Safai Karamcharis Commission to look specifically into the Dalit Women's issues, it was decided that the matter may be taken up with other Commissions.

For constitution of a Statutory Body at the National and State level to monitor atrocities against Dalit Women, it was decided that an agenda item may be prepared by Research & Studies Cell for NHRC's Governing Body meeting.

On recommendation regarding holding police officials responsible for crime against atrocities committed against Dalit Women and taking effective punitive measures against them for their dereliction duty, the matter may be taken up with MHA and Expert Committee on 'Police and Gender'.

The recommendations given at para 13 of the minutes were approved with the following observations:-

As regards, setting up on line data based on the condition and status of SC Women, it was decided that available data may be put on website in the first instance and additional data may be added thereafter.

(Action: R&S Cell/PR Cell)

As regards the recommendation of review of Legal procedures which go against SC Women, it was decided that an in-house review be undertaken then the matter may be taken up in the Expert Committee meeting.

(Action: Legal Cell)

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As regards, introduction of Social Security Programmes for SC Women on the lines of the Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana, it was decided that details may be asked for from Shri M.P. Vassimulai.

The recommendations mentioned in Para 22 of the minutes, (i) & (ii) were accepted.

Recommendation No.22 (iii) relating to the list of atrocities on SC Women given by Ms. R. Manorama may be analyzed. Those which are specific to women should be taken up with concerned State Government.

(Action: C & I Cell)

Recommendation No.22 (iv) & (v) is for Expert Committee.

Recommendation No.22 (vi), it was decided that there should be one public hearing on Health on SC Women and Public Hearings on Minimum Wages and SC cultivators.

Recommendation No.(vii) was accepted.

Recommendation No.(viii) of Para 22 has already been done by the Research & Studies Cell.

Recommendation No.22(ix), paper on implementation of laws meant for protecting rights of SC Women, may be prepared before conducting the workshops in which gaps in implementation of laws would be discussed.

Recommendation No.(x) was accepted.

The recommendation No.22(xi), Data on Dalit Women and Girl Safai workers and their rehabilitation be obtained from Safai Karamcharis Commission and Institute of Social Science before undertaking further survey/study on the subject.

Agenda Item No.2

Success of Bal Vivah Virodh Abhiyan

The Commission reviewed the Bal Vivah Virodh Abhiyan and decided that the Research & Studies Cell shall compile report and bring out the recommendations based on the reports given by Members. The compiled report should specifically point out the number of cases where Child Marriage could be restrained and number of cases registered. The compiled report will be adopted formally afterwards. The reasons for societal sanction also needs to be analysed.

It was also decided that R & S Cell will circulate a standard format for preparation of Tour reports for use of Members in future.

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD
ON 30TH MAY, 2003

Present in the meeting were:

Dr. Poornima Advani	:	Chairperson
Dr. Sudha Malaiya	:	Member
Smt. Sunila Basant	:	Member Secretary
Smt. Nita Kapoor	:	Joint Secretary
Shri S.K. Garg	:	Under Secretary
Shri H. Kumar	:	Sr.Research Officer

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the Members and officers to the Special meeting of the Commission.

Agenda Item No.1

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The recommendation made on para 8 of the minutes were approved with the following observations:-

Data available in Research & Studies Cell be put up.

As regards, perspective plan for development and mainstreaming of Dalit Women of equality and justice, it was decided that Ms. Ruth Manorama be requested to give a draft of the national perspective plan for consideration of the Commission.

Regarding the recommendation of distribution of five acres of cultivable land to each Dalit household, it was decided that this should be discussed in the workshop.

As regards, National Labour Policy for the unorganized sector, it was decided that we may request Ms. R. Manorama to prepare a background note on the subject.

As regards, recommendation to mandate the NCW, NHRC, SC/ST Women, Safai Karamcharis Commission to look specifically into the Dalit Women's issues, it was decided that the matter may be taken up with other Commissions.

For constitution of a Statutory Body at the National and State level to monitor atrocities against Dalit Women, it was decided that an agenda item may be prepared by Research & Studies Cell for NHRC's Governing Body meeting.

On recommendation regarding holding police officials responsible for crime against atrocities committed against Dalit Women and taking effective punitive measures against them for their dereliction duty, the matter may be taken up with MHA and Expert Committee on 'Police and Gender'.

The recommendations given at para 13 of the minutes were approved with the following observations:-

As regards, setting up on line data based on the condition and status of SC Women, it was decided that available data may be put on website in the first instance.

As regards the recommendation of review of Legal procedures which go against SC Women, it was decided that an in-house review be undertaken then the matter may be taken up in the Expert Committee meeting.

As regards, introduction of Social Security Programmes for SC Women on the lines of the Krishi Shramik Samajik Suraksha Yojana, it was decided that details may be asked for from Shri M.P. Vassimulai.

The recommendations mentioned in Para 22 of the minutes, (i) & (ii) were accepted.

Recommendation No.22 (iii) relating to the list of atrocities on SC Women given by Ms. R. Manorama may be analyzed. Those which are specific to women should be taken up with concerned State Government.

Recommendation No.22 (iv) & (v) is for Expert Committee.

Recommendation No.22 (vi), it was decided that there should be one public hearing on Health on SC Women and Public Hearings on Minimum Wages and SC cultivators.

Recommendation No.(vii) was accepted.

Recommendation No.(viii) of Para 22 has already been done by the Research & Studies Cell.

The recommendation No.22(ix), a comprehensive papers on the implementation of laws meant for protecting rights for SC Women, may be prepared.

The recommendation No.(x), the gaps in implementation of laws should be discussed.

The recommendation No.22(xi), we may find out the position of the Dalit Women and Girls Safai workers specially on economic and education aspect from Safai Karamcharis Commission and Institute of Social Science.

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Agenda Item No.2

Success of Bal Vivah Virodh Abhiyan

The Commission reviewed the Bal Vivah Virodh Abhiyan and decided that the Research & Studies Cell shall compile the report and bring out the recommendations. The compiled report should specifically point out the number of cases where Child Marriage could be restraint and number of cases registered. The compiled report will be adopted formally afterwards.

It was also decided that R & S Cell will circulate a standard format for reports to the Members.