

MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION'S MEETING HELD
ON 28th 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
Shri S.K. Kumar	:	Legal Officer

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

Agenda Item No.1

Leave of absence

Leave of absence was Nil.

Agenda Item No.2

Adoption of the Minutes of the Special meeting of the Commission held on 27th March, 03 as well as the Commission's meeting held on 4th April, 03

Minutes of the Special meeting of the Commission held on 27th March, 03 and Commission's meeting held on 4th April, 03 were adopted with some modification in the minutes of the Special meeting of the Commission held on 4th April, 03. In the Agenda Item No.20(1), the payment to be made to the experts coming outside from Delhi may be read as "**AC-2 Tier Rail fare**" instead of "2nd Class Rail Fare".

(Action: Admn. Section)

Agenda Item No.3**Presentation by Chairperson, Members and Member Secretary**

A written note about the presentation was received from M(N.H), which is placed at *Annexure – I*.

Agenda Item No.4**Proposals approved by the Screening Committee at its meetings held on 17th and 25th March, 2003**

The proposals approved by the Screening Committee at its meeting held on 17th & 25th March, 03 were approved by the Commission. However, against the Proposal No.12 i.e. **National Workshop on Women, Water & Work** to be conducted by SEWA, Ahmedabad, was approved subject to the condition that the participation should be increased and the category of the participation will be discussed in the Special meeting.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda item No.5**Collaboration with NHRC on the subject of Gender and Mental Health**

Member Secretary was authorized by the Commission to have discussion with NHRC in order to start joint visit of NHRC with NCW to Mental Health Institutions in Agra, Ranchi, Gwalior and Lilwa in Kolkatta and two other places. The matter may be brought before the Commission with finding of the visits to six Mental Health Institutions.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.6**Report of the State Level Consultation Meeting on Gender and Economic empowerment of women held on 3-4 Feb. 03 at Bangalore organised by Singamma Sreenivasan Foundation, Bangalore – Approval/adoption by the Commission**

The report was approved and adopted.

As regards Recommendation No.2, it was decided that Legal Cell will collect the material/Draft Bill from different sources i.e. SEWA, Ahmedabad,

President of Domestic Workers Forum, Bangalore, Prayas, Delhi etc. and circulate the same to the Members. The matter will then be discussed in a Special meeting.

Recommendation No.3, Legal Cell will collect the material from Labour Ministry and arrange discussion with representatives of the Labour Ministry and NGOs etc. in the Conference Room of the Commission. A copy of the study made by Ms. Ranjana Kumar be obtained.

Questionnaire for the industry visit to be prepared by the Legal Cell. The studies on the issue of the implementation of the existing Labour Laws conducted so far may be collected from different sources.

(Action : Legal Cell)

Recommendation No.4 & 5 should be enlarged. More suggestions should be given for policy framing.

Recommendation No.7, the matter may be taken up with NCERT/CBSE and a meeting be held in the Commission to which Shri Rajput, NCERT may be invited.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.7

Report of the Training programme for Elected Women Representatives in Panchayati Raj Institution held on 13-14 & 19-20 January, 03 at Kakanda and Baghima, Rajpur, Surguja – Approval/adoption by the Commission

The report was noted by the Commission.

It was decided that Legal Cell will prepare guidelines for Public hearings. Training modules may be collected from Rambahoo Trust/MARG, Delhi and Ministry of Rural Development.

(Action: R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.8

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

The report will be discussed in a Special meeting of the Commission after two weeks.

(Action : Administration)

Agenda Item No.9

Report of Workshop on Development and Empowerment of Muslim Women held on 11-12 March, 2003 at Lucknow organised by Society for Action, Vision and Enterprise(SAVR), Lucknow – Approval/adoption by the Commission

Approved and adopted.

It was decided to hold awareness programmes in backward regions such as Mewat in Haryana and other such areas in Bihar and U.P for promoting education and vocational training for Muslim girls.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.10

Report on Platinum Jubilee Session on Social Justice Through Social Legislation held on 4-7 January, 2003 at Pune, organised by All India Women's Conference, New Delhi – Approval/adoption by the Commission

The Research & Studies Cell will call for the recommendations from the organizers.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.11, 12, 13 & 14

To be taken up at a Special meeting.

(Action : Administration)

Agenda Item No.15

India's 2nd Report on Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Recommendation No.25, it was decided that a letter should be sent to Vice-Chairman, Planning Commission and a meeting with Women Development Corporations should be fixed.

It was also mentioned that the minutes of the Planning Commission meeting with States are being received. Planning Commission should be requested to provide adequate funds for the welfare of the women.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Recommendation No.27 & 28, it was decided that it may be checked whether some study on the issue of Inadequate allocation of resources for women's development in the Social Sector and inadequate implementation of laws have been made by the Centre for Women Development Studies so that the same could be placed before the Commission. The laws reviewed by the NCW may be listed out by the Legal Cell and then it may also be decided which are the priority laws for review, for example, Child Marriage, Restraint Act, PNDD etc.

(Action: Legal Cell)

Recommendation No.30, Legal Cell to work out the papers taken up by the NCW like Minimum Wages Act, Child Marriage Restraint Act, Domestic Violence, Sexual Harassment at Workplace, Property, Maintenance etc. The four areas identified for preparing working papers on legal reform were – violence, property, maintenance and problem of women in obtaining justice – legal aid etc.

(Action : Legal Cell)

Recommendation No. 31 & 32, the Commission notes that the work on Personal Laws is going on.

Recommendation No. 33, the Commission has already sent its recommendation for Compulsory Registration of the Marriage. However, Legal Cell may send recommendation to Deptt. of Women & Child Development and concerned Department again.

(Action : Legal Cell)

Recommendation No.37, the Commission is already interacting with private/public sector organisations for implementation of Vishakha Judgement regarding sexual harassment at workplace.

Recommendation No.38 & 39 – No comments.

Recommendation from SI.No.40 onwards will be discussed at a special meeting of the Commission.

Agenda Item No.16

Progressive actual expenditure upto 31.3.03 for the financial year 2002-03, Budget allocation for the year 2003-04, distribution of funds for 2003-04 and distribution of 1/6th funds for April & May, 03 and Seminar/Conferences

proposed to be organised by the Commission during the months of April & May, 03

Approved

(Action : Accounts Section)

Agenda Item No.17

Adoption of the Minutes of the special meeting of the Commission held on 29th April, 2003

Adopted

Agenda Item No.18

Proposals approved by the Screening Committee at its meeting held on 21st April, 2003

Approved and adopted

(Action : R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.19

Next Conference of the Chairpersons of State Commissions for Women

It was decided that the meetings of the Chairpersons of State Commissions for Women shall be convened on Saturday & Sunday in the month of September (before 18th September, 2003). The meeting shall be convened outside Delhi. The Exact venue and agenda for the meeting will be decided in a Special meeting.

(Action : R & S Cell)

Agenda Item No.20

Approval of the recommendations of the Screening Committee meetings held on 7.5.2003 and 12.5.2003 – 23.5.2003.

Approved and adopted.

M(SM), however, observed that for preparation of gender profile for the State of Haryana, the work should have been assigned to the Women's Study Centre, Kurukshetra University instead of Centre for Women's Studies, Punjab University, Chandigarh. This is to be noted for future.

It was also decided that the engagement of a separate coordinator may be considered for the project Women and Disabilities, Health, Governance and Gender, and Condition of Widows.

(Action : R & S Cell & Admn. Section)

Action Taken Report – Noted. In future the ATR may come up as an agenda item straight after confirmation of minutes.

(Action : Admn. Section)

Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Note: The minutes of the special meetings of the Commission held on 29th April, 13th & 27th May, 2003 will form the part of the minutes of the meeting of the Commission held on 28th May, 2003.