

BACKGROUND OF THE TRAINING WORKSHOP

The National Commission for Women (NCW) was set up as statutory body in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 with a mandate to safeguard the constitutional rights of women. It is also mandated to deal with cases of violation of the provisions of the Constitution and of other laws relating to women. It was given a dual role : firstly, to look into complaints and take suo motu notice of matters relating to the deprivation of rights of women, or non-implementation of laws enacted to provide protection to women, and, secondly to achieve the objectives of equality – civil and political, and development - economic and social.

In keeping with its mandate, NCW annually receives more than 30,000 complaints related to deprivation or violation of women's rights. Not surprisingly, the major grievances of the women were against the law enforcement agencies including police, the judiciary, the executive authorities, the media and finally the societal norms. It has been observed in various complaints received in the Commission that police apathy towards women complainants has increased and has been reflected as one of the main grievance. Therefore, the Commission taking notice of such gender discrimination and with the sole aim to empower women serving the country as Police officials, has taken up Capacity Building Programmes for women Police officials/ officers throughout the country. In the chain of these **Capacity Building programmes** inclusive of **Gender Sensitization**, **NCW has taken up this special initiative for capacity building and gender sensitization of 800 women constables recruited by Haryana Police in the month of April 2017 by Sr. Coordinator, Counsellors and Technical Experts of the Commission.**

On 2nd May 2017, for the first time, the Gender Sensitization Programme for 400 male and female Police Officials of the rank of DSP and SI was conducted at Maharaja Ranjit Singh Punjab Police Academy, Phillaur. Again for the first time, the use of information technology was applied wherein; the Resource Persons trained these 400 Police Officials through video conferencing.

The Workshop was divided into the following sessions:

- I. Gender and need of Gender Sensitization Training in Police
- II. Violence Against Women- Dowry and Domestic Violence
- III. Police Apathy
- IV. NRI Marriages-A Challenge in Punjab
- V. Crime against Women- Sexual Assault, Rape and Acid Attack - Role of Implementing Agencies