

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**Date 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2012**

The National Commission for Women has taken suo-moto cognizance into the alleged incident of the media report “**Mahila Ko Ardhnagan kar teen kilometer ghumaya**” in Murena, M.P. Dr. Charu WaliKhanna was the Chairperson of the inquiry committee.

### **Recommendations of the inquiry committee are as follows:**

- Role of media needs to be appreciated in ushering social change by it's reporting of atrocities against women specially those from under privileged and marginalized sections of the society, in remote underserved areas.
- Madhya Pradesh Government to conduct legal awareness programmes for women in small groups at the Panchayat level in order to encourage women to resist violence.
- Madhya Pradesh Government officials should make surprise visits in village in order to get firsthand knowledge of grass root level realities.
- Madhya Pradesh Government should increase police patrolling in villages and remote areas.
- Timely information and action is of utmost necessity in police functioning, particularly in investigation of crime and in tracking and detection. Madhya Pradesh Government to redefine jurisdiction of police stations so that all villages have equal access to the local police stations and that the police reach in time on being committed crime. This will help meet the challenges of Crime Control and maintenance of public order.
- Fast track courts to be constituted and the matter to be adjudicated within the specified time frame.
- Madhya Pradesh Government to ensure protection of women. Facility of HELPLINE be provided specially for remote and far flung areas.
- Gender sensitization to be included in the educational syllabus, so that attitudinal change is effected and women treated with respect.
- New chapter be added in IPC on violence against women so that law to protect women is more effective.
- For the recommendations to have a long term impact there should be coordination between all arms of Madhya Pradesh i.e. Administration, Education Department, State Women Commission etc. at Panchayat level.
- The Madhya Pradesh State Government to ensure that policies and schemes of the Central/State Government are being implemented properly e.g. National Rural Health Mission etc.
- The State Government to make women aware all safeguards provided to them under the constitution of India and the other law specially in rural areas so that they stand up for their rights.