To

The Chief Secretary Govt. Of Maharashtra Mumbai

Sir,

I am directed to state that the National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken suo motu cognizance and constituted an Inquiry Committee under Section 8(1), read with Section 10(1) and (4) of the NCW Act, 1990 to inquire into the media report wherein reportedly 3 little sisters aged 5, 9 and 11 went missing from their home in a small village at Bhandara District in Maharashtra and four days later their lead bodies were found in a well on the outskirts of the village, next to a roadside dhaba or eatery in Maharashtra.

RECOMMENDATIONS-

As per the records made available by the police, the opinion of the Internal Inquiry Committee (IIC) is that we find major lacunae in the primary medical investigation done by the above team of doctors at Bhandara Civil Hospital as it contradicts to the opinion of DNA test which is negative and diatom test as positive. The Inquiry Committee find that no direct or circumstantial evidence so far could be collected by the police in spite of their necessary efforts. Hence we are of the considered opinion as follows:

- 1. A State Level team may be constituted to re-examine all the videos of the autopsy.
- 2. They can visit the crime scene to ascertain the exact cause and manner of the death.
- 3. The investigators will also verify if there may have been a property dispute within the family as the girls' grandfather had named the three of them for inheritance of the land.
- 4. The investigators based on the report, if submitted by the team of the Forensic Medicine Experts will carry on the investigation as per their direction to ascertain the exact cause of death such as suicidal, homicidal or accidental.
- 5. The said expert team needs to submit their report immediately to the State Government and the DGP, Police, Special Inspector General of Police, Nagpur Range and SP, Bhandara in a time bound manner as there is a lot of indignation at a national, state level and village level since there is no progress seen in the investigation.
- 6. The Internal Inquiry Committee also recommends to probe into the conduct of the team of Doctors who have conducted autopsy in very unscientific and unethical manners.
- 7. The Internal Inquiry Committee feels that the investigators and Medico Faculties should have awaited for the report of the Experts in forensic medicine before confirming unilaterally stating that the girls were subjected to rape and sodomy. They should have been very careful to deal with such a highly sensitive case where DNA report was negative and Diatom report came positive.

I am directed to communicate that the State Government is requested to kindly take appropriate action in the matter and kindly intimate the Commission about action taken expeditiously.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/-(Raj Singh) Deputy Secretary