

NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN
NEW DELHI

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PRESS RELEASE

National Commission for Women (Special Study Expert Committee on Rape) had a special consultation with the Delhi Police on the topic of "Building Confidence between Police and Public" at Multipurpose Hall, IIC, New Delhi today between 9.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.. The speakers who had addressed the Consultation and gave their valuable inputs were:

1. Smt. Mamta Sharma, Chairperson, National Commission for Women
2. Smt. Sreerupa Mitra Chaudhury, Chairperson, Special Study Expert Committee on Rape, NCW
3. Smt. Nirmala Samant Prabhavalkar, Member, NCW
4. Smt. Charu Wali Khanna, Member, NCW
5. Smt. Shamina Shafiq, Member, NCW
6. Km. Hemlata Kheria, Member, NCW
7. Shri Sankar Sen, IPS (Retd.), Senior Fellow, Institute of Social Sciences)
8. Shri Makrand Pratap Singh, Advocate, Supreme Court, Associate Member, Advocates Combine.

Two representatives from all the 180 Police Stations in Delhi had participated the meeting and 20 representatives from Crime Against Women and also representatives from the Armed Batalian joined the Consultation.

Smt. Sreerupa Chaudhury in her welcome address, explained the importance of this consultation with Delhi Police and said that police have to register every FIR which is necessary from the women point of view and can not take the law in their hands which has happened in the case of 5 year old girl in Delhi Police Station in the recent time.

The Chairperson, NCW said that after the barbaric gang rape incident which took place of Delhi Medical student name "Nirbhaya", there was impression in the minds of public that at least no more such incident will occur but within 4 months, the second incident took place such as the barbaric attack of rape of 5 year old girl in Delhi which has created a lot of question regarding insensitivity of the police and their mishandling of law and order situation. The Chairperson Smt. Sharma gave the following inputs in the Consultation:

1. Under this background, NCW decided to have such type of consultation with the Police. This was the first step and NCW will be doing such type of consultation with every Divisional Hqr. Of every State in the

2. She said that there should be a timely FIR, filling of the charge sheet and helping the Judiciary in taking up the case in the Fast Track Court which needs to be completed within the time bound manner.
3. She said that there is need to increase the strength of the police in every Police Thana and also increase more number of Women Police Force to attend growing violence & number of reporting incidents due to awareness among the public in the backdrop of Nirbhaya case and also due to Media's activism & Social Media.
4. She said that women police personnel also need to be equally gender sensitive in helping the women but unfortunately in many of the cases, it is found otherwise.
5. She further said that Police Act came in 1861 and thereafter there is a vast increase in the population, social problems and challenges, nature of crime against women has also increased many folded, hence the police needs to change its old approach and try to be more friendly towards helping the law abiding citizens and curbing the crime rates.

Member, Adv. Nirmala Samant Prabhavalkar said that sensitisation the police is very important for example it is a matter of fact that 80% of the complaints which are reported to the police stations are very from domestic violence and also rising out of socio economic problems and due to marital discord. However, the role of the police is very important when the cases of sexual violence against women is reported. The police pays a vital role in curbing the crimes. The sensitized police staff even if they do their duty properly, much of the percentage of crimes can be scaled down.

Mrs. Shamina Shafiq, Member said that women come to police station with lot of hopes that her domestic violence case will be attended by the Police Officer and therefore she urged that the police has to be very sensitive in giving the support, lodging her complaint and giving justice within the capacity as a police personnel.

Ms. Hemlala Kheria, Member said that women, at large, do not go the Police Station as they feel it is a stigma upon them to enter the Police Station because of which many matters are not reported in the Police Station and therefore police needs to improve the image.

Mrs. Charu Wali Khanna, Member stated that police reforms are very much important and police need to restore their lost confidence in the mind of public at large and most of the participants in the training given by NGO like PARIVARTAN and they will surely find the positive change while handling the complaints of women atrocities.

Mr. Shankar Sen, IPS(Retd.) and Mr. Makrand Pratap Singh also gave valuable inputs i.e. information by public to police is important that builds up the confidence in police.

(Nirmala Samant Prabhavalkar)

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