

## PRESS RELEASE

01-07-2014

National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken *suo-moto* cognizance of the media reports and the complaints received from various organizations on the derogatory statement against women made by Trinamool Congress MP, Shri Tapas Pal on Monday, when television news channels aired footage purportedly showing him threatening to send party workers to rape and murder women members of the opposition party in West Bengal.

Taking serious note of his controversial remarks, Smt. Mamta Sharma, Hon'ble Chairperson, NCW has sent a notice to Shri Tapas Pal to provide an explanation to the Commission in the matter.

In a separate letter written to Ms Mamata Benerjee, Chief Minister of WB, Smt. Mamta Sharma has requested the Chief Minister to examine the matter and take necessary action to safeguard the dignity of women in the State as well as in the country. While strongly condemning such action by an elected member of the party, she added that crime against women is on the rise in the country and such remarks and comments have inflammatory effect on the mindset of anti-social elements which in turn promotes the vicious cycle against women.

In similar letters written to the Hon'ble President of India, His Excellency, Shri Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi, Smt Mamta Sharma has expressed her serious concerns over the comments made by Shri Tapas Pal and requested them to take action against him .

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