

PRESS RELEASE

05th October, 2012

National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken suo-moto cognizance and constituted an Inquiry Committee to inquire into an incident wherein a woman police constable was allegedly chased and badly beaten up by the mob in Bhubaneswar

The recommendations made by commission in this regard are as follows :

1. To help the woman constable tide over the crisis she be provided professional counseling. She also be provided enhanced medical compensation.
2. Since 30% vacancies in the State at constable level are reserved for women, it is important that the state take immediate steps to boost the morale of the women constables, which has been seriously affected after the incident. The police service plays a key role in our society and studies show that where morale is high, best performance is attained.
3. Guidance should be given to constables on communication strategies and management of crowd dynamics. They should be well equipped with latest means of communication like VHL. In the present case the situation may have been avoided if she had any instrument to communicate with her authorities or platoon.
4. The state to equip the police force specially women with sophisticated latest nonlethal weaponry, protective gear and backup.
5. Shame is an effective deterrent, thus local communities to be encouraged to reject the miscreants who indulged in violence and help police in identifying and arresting them. Community rejection not only humiliates the perpetrator, creating a powerful disincentive but also punctures the anonymity of group violence. The general public needs to know. What is going on and to be beware.
6. Conscious of the fact that the police in India have to perform a difficult and delicate task, particularly in view of the deteriorating law and order situation, political turmoil, student unrest, etc. the commissions is of the view in order to deal with such a situation, a balanced approach is needed to meet the ends of justice. This is all the more so, in view of the expectation of the society that police must deal with the criminals in an efficient and effective manner and bring to book those who are involved in the crime. There should be a concept of SHARED responsibility between the police and organizers of rally/protests to ensure that no untoward law and order situation is created.
7. To effectuate the modalities for preventive action and adding teeth to inquiry/investigation some guidelines were also proposed by the commission.

The above have been communicated to the Govt. of Orissa.