

PRESS RELEASE

Dated : 14.03.2013

Press Release on inquiry made by National Commission for women into the complaint titled " जिला जेल झुबुआ की विचाराधीन महिला बन्दी के कथित रूप से गर्भवती होने संबंधी घटना के संदर्भ में".

After looking into the facts and circumstances of the present case the Commission strongly recommends the following :

RECOMMENDATIONS-

I. Victim oriented

- To ensure provision of appropriate counseling to Ms "X" including regular visits by female doctor and female psychologist/psychiatrist, enabling her to overcome her trauma and open up.
- To ensure tie up with a NGO/ expert/specialist in case the above recommended facilities are not available in Jail/Government set up.

II. Government Madhya Pradesh to:-

- **PUNISHMENT** - To severely punish the abusers, irrespective of rank.
- **GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE** - To provide for an effective grievance procedure and monitor it's effectiveness periodically. Whatever the circumstances surrounding the abuse, be it violent rape, bribery, or 'consensual' relationships, female inmates face serious difficulties in reporting abuse. The present procedure is inadequate and inmates not informed of their rights.
- **STUDY** - To conduct a thorough analysis/study covering all aspects of women's imprisonment in Madhya Pradesh with a view to identifying how to better address the problems and issues identified.
- **MODEL DISTRICT** - To establish their commitment to gender issues the government of Madhya Pradesh should make a **MODEL DISTRICT JAIL in Madhya Pradesh for women inmates**, to be replicated in other districts.
 - A new and improved jail, an exception to the overcrowded prevailing jails, experimenting with semi open barracks; where women inmates are treated with dignity realising their condition of being victims of domestic violence and gender based abuse rather than Offenders.
 - Dependence on technology for surveillance and security including CCTV cameras.
 - Funding of programmes designed and adapted specifically for women; offering programmes for their rehabilitation including music lessons, theatre, art, beauty parlor, computer courses etc.

- Special stress on education for the illiterate poor and impoverished women.
- Access to family by way of permission for frequent family visits and regulated outgoing phone calls on registered numbers.
- A place where female inmates are given a chance to make and sell the produce made by them.

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 Dr. Charu WaliKhanna
 Member

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