

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1305  
ANSWERED ON:30.07.2003  
OBJECTIVES OF NATIONAL WOMEN'S COMMISSION  
SUNIL KHAN;VARKALA RADHAKRISHNAN

**Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) the details of the objectives of the National Women's Commission;
- (b) whether the NWC is endowed with statutory power;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) if not, whether the Government propose to take measures for granting statutory powers to the Commission in order to make it more effective;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI JASKAUR MEENA)

- (a) The objectives of the National Commission for Women (NCW) are given in Section 10(1) of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, extracts of which are annexed.
- (b) & (c) The NCW is a statutory body as it has been constituted under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.
- (d), (e) & (f) Does not arise.

**ANNEXURE**

Annexure referred to in reply to part (a) of Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No.1305 for 30.07.2003 by Shri V. Radhakrishnar and Shri Sunil Khan regarding Objectives of National Women's Commission.

Extracts of Section 10 (1) of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 on functions of National Commission for Women.

10 Function of the Commission - (1) The Commission shall perform all or any of the following functions, namely:-

- (a) investigate and examine all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws;
- (b) present to the Central Government, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;
- (c) make in such reports recommendations for the effective implementation of those safeguards for improving the conditions of women by the Union or any State;
- (d) review, from time to time, the existing provisions of the Constitution and other laws affecting women and recommend amendments thereto so as to suggest remedial legislative measures to meet any lacunae, inadequacies or shortcomings in such legislations;
- (e) take up the cases of the violations of the provisions of the Constitution and of other laws relating to women with the appropriate authorities;

(f) look into complaints and take suo moto notice of matters relating to -

(i) deprivation of women`s rights;

(ii) non-implementation of laws enacted to provide protection to women and also to achieve the objective of equality and development;

(iii) non-compliance of policy decisions, guidelines or instructions aimed at mitigating hardships and ensuring welfare and providing relief to women, and take up the issues arising out of such matters with appropriate authorities;

(g) call for special studies or investigations into specific problems or situations arising out of discrimination and atrocities against women and identify the constraints so as to recommend strategies for their removal;

(h) undertake promotional and educational research so as to suggest ways of ensuring due representation of women in all spheres and identify factors responsible for impeding their advancement, such as, lack of access to housing and basic services, inadequate support services and technologies for reducing drudgery and occupational health hazards and for increasing their productivity;

(i) participate and advise on the planning process of socio-economic development of women;

(j) evaluate the progress of the development of women under the Union and any State;

(k) inspect or caused to be inspected a jail, remand home, women`s institution or other place of custody where women are kept as prisoners or otherwise, and take up with the concerned authorities for remedial action, if found necessary;

(l) fund litigation involving issues affecting a large body of women;

(m) make periodical reports to the Government on any matter pertaining to women and in particular various difficulties under which women toil;

(n) any other matter which may be referred to it by the Central Government.