

RECOMMENDATIONS

As per the provisions of rule 22 of the APSCW Act.2002, the following recommendations are being made:

1. Infrastructure Requirements of APSCW:

- i. **Independent Plan Head:** Since the inception of first team of APSCW recommended that an independent plan head should be set up at par with other Commission viz. APPSC, APSIC, etc. in terms of functioning is a must for the effective delivery by this commission. For better facilitation and also establishing parity with other similar bodies, the APSCW needs to have its own independent plan head. Presently the commission is dependent on Grant-in-Aid from the state government being received through the nodal department. This arrangement entails this commission to submit utilization certificates for even the recurring expenditures of the office like staff salary etc. the resource allocation for APSCW ought to be made under a separate plan head to facilitate the growth and effective functioning of this office. Since this commission is not only a statutory body but also a quasi-judicial one with need for functioning autonomy, financial autonomy with its own plan head would be most desirable. That would also help in enhancing the status of the office of the commission to a large extent, as it ought to be.
- ii. **Independent Functioning and Status of APSCW:** Further despite the ceremonial status at par with that of Minister of State for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the APSCW and that of Secretary to the state government for the members, there is no commensurate privilege, which is required to be provided at par. Residential accommodations to the constituent members of the APSCW require to be provided as per the entitlement as on date the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Members are having to put in private/rented residences therefore necessary office space and residential accommodations need to be earmarked for the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and 7 Members as per their entitlements.

2. **Immediate effect of the CCS (Conduct) Rules:** The CCS (Conduct) Rules is something every employee of the government signs at the time of joining the services of the state. These rules are also supposed to govern the conduct of each and every person holding a government job. But today, many government officials are not only committing

conducts contrary to their own undertaking signed on joining the services of the government, but also taking the law of the land for granted by violating rule 21 of the said rules besides misleading the court of law in many cases. Many complaints have been received from violated spouses got deprived of their privileges as family in terms of financial and social security, sometimes causing the destitution of their own loved ones. Yet, there is no known case where action has been taken against anyone under the CCS Conducts Rules. And the cases keep rising in total negation of such a positive legal provision.

- 3. Effective Implementation of Compulsory Registration of Marriage:** ‘Marriage’ is considered a sacred institution. It is an integral part of our culture. The commission since its inception supported the need of compulsory registration of marriage in order to prevent child-marriage, polygamy, harassment of women. All North-Eastern states (Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim & Tripura) except Arunachal Pradesh have implemented compulsory registration of marriage to stop the practice of polygamy. Arunachal Pradesh too should implement compulsory registration of marriage to stop the practice of polygamy, forced marriage and child marriage. Government should ensure that marriage registration certificate has to be mandatory for all official purpose in our State.
- 4. Modification of Customary practices relating to women rights:** The need of the hour is to do away with evil practices of tribal customary practices and treat the women of our society equally. It is a very disappointing fact that in customary practices where there is no male heir; then the female heir is not allowed to inherit the immovable property in the family, they are still not treated equally. For instance, in case of widow she is not allowed to inherit her husband’s property. The practice of depriving women of their right to property is still prevalent in our tribal society which also deprives her from right to life and right to livelihood. This is a gross violation of fundamental rights. Therefore, it is pertinent to mention that the Govt. should initiate the codification of customary practices with modification which is in the line with the constitutional laws.
- 5. Prioritizing Investigation of rape and murder cases and provision of support to victims during investigation and trial process:** The APSCW is deeply alarmed by rising instances of crime against women, hence, they appeal the

Government to issue strong directives to concerned authorities for prompt and gender sensitive investigation of cases of rape and murder of women and children and for collateral support to the victims and their families during investigation and trial process. Strong action should be taken against Govt. Officers committing crime against women and children and should be terminated from their service. An accused committing rape and murder should be disqualified from holding important post in any government, semi-government and commission or public representative.

6. **Establishment of Maternity Hospital:** It has been observed in our State that many maternal deaths have been reported in the recent times. So, to avert the situation, proper & hygienic Maternal Health Care Services is required in the Rural or Urban area with proper facilities. The construction/establishment of separate Maternity Hospital with all high-tech facilities is needed in the twin capital and all the District Headquarters should have separate Gynae Ward with proper facilities.
7. **Immediate Setting up of Short Stay Homes in twin Capital Complex:** It has been observed that there has been alarming rise in number of cases registered in women commission faced with extreme forms of violence due to forced marriage, child marriage, polygamy and other forms of atrocities. The APSCW request the government to immediately allocate fund to set up Short Stay Homes in twin Capital cities of Itanagar and Naharlagun as there is only one shelter home Oju Welfare Association at Naharlagun which is sponsored by the state. And also in all district headquarters Short Stay Home (Swadher-Greh) may be established.
8. **Special Loan Provisions with Subsidy to Women Entrepreneurs in State:** Today many women are unemployed and want to startup different kinds of business in our state, but due to financial constraints they are unable to do so. For economic empowerment of Women, a provision of special soft loan may be provided to unemployed women for running small scale entrepreneurship without any Security or Guarantee.
9. **Special Scholarship Scheme for Higher and Technical education for girl Child:**
 - i. Free and Compulsory education of girl child till their graduation may be introduced and implemented in letter and spirit in the State.

-
- ii. Special Scholarship Schemes may be introduced for Higher & Technical studies for girl child.
- 10. 33% job reservation for women in all govt. sectors of Arunachal Pradesh:** Job reservation of 33% for women and girl in the Government Jobs under Government of Arunachal Pradesh may be introduced and implemented.
- 11. Special Housing Scheme for Women:** Special housing schemes for Widow/Single/Divorced women & women who are victims of violence for their rehabilitation may be started in Arunachal Pradesh.
- 12. Recruitment of Women Police Personnel and Establishment of separate Women Police Station and Help Desk:**
- i. To deal with the rising Crimes Against Women & Children, more Women Police Personnel may be recruited and separate Women Police Stations may be established in all district headquarters. At present 5 (five) Women Police Stations have already been established in the State.
 - ii. As far as possible, there should be a Women Help Desk available in all the police stations even though separate Women Police Stations could not be established.
- 13. Appointment of Independent Protection Officer under the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005(PWDV Act,2005) and allocation of fund:**
- i. To curtail rising instances of domestic violence in the state and for effective implementation of the PWDV Act, 2005, appointment of Independent Protection Officer is required. As of now, the Child Development Project Officers (CDPOs) are holding dual charges. It is also recommended that while keeping the provision for appointment of Protection Officer, the State's planned budget may also allocate fund for effective implementation of the Act.
 - ii. **It is recommended that the Protection Officers** be from preferably Law graduate as many cases, CDPOs are also promotional posts. The POs under the PWDV Act 2005 ought to be sound about law also besides a minimum proficiency in written English to be able to record, document, recommend cases for litigations etc.
-

Therefore, state plan budget must have this in the plan outlay for recruitment or appointment of Protection Officers under the PWDV Act.2005.

- 14. A Chapter on Gender Issues in School Curriculum at Secondary Level:** At least one comprehensive chapter on gender issues and sensitization should be a part of all school syllabuses at the secondary level. Human rights also require to be incorporated into the syllabus for the awareness of basic human rights by the young boys and girls with focus on the rights of the girl child.
- 15. Women Representative on the AP State Planning Board:** With the whole emphasizing on gender parity in development and the participation of women in development of humanity, it is time for the state to consider this issue with all seriousness. Inclusion of women representative-with ability, integrity, intelligence and standing, actively involved and working for the cause of women-in the State Planning Board of Arunachal Pradesh, is a very urgently felt and over-due need to ensure gender parity and equity in the development inputs and the process itself.
- 16. Reservation of 50% women seat in Panchayat Raj:** To empower the women in the political field our state should provide **50% reservation** for women in Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban Local Bodies. 20 states namely Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal have made provisions of 50% reservation of women in Panchayat Raj Institutions in their respective State Panchayat Raj Acts.
- 17. 33% reservation in Assembly:** States that already give 50% reservation for women in Assembly are Bihar, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Himachal Pradesh. There is also a need to provide reservation for women in parliament and in Govt. services too.

18. Awards/Citation to Government Officers/NGOs: Letters of appreciation should be awarded to Women achievers of the state, Government Officers, Magistrates and NGO representative who have helped the cause of securing justice and development of Women and children.

19. Qualifications of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Members of APSCW:

- i. It is recommended that a clause be included in the APSCW Act.2002, Chapter II, Section 5, as sub-section (6), providing for basic minimum education to qualify for nomination on the commission and be able to deliver the goods to the needy women. Members of the first team of APSCW, on the basis of their personal field experiences, recommend that to be eligible to be entrusted with the responsibility of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson or a member of the APSCW, one must be at least a graduate from a recognized institution, with sound knowledge of the constitutional provisions and other human rights instruments ratified by the country and basic knowledge of the law of the land, to be able to hold the respective offices in the commission and also to be able to function and deliver their responsibilities as office bearers of a quasi-judicial statutory body.
- ii. It is recommended that a clause be included in the APSCW Act.2002. Chapter II, Section 5, as sub-section (6), Providing for age limit as minimum 35 years and maximum 60 years.

20. Additional Resource Allocations to the APSCW: The commission has been functioning without any additional support in terms of knowledge base or expertise of Adhoc Committees to assist the office of APSCW in special situations. Additional resource allocation by the state for activating Adhoc standing/expert committees as provided in Rule 9 of the Act is highly recommended by this Commission.

21. Setting up of Working Women's Hostel in twin Capital Complex Itanagar and Naharlagun and in all district Headquarters. Under the Urban Development Dept. few projects has been completed but it's yet to be functional due to the lack of basic amenities like electricity and water. The State government should take necessary action for immediate function of the working women hostel, shopping complex and it should be provided with security guard and installation of security camera.

Similarly, Old age home with destitute women and children are yet to be completed.

- 22. Initiating action against police officials causing undue delay in investigation** and ban on transfer/posting of an investigation officer (I/Os) till completion of the charge sheet in a case.
- 23. For Victims of violence against women:** More rehabilitation schemes and economic packages needs to be initiated and funds at the discretion of women commission for disbursal after proper assessment.
- 24. Deployment of security for Arunachal Pradesh State Commission for Women's court premises:** The APSCW also functions as a quasi-judicial court because of which incidents of unwanted activities often take place. Therefore, security is required to maintain the decorum of the court.
- 25. Financial aid for research work:** The commission needs additional financial aid to undertake research works. Research work is a must for better understanding the problems and in resolving it.
- 26. Equal representation in sports quota:** The Sangey Laden Sports Academy presently selects one girl and two boys from each district of the state which is discriminatory towards female. The commission would request the state Government to make an equal representation of both the sexes.
- 27. Discretionary fund:** For dealing with various cases, including immediate dispersal/relief/ rehabilitation/ medical treatment etc. of victims of Domestic Violence, rape, murder etc., discretionary funds may be provided to the Commission (APSCW).
- 28. Cyber Crime:** Immediate action should be taken against the people who are involved. The awareness of this should be done across the state.

29. Creation of adequate Post:

- i) The APSCW have been functioning under acute shortage of manpower. Presently, there are only 3 regular staffs viz- 1 each of UDC, Driver & a Peon since its inception in the year 2005. Most of the staffs in the Commission presently are of contingency basis, many of who have been serving since 2005. Upon, increasing of population in the state, the cases of different natures too increases day by day, thereby, adequate manpower is urgently needed.
- ii) For creation of 11 posts of staff for the Commission, a file was moved from the Nodal Deptt. (WCD) long back, but is still waiting for the positive result from the Govt.
- iii) Considering the increasing workloads, the Commission, vehemently requests the state Govt. to take immediate action for approval of creation of proposed posts as referred above
- (iv) and place necessary fund provision accordingly in the budget 2020-21.

30. Enhancement of Grant-In-Aid to APSCW: The Commission vehemently requests the State Govt. For enhancement of Grant-In-Aid to APSCW to sum of Rs. **6.00 Crore (Rupees Six Crore) annually** for smooth functioning of the day to day programmes/activities of the Commission. As, due to increasing of various cases, such as – Domestic Violence, rape, Molestation, Murder, Harassment, Polygamy, Bigamy, Drug Addiction, Suicide, Child Marriage, Abduction etc. it is necessary to conduct Legal Awareness Programmes at various districts, circles and village levels to give legal knowledge/education and develop other of Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials including recurring and non-expenditure of the Commission office.

31. Enhancement of Monthly Salary: Presently, the constituent members of the Commissions i.e.-Chairperson, V/Chairperson & members are getting a monthly salary of Rs.40,000/-, Rs. 35,000/- and Rs. 30,000/- respectively which is very meager. **So, it is requested that the same may be enhanced at par with Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) and Arunachal Pradesh Public Service Commission (APPSC) i.e. Rs.100,000/-, Rs.90,000/- and Rs.80,000/- Chairperson, V/Chairperson and Members respectively.**