

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PUNJAB STATE WOMEN COMMISSION**  
**HELD AT CHANDIGARH ON THE 23<sup>rd</sup> of September, 2008**

List of Participants as per Annexure-1.

AGENDA POINT NO 1 : In view of the absence of the Chairperson and other non official members due to vacancies, the Meeting was chaired by Sh. Sarvesh Kaushal, IAS, Member Secretary, Punjab State Commission for Women.

AGENDA POINT NO 2: Proceedings of the previous meeting held on 23.08.2007 were confirmed.

AGENDA POINT NO 3: The Action Taken Report on the decision of the Commission taken 23.08.2007 was read out as follows:-

S.No.	Agenda Item	Decision Taken in the earlier meetings	ACTION TAKEN TILL 22TH SEPTEMBER, 2008	DECISION TAKEN / OBSERVATIONS MADE IN MEETING DATED 23.09.2008
1. 1.a	<p><b>Re-organisation / strengthening of PSWC on the lines of NCW :</b></p> <p>Constitution of the following Cells on the pattern of National Commission for Women (NCW)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>COMPLAINTS AND COUNSELING CELL</i> <i>Enquiry Committees</i> <i>Success Stories</i> <i>Statistical Overview of Complaints</i></li> <li>• <i>LEGAL CELL</i> <i>Legal Amendments Proposed</i></li> </ul>	<p>The proposal was approved in principle. It was decided to take the matter with the Government to set up four Cells in PSWC. Secretary Social Security pointed out to study the financial implications of the proposal.</p>	<p>Member Secretary have visited the office of National Commission for Women on 4.5.2007 and have discussions with M.S., N.C.W. regarding restructuring of the PSWC on the pattern of NCW. Thereafter, a detailed draft proposal for staff requirements for the constitution of different Cells in the PSWC on the pattern of NCW, New Delhi was prepared by the Member Secretary and was sent to the Secretary Social Security on 26.6.2007 and a reminder of same was sent on 03.07.2007.</p>	<p>The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, on the subject.</p>

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	<p><i>New Bills / Laws Proposed</i>  <i>Important Court Interventions</i>  <i>Legal Awareness Programmes</i>  <i>Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats ( PMLA )</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>RESEARCH AND STUDIES CELL</i>  <i>Seminars, Workshops and Conferences</i>  <i>Public Hearings</i>  <i>Special Studies</i>  <i>Expert Committees</i>  <i>Important Issues taken up by NCW</i></li> <li>• <i>PUBLIC RELATIONS CELL</i></li> </ul>		<p>The Government replied vide their letter addressed the Director , Social Security &amp; Women and Child Development vide memo no. 6/24/2007-6SS/34 dated 3.01.2008 that only three months of the financial year have been left, therefore the requisite proposal may be sent to the Government on a single file for approval of the Finance Department . The D.O. No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/289 dated 28-08.2008 and it was requested to get the posts on contract basis be sanctioned, the proposal of which was sent through D.O. letter dated 24.06.2007. The copy of the D.O. letter dated 28.08.2008 was also sent to the Director Social Security and Women &amp; Child Development for information and necessary action.</p>	
1.b	Commissioning of PSWC Website and outsourcing a webmaster through the Department of Information Technology	It was decided to commission the Website of the PSWC on the pattern of National Commission for Women (NCW).	<p>A D.O. letter dated 31.5.2007 was written by the Member Secretary to Director Information Technology, Punjab, to send a panel of service provides for launch of website of the Commission on the pattern of NCW, New Delhi.</p> <p>In this respect it is stated that the Website of the Punjab State Commission for Women has been launched and website address is <b><a href="http://www.punjabwomenscommission.gov.in">www.punjabwomenscommission.gov.in</a></b>.</p>	The website of the Commission has been made functional. The same has been noted by the members. The Commission was also informed that the contents of its website have been sent to Director Languages, Punjab, for translating them in Punjabi for making the website bilingual.

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1.c	<p>Online Complaint Registration : Proposed Complaints Registration System instructions</p> <p>The Complaints and Counseling Cell of the commission will processes all the complaints whether received orally, written or suo moto. In the NCW, the complaints received relate to domestic violence, harassment, dowry, torture, desertion, bigamy, rape, refusal to register FIR, cruelty by husband, deprivation, gender discrimination and sexual harassment at work place.</p> <p><i>The complaints are proposed to be dealt with as below :-</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Investigations by the police are expedited and monitored.</i></li> <li>• <i>The matters are brought to the notice of various state authorities to facilitate action.</i></li> <li>• <i>Family disputes are resolved or compromised through counseling.</i></li> <li>• <i>As per the 1997 Supreme Court Judgment on Sexual Harassment at Workplace, ( Vishakha Vs. State of Rajasthan ) every employer is required to provide for effective complaints procedures and remedies including award of compensation to women victims. In sexual harassment complaints, the concerned organisation is urged to expedite cases and the disposal is monitored.</i></li> </ul>	<p>The proposal was approved in principle by all the members.</p>	<p>A detailed proposal for staff requirements for the constitution of different Cells in the PSWC on the pattern of NCW, New Delhi was prepared by the Member Secretary and was sent to the Secretary Social Security on 26.6.2007 and a reminder of same was sent on 03.07.2007.</p> <p>The Government replied vide their letter addressed the Director , Social Security and Women &amp; Child Development vide memo no. 6/24/2007-6SS/34 dated 3.01.2008 that only three months of the financial year have been left, therefore, the requisite proposal may be sent to the Government on a single file for approval of the Finance Department . The D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/289 dated 28-08.2008 has been addressed to S.S.S. and asked the posts get to be sanctioned on contract basis, as the proposal already sent to the Government through D.O. letter dated 24.06.2007. The copy of the D.O. letter dated 28.08.2008 was also forwarded to the Director Social Security and Women &amp; Child Development for information and necessary action.</p>	<p>The website of the Commission has been made functional. The website has a provision for online complaints. The same has been noted by the members.</p>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For serious crimes, the Commission may constitute an Inquiry Committee which will make spot enquiries, examine witnesses, collect evidence and submit the report with recommendations. The implementation of the report shall be monitored by the Member Secretary and ATR will be placed before the PSWC.</li> </ul> <p>The Commission has powers to summon the accused, witnesses and records to facilitate inquiry.</p> <p>The Departments of the State, NGOs and other experts may be involved in these efforts.</p> <p><b><u>Cases falling under following categories will ordinarily not entertained by the Commission :-</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complaints illegible or vague, anonymous or pseudonymous; or</li> <li>• The Complaint relates to civil dispute between the parties such as contractual rights obligations and the like;</li> <li>• The Complaint relates to service matters not involving any deprivation of women's rights;</li> <li>• The Complaint relates to labour/industrial disputes not involving any deprivation of womens rights:</li> <li>• Matter is sub judice before a Court/Tribunal;</li> </ul>			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Commission shall not inquire into any matter which is pending before a State Commission or any other Commission duly constituted under any law for the time being in force.</i></li> <li>• <i>Matter already decided by the Commission</i></li> </ul>			
1.d	<p>Appointment of official functionaries at senior levels</p> <p><i>Member-Secretary (IAS 1972 batch in NCW)</i>  <i>Joint-Secretary (IAS 1982 batch in NCW)</i>  <i>Deputy-Secretary (IPS 1993 batch in NCW)</i>  <i>Incharge Legal Cell</i>  <i>Incharge Complaints Cell</i>  <i>Incharge Research Cell</i>  <i>Incharge Public Relations Cell</i></p>	<p>Administrative work will increase when the new cells will be functional. It was decided that there should be atleast one post of Dy. Secy. in the Commission. One retired officer should be appointed for official work.</p>	<p>A detailed proposal for staff requirements for the constitution of different Cells in the PSWC on the pattern of NCW, New Delhi was prepared by the Member Secretary and was sent to the Secretary Social Security on 26.6.2007 and a reminder of same was sent on 03.07.2007.</p> <p>The Government replied vide their letter addressed the Director , Social Security &amp; Women and Child Development vide memo no. 6/24/2007-6SS/34 dated 3.01.2008 that only three months of the financial year have been left, therefore the requisite proposal may be sent to the Government on a single file for approval of the Finance Department . The D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/289 dated 28-08.2008 has been addressed to S.S.S. and asked the posts get to be sanctioned on contract basis, as the proposal already sent to the Government</p>	<p>The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, on the subject.</p>

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			through D.O. letter dated 24.06.2007. The copy of the D.O. letter dated 28.08.2008 was also forwarded to the Director Social Security and Women & Child Development for information and necessary action.	
1.e	Providing ACCESS to old, infirm and temporarily restricted (such as in case of pregnancy etc) to the PSWC office at Chandigarh by re-locating it either on Ground Floor / in a building having an elevator facility	It was decided to relocate the office of PSWC at some other convenient women friendly place. In principle this need is experience. Detailed proposal is to be sent to Government.	<p>Advertisements were given in various local newspapers for hiring of office building for PSWC. Tenders were received in this regard. A proposal has been made in this regard and has been sent to Secretary Social Security, on 18.6.2007 through Single File System for taking final decision in the matter. Some clarifications were sought by the Govt. on that. The clarifications were answered in the communication sent to the S.S.S., Punjab on 10.7.2007. Final decision in matter is still awaited. A request received from the owner of the present office building for extension of existing lease was forwarded to the Government for taking a considered decision on the merit of the whole case.</p> <p>The Government have accorded their sanction for continuation of the previous building vide memo No. 5/26/98-6SS(PF)/1033 dated 26.03.08 addressed the Director , Social Security &amp; Women and Child Development with the copy to</p>	The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, on the subject.

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			the Chairperson, Punjab State Commission for Women.	
1.f	<p>Constituting a Legal Cell under a retired Judicial Officer / Retired Officer of L.R. Office or any other retired Officer of Punjab Government / PSU with a law degree and strong legal background and experience for discharging the following functions:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To Investigate and examine all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws;</i></li> <li>• <i>Present to the State Government / NCW, annually and at such other times as the Commission may deem fit, reports upon the working of those safeguards;</i></li> <li>• <i>Make in such reports recommendations for the effective implementation of those safeguards for improving the conditions of women of the state;</i></li> <li>• <i>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 legislation;</i></li> <li>• <i>Take up the cases of violation of the provision of the Constitution and of other laws relating to women with appropriate authorities;</i></li> <li>• <i>To review the constitutional and legal</i></li> </ul>	The proposal was accepted in principle.	<p>A detailed proposal for staff requirements for the constitution of different Cells in the PSWC on the pattern of NCW, New Delhi was prepared by the Member Secretary and was sent to the Secretary Social Security on 26.6.2007 and a reminder of same was sent on 03.07.2007.</p> <p>The Government replied vide their letter addressed the Director , Social Security &amp; Women and Child Development vide memo no. 6/24/2007-6SS/34 dated 3.01.2008 that only three months of the financial year have been left, therefore the requisite proposal may be sent to the Government on a single file for approval of the Finance Department . The D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/289 dated 28-08.2008 has been addressed to S.S.S. and asked the posts get to be sanctioned on contract basis, as the proposal already sent to the Government through D.O. letter dated 24.06.2007. The copy of the D.O. letter dated 28.08.2008 was also forwarded to the Director Social Security and Women &amp; Child Development for information and necessary action.</p>	The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, on the subject.

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	<p><i>safeguards provided for women, recommend remedial legislative measures, felicitate redressal of grievances and advice the Government on all policy matters affecting women.</i></p>			
1.g	<p>Constitution of a Research &amp; Studies Cell with the following functions to discharge:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>To deal with issues related with socio economic conditions of women in the country and calls for special studies or investigations into specific problems or situations arising out of discrimination against women and undertakes promotional and educational research so as to suggest ways of ensuring due representation to women in all spheres.</i></li> <li>• <i>Social mobilization, maintenance and divorcee women, Panchayati Raj in action, women labour-under contract, gender bias in judicial decisions, family courts, gender-component in the various Commissions' reports for women, violence against women, women's access to health and education in slums etc. to help in formulation of PSWC's policies for recommendations.</i></li> <li>• <i>The Cell will evaluate the progress of the development of women for which clear gender profile for different states is being prepared.</i></li> <li>• <i>This Cell will also conduct seminars and workshops in collaboration with central/ state</i></li> </ul>	<p>The proposal was accepted in principle</p>	<p>A detailed proposal for staff requirements for the constitution of different Cells in the PSWC on the pattern of NCW, New Delhi was prepared by the Member Secretary and was sent to the Secretary Social Security on 26.6.2007 and a reminder of same was sent on 03.07.2007.</p> <p>The Government replied vide their letter addressed the Director , Social Security &amp; Women and Child Development vide memo no. 6/24/2007-6SS/34 dated 3.01.2008 that only three months of the financial year have been left, therefore the requisite proposal may be sent to the Government on a single file for approval of the Finance Department . The D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/289 dated 28-08.2008 has been addressed to S.S.S. and asked the posts get to be sanctioned on contract basis, as the proposal already sent to the Government through D.O. letter dated 24.06.2007. The copy of the D.O. letter dated 28.08.2008 was also forwarded to the Director Social</p>	<p>The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, on the subject.</p>

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	<i>government/ NCW/ NGOs and others for understanding the various problem areas in the field and to suggest action plan/ remedial measures to resolve these problems.</i>		Security and Women & Child Development for information and necessary action.	
1.h	<p>Constitution of Public Relations Cell to discharge the following functions:</p> <p><i>The Punjab State Women Commission is committed to the protection of the rights of women in the State and to their welfare and development. To attain these aims, the Commission will organize statewide campaigns, workshops and consultations. The PR Cell will throw light on the activities under taken by the Commission to fulfill its mandate to participate, advice on the planning process of socio-economic development of women and evaluate the progress and development of women under the Union and the State Government.</i></p>	The proposal was accepted in principle	<p>A detailed proposal for staff requirements for the constitution of different Cells in the PSWC on the pattern of NCW, New Delhi was prepared by the Member Secretary and was sent to the Secretary Social Security on 26.6.2007 and a reminder of same was sent on 03.07.2007.</p> <p>The Government replied vide their letter addressed the Director , Social Security &amp; Women and Child Development vide memo no. 6/24/2007-6SS/34 dated 3.01.2008 that only three months of the financial year have been left, therefore the requisite proposal may be sent to the Government on a single file for approval of the Finance Department . The D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/289 dated 28-08.2008 has been addressed to S.S.S. and asked the posts get to be sanctioned on contract basis, as the proposal already sent to the Government through D.O. letter dated 24.06.2007. The copy of the D.O. letter dated 28.08.2008</p>	The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, on the subject.

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			was also forwarded to the Director Social Security and Women & Child Development for information and necessary action.	
1.i	Constitution of PSWC Resource Centre, Library; and bringing out PSWC quarterly magazine to reach out to the women of the State.	The proposal was accepted in principle.	The proposal is being sent to Govt. to provide additional funds for the purpose.	The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab and Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of Finance, on the subject.
2.	<p>To adopt of the PSWC Strategy for 2007-08 :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Economic Empowerment</b> through building up skills and securing access to gainful employment.</li> <li>• <b>Political Empowerment</b> through awareness, training and mobilization for equitable representation in all fora.</li> <li>• <b>Prevention of violence and discrimination</b></li> </ul>	The proposal was accepted in principle.	For information and record.	The Commission resolves that the strategy adopted in the year 2007-08 should be taken up during the year 2008-09.

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	<p><b>against women</b> inside and outside the home through legal reform and sensitive enforcement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Amelioration of conditions of disadvantaged women</b> namely : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Physically challenged women including those who are visually disabled or mentally affected.</li> <li>ii. Socially challenged women, SC/ST women, widows and prostitutes.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>Prevention of indecent representation of women</b> in the media through legal and social sanctions.</li> </ul>																													
3.	<p><b>Preparation of State Helpline on the pattern of the following National Women Commission Helpline :-</b></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%;">Help Available on</td> <td style="width: 30%; text-align: right;">Contact</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Information and Services related with <b>AIDS</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;">1097</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Child Line</b> - Counselling for Children in Distress – Organised by Salam Balak Trust, Delhi Brotherhood Society, Prayaas and Don Bosco, Butterfly</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1098</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CATS - Centralised Ambulance for <b>Trauma Services</b> – Delhi Govt.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1099</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Psychiatric Problem</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9392345</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Counselling Services on <b>Women in Distress</b> – Organised by Delhi Police</td> <td style="text-align: right;">3317004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sarthak - Career Guidance and Counselling for <b>young People</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;">9628019279</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>AIDS</b> Helpline –AIIMS</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6852785</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Helpline on <b>Breathing Problems</b> - Organised by</td> <td style="text-align: right;">9628015969</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9632154536</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Better Breathers Club of India</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hotline for <b>Brain Attack</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;">5792090, 5794733</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Agewell Foundation - Counselling Services for</td> <td style="text-align: right;">6836486, 6910484</td> </tr> </table>	Help Available on	Contact	Information and Services related with <b>AIDS</b>	1097	<b>Child Line</b> - Counselling for Children in Distress – Organised by Salam Balak Trust, Delhi Brotherhood Society, Prayaas and Don Bosco, Butterfly	1098	CATS - Centralised Ambulance for <b>Trauma Services</b> – Delhi Govt.	1099	Psychiatric Problem	9392345	Counselling Services on <b>Women in Distress</b> – Organised by Delhi Police	3317004	Sarthak - Career Guidance and Counselling for <b>young People</b>	9628019279	<b>AIDS</b> Helpline –AIIMS	6852785	Helpline on <b>Breathing Problems</b> - Organised by	9628015969	9632154536		Better Breathers Club of India		Hotline for <b>Brain Attack</b>	5792090, 5794733	Agewell Foundation - Counselling Services for	6836486, 6910484	It was decided that MS-PSWC, should discuss the matter with the Secretary Social Security, Punjab.	Action under progress. Delay in the matter due to non-provision of adequate and appropriate staff. Staffing proposal has already sent to the Government. It was decided by the Commission in its meeting held on 23.08.2007 that the Director, Department of Social Security will provide important helpline numbers of all districts in the State Hqrs to the Commission before its next meeting. D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/283 dated 24.09.2007 and No. PA/MS-PSWC/354 dated 21.11.2007 were addressed to the Director, Social Security and Women & Child Development and it	It has been resolved that the Director , Social Security and Women & Child Development should provide the information regarding other Women Helpline Numbers at the earliest.
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	<p><b>Senior Citize</b> Safe Blood and Health India - For <b>Blood Donation</b> 9628005982 9632161992 Tarshi - Counselling Services on <b>Reproductive Issues</b> Navjyoti <b>Addiction</b> Helpline 7510490 Sharan <b>Drug Drop</b> Helpline Centre 2964637</p>		<p>was requested to provide the Important Helpline Telephone Numbers relevant to the welfare of the women in all Districts, as well as in the State Headquarters but requisite information is still awaited. It is, however, stated that the office of Director, Social Security and Women &amp; Child Development has addressed a letter to the Director, General of Police Punjab vide memo No. JJA-2(SS)07/38574 dated 14.12.07 to send all the Helpline Numbers at District level as well as State Level, with copy endorsed to the Member Secretary, Punjab State Commission for Women. It is stated that the requisite information is still awaited.</p>	
4.	<p>Preparation and release of Statistical Report regarding complaints, break-up with regard to various categories, Action Taken Report and final disposal.</p>	<p>It was decided that this work should be done through outsourcing in a phased manner.</p>	<p>Action under progress. Delay in the matter due to non-provision of adequate and appropriate staff. Staffing proposal has already sent to the Government. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that a reference should be sent to the Secretary Social Security for outsourcing the project at the earliest. D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/13 dated 15.01.2008 was addressed to the Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Home Affairs and Justice and it was requested to supply the</p>	

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			required Statistical Data relating to Crime against women in the prescribed format for being placed before the Commission in its next meeting. D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/166 dated 23.04.2008 with reference to earlier D.O. letter dated 15.01.2008 addressed to the Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Home Affairs and Justice, but the reply is still awaited.	
5.	Preparation of Annual Reports of the Punjab State Women Commission.	It was decided to put up upto date Annual Reports of the Commission within 60 days to the Government.	<p>M.S. has deputed the Superintendent, PSWC to collect all the information and submit reports. Action under progress.</p> <p>It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the Director Social Security will provide a certificate to the Commission that all the Annual Reports and other relevant material required for the purpose has already been received by the Directorate / Government for further necessary action.</p> <p>D.O. letter No PA/MS-PSWC/284 dated 24.09.2007 was addressed to the Director, Social Security and Women &amp; Child Development and it was requested to send the certificate that all Annual Reports in other relevant material required for the purpose, till 2006-07. D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/279 dated</p>	Director Social Security should send the Commission a status report about the Annual Administrative Reports of the Commission till date.

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			27.08.2008 was also addressed to the Director, Social Security and Women & Child Development and it was requested to inform as to whether all Annual Reports since the inception of the Commission have been placed before the Punjab Vidhan Sabha as prescribed or not. The information is still awaited.	
6.	<b>To review of the implementation of decisions taken in the earlier meetings of PSWC.</b>	It was decided to constitute a Committee amongst the members of the PSWC for this purpose.	The Committee could not be constituted due to relinquishment of charge by the Chairperson. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that all the previous proceedings should be compiled and bound in the shape of a book and placed before the Commission in its next meeting for constituting a Committee to review the implementation of its earlier decisions.	Due to vacancies, this item was deferred.
7.	<b>To authorize the Member Secretary, PSWC to communicate with the Government and its functionaries regarding the budgetary proposals as well as requirements of posts and other administrative matters on behalf of PSWC.</b>	The proposal was accepted in principle.	M.S. has written a letter on 10.05.2007 to Secretary Social Security and Director Social Security, Punjab, to revise the requirement of funds for the year 2007-08. A letter has been written by M.S. on 31.5.2007 to S.S.S. and D.S.S. for introduction of Grant System in the Commission. A proposal regarding Need for women's empowerment through Gender Budgeting in Financial Year 2007-08 was sent to	The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, to expedite the clearance of pending issues.

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			<p>P.S.F., Secy. Planning &amp; S.S.S. on 31.5.2007</p> <p>D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/07/348 dated 20.11.2007 was addressed to the S.S.S. and it was requested to send the Action Taken Report by 30.11.2007 for its consideration in the next meeting of the PSWC, which is still awaited.</p> <p>It is stated that D.O. letter No. PA/MS/PSWC/08/283 dated 27.08.2008 was addressed to the S.S.S. and it was requested to take up the matter of GENDER BUDGETING with the Planning and Finance Departments at the earliest, so that it can be adopted in Punjab with effect from FY 2008-09 and copy of the same was also sent to the D.S.S. vide endst. No. PA/MS/PSWC/08/284 dated 27.08.2008.</p>	
8.	To provide one computer including printer to every Member of the Commission, besides two computers with printers to the officials of the Commission.	The proposal should be sent to the Government for funds.	<p>The proposal was sent to the S.S.S., Punjab and Director S.S. vide communication dated 10.5.2007.</p> <p>It is stated that the matter was taken up with the Government during the year 2007-08, but the required Budget Provision was not made. Now again the efforts are being made to procure the requisite number of computers with Printers.</p>	The Commission resolves that the Member Secretary should address a demi-official communication to the Chief Secretary, Punjab, on the subject to instruct the Finance and Social Security Departments to provide necessary funds for the purpose.

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9.	To plan for provision of Shelters/Protection Homes for destitute women at District and Sub-Divisional Hqrs.		The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	It has been resolved that Member Secretary has to take up the matter with the Director, Social Security and Women & Child Development to start this project in all the twenty districts of Punjab and ascertain the present status of the projects in pipeline.
10.	To plan for provision of free legal aid to destitute and other deserving women.		The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	It has been resolved that Member Secretary, Punjab State Commission for Women should have a meeting with the Member Secretary, Punjab Legal Services Authority to find out how this authority can be used for providing free legal aid to the destitute and other deserving women.
11.	To review district-wise adverse sex ratio and efforts on the part of government authorities to prevent female feticide.	The proposal was accepted. For this purpose, it was decided to have the meetings of the PSWC in different districts.	The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	
12.	To take up appointment of Nodal offices and Committees for Government officers and private sector establishments for prevention of sexual harassment at workplace.	Details in this regard are to be provided by the Department of Social Security. The	M.S. has written a D.O. letter in April 2007 to All Deputy Commissioners in the State informing them about the guidelines evolved by the NCW, New Delhi for Call	It has been resolved that the Director, Social Security and Women & Child Development should submit a report regarding

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		<p>information regarding these Committees should be properly displayed at workplaces.</p>	<p>Centres and BPOs for ensuring safety of working women. All Deputy Commissioners were asked to convene a meeting of district officers with the Call Centres and BPO representatives to ensure adherence to the safety measures for working women.</p> <p>It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the Director Social Security will write to all Departments and obtain specific details of the Committee members for prevention of sexual harassment at work place, along with details of complaints received, inquired held and disposed of. The names, official address as well as telephone numbers of the members should be ascertained.</p> <p>D.O. letters No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/302-20 dated 29.08.2008 have been addressed to all the Deputy Commissioners in the Punjab State except District Hoshiarpur with reference to this office D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/07/34-53 dated 17.04.2007 and it has been requested to apprise this office of the action taken by them on this matter. The copy of this D.O. letter dated 29.08.08 has also been endorsed vide No. PA/MS-PSWC/08/321 dated 29.08.2008 to the</p>	<p>present status in the matter.</p>

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			Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Information Technology for information and necessary action.	
13.	To review and monitor complaints received regarding sexual harassment by different Sexual Harassment Committees.		Report to be submitted by Director, Social Security, Punjab.	It has been resolved that the Director, Social Security and Women & Child Development should submit a report regarding present status in the matter.
14.	To review district wise female literacy and steps to Improve female literacy.		The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	It has been resolved that Member Secretary should fix a meeting with the Secretary, School Education for further action in the matter.
15.	To monitoring female drop-out rate from schools and colleges and remedial measures.	PSWC is to interact with the School Education Department regarding this matter.	The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	It has been resolved that Member Secretary should fix a meeting with the Secretary, School Education for further action in the matter.
16.	To chalk out training modules on Gender Sensitization for different target groups for 2007-2008.	It was decided to have training programmes at Amritsar, Patiala, Jalandhar, Ludhiana, Bathinda and Chandigarh. Funds for these programmes be provided by the Government.	The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	It has been resolved that Member Secretary should have a meeting with, PS Home and IGP Training regarding training modules on Gender Sensitization.
17.	To approve an action plan for inspection of police stations, lock-ups, sub-jails, rescue homes or other places of custody	It was decided to inspect the police-stations, lock-	M.S. has written a D.O. letter No. PA/MS-PSWC/07/226-245, dated 17.7.2007 to all	It has been resolved that Member Secretary will carry out

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	where women are kept to find out the facilities and treatment provided to women and seek remedial action from the appropriate authorities;	ups, sub-jails etc. by the members of the PSWC and to check the facilities.	Deputy Commissioners in the State, P.S. Home and D.G.P. Prisons, Punjab, to convene a meeting of the officers concerning jails, juvenile homes, destitute homes and other such institutions to carry out a proper assessment of the infrastructure and manpower requirements for ensuring proper boarding, lodging, healthcare, hygiene and security of women in these institutions. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that M.S. should undertake random tours to these establishments and submit reports to the Commission.	random checking of various places and report to the Commission.
18.	To publish advertisements for disseminating information regarding the objectives of the Commission, procedures and other relevant matters.	It was decided to send a proposal to the Secretary Social Security for publication of a booklet containing the information regarding the objectives of the Commission and other relevant information.	The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	It was decided in the meeting Member Secretary should write to the Chief Secretary to provide funds for the purpose.
19.	To set up Expert Committees for intensive study of women specific problem areas.	It was decided in principle to authorize Chairperson, PSWC to construct such Committees.	The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	The Commission authorized the Member Secretary to constitute the Committee.
20.	To establish effective coordination with National	It was decided that	M.S. visited the office of NCW, New Delhi	Noted

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	Commission for Women, Punjab Human Rights Commission and other Commissions at the State level.	Chairperson and M.S., PSWC should have interaction with the National Commission for Women and other important commissions so that the activities of the Commission should be brought to their notice.	on 4.5.2007 to have discussions with the Commission on various issues. The activities of the PSWC were brought to the notice of M.S., NCW, New Delhi. Copies of all important decisions taken at PSWC are endorsed to NCW, New Delhi.	
21.	To identify and approve the issues for conducting public interest litigation on behalf of groups of women in general, and in an individual case of a woman, who suffer from injustice or discrimination; and provide legal aid and rehabilitation in deserving cases;		The matter is being processed. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited.	It was decided in the meeting Member Secretary should establish contact with NGOs for the purpose.
22.	To consider the test The Kerala Women's Commission Act 1990/95 for its comparative study with The Punjab State Commission for Women Act, 2001.	It was decided to have a Committee of Chairperson and M.S., PSWC for this purpose. The Committee will give its views in the matter which should be put up in the meeting of the PSWC for consideration.	M.S. has written a D.O. letter on 14.5.2007 to all the State Commissions for Women in India requesting them to supply a copy of Statutory Rules framed by them for guiding working / procedure with regard to their State Commission for Women. Various State Commissions have sent their rules, which are under consideration of the Committee. It was decided in the meeting dated 23.08.2007 that the matter be expedited. It is stated that the matter is being expedited in this respect.	It was resolved to keep this matter pending till some Chairperson/ Women Member is appointed in the Commission.

AGENDA POINT 4 : The Commission considered and closed the already settled cases as per ANNEXURE II

-MISCELLANEOUS : Leave intimations and official tours of the Member Secretary were noted and placed on record.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to Chair.

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**Attendance sheet of persons attending the meeting of the Punjab State Commission for Women held on 23.09.2008 at 11.30 a.m.**

The following persons attended the meeting :-

1. Mr. Sarvesh Kaushal, IAS, Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, Member Secretary, Punjab State Commission for Women.
2. Sh. R.P.S. Brar, IPS, Deputy Inspector of Police, Investigation/Crime Branch, Punjab Police Headquarters, Chandigarh: Representative of DGP, Punjab.
3. Sh. Rajnish Kumar, Deputy Director: Representative of Director, Social Security and Women & Child Development.

Note : The posts of Chairperson and all non-official members of the Commission are VACANT.