

CONSCIOUS CITIZEN FORUM

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28th August 2013

Date:

To Hon'ble Home Minister Maharashtra State Mantralaya, Mumbai - 400 021.

> Sub: Request for providing special Mahila Cell in each and every District Police HQ in order to give priority to women visitors to minimize their grievances.

Respected Sir.

In light of present situation of unrest amongst the women due to series of rape cases occurred in Mumbai as well as in Maharashtra, following suggestions to uplift the down trodden women are produced below for your kind attention and sympathetic consideration.

In the Police head quarters and Commissionrates of high rank police officers we see there is a board displayed like - Time to Meet member of public : 3 to 5 pm.

When we work at ground level we receive complaints of denial to common people especially poor women to see the Chief officer of head quarters / Commissioner. For example one lady who desire to see respected Police Commissioner Navi Mumbai and she had to detain for 3 days. She did not get an opportunity to see the respected Police Commissioner. The staff of Commissionrate of Police Navi Mumbai did not respond the said women in a positive spirit and did not inform respected Police commissioner Navi Mumbai about her frequent visits to Comissionrate. She visited thrice time during a span of continuous 3 days together with her But she was denied the meeting with the Police Commissioner. At last she approached to NGO on 27th August 2013 and when an appointment taken by the NGO office, she could meet respected Police Commissioner Navi Mumbai. In fact the present Police Commissioner Navi Mumbai is very good person, sensitive officer who keep respect of women and being an ideal police officer having spirit of moral responsibility, he attended the said women. But in other places women complainant has to pay several visits for appointment and meeting with higher rank police officers.

This example is enough to have an experience of apathy towards women visitors. This example is enough to show what is happening at the ground level of Society. The rules and regulation being constituted in the Vidhan Sabha and upper house of democracy are getting huge publicity in News papers which cause to create hopes for women welfare are increased in Society. Ruling party get popularity by passing new law provisions for women welfare and to safeguard women, but when any needy women approach to any of the police head quarters/police stations, she never get any respect, she is being treated as a common man and she has to pay several visits to head quarter / police stations for justice.

- In order to sort out solution for this attitude of women apathy, it is suggested to please constitute Women Cell or Mahila Kaksha by appointing a lady police officer as a incharge of this Women Cell in each and every District police head quarter as well as in important police station situated at District place.
- The Time fixed for attending member of public should be split for the sake of women visitors. For example, if the time to attend public displayed at head quarter of Police as 3 to 5, during this time first half an hour be kept reserved exclusively for women visitors. One lady Police Officer be deputed to take entry of women visitor who should give Visiting Slip to women visitor and women visitor be allowed to meet High rank police officer on priority basis, without any administrative obstacle.
- 4. Separate Register of Women visitors may please be maintained at each and every police station and the maintenance of this Special Mahila Visitor Register be entrusted upon to any of a Lady Police Officer. When the higher rank officers like CP, DCP, ACP pay periodical visit to any of the Police Station for inspection purpose, he should first check the Special Mahila Visitor Register and take regular review of grievances written in that register by the lady complainant. This practice will develop rays of hope in the mind of women population in Maharashtra. Thus, the principle of LADIES FIRST must be implemented practically by the Police.
- 5. Home Ministry should give special instructions to all District Head quarters of Police to give priority to Women visitors and their grievance should be attended to on priority basis. The DG Maharashtra should issue similar type of instructions to all Police Stations to attend women visitors on priority basis and DG shall apprise the incharge of police station that if any complaint of neglect ting any women complainant/ women visitor ever receive to D.G. office, an adverse entry by putting remark of women apathy must have to be taken in the Confidential Report of that particular Senior Inspector / in charge of Police Station.
- 6. Women visitor who come with some grievance to the Police head quarters should be provided with a Confirmation Slip. A specimen proforma of Confirmation slip is prepared and produced for your kind perusal as follows:

CONFIRMATION SLIP FOR WOMEN VISITOR

Name & address of the women visitor

Stamp of Acknowledgement with date and signature

Nature of grievance

Grievance pertains to which Police Station with the name of Office incharge

Details of instruction issued to in-charge of concerned Police Station to take Time bound action to redress the grievance of said women visitor

- 7. When a Women visitor lodge a complaint in police station, police station should intimate progress of her case periodically by e mail, by post and by telephone without fail. In no circumstance a women visitor be constraint to pay several rounds/ frequent visits to Police head quarters or Police station for redressal of her grievance. Special instructions to each and every police station be issued to that effect.
- 8. Review Register of Women Complaint be maintained in Police station in which periodical progress to redress the grievance of women complainant be written by the Incharge of Police Station. This register be perused by the office of the D.G. every month. This will cause to create spirit of responsibility in the mind of Sr. Inspector/ office in charge of police station towards importance of time bound redressal of women grievances.
- 8. New amendments and new rules for welfare of women are appearing in the News papers every day, but the attitude of neglecting women complainants is not being changed at ground level of Police. We are aware that every thing is not possible through law and directions. Change in thoughts about women, change of mind with proper counseling is also required. In fact the Police officers may please be imparted special Counseling on women issue. Special camps be organized on district level for brain washing of police officers to leave aside the old orthodox attitude about women apathy and efforts be taken to plant a new cultural thought in their mind i.e. PAY RESPECT TO WOMEN. If police at ground level start to pay respect to women, ratio of crime titled as abusing women shall come down to the extent of 50 % positively.

Thanking you,

Yours Sincerely,

(K. Kumar)

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