

BONGAON DISTRICT MEETING

Date: 27.02.2021

Time: 11am-3pm

Reporting & Edited by: Venkatesh Kodukula



Women Rights, Domestic Violence Act 2005, Child Marriage & Human Trafficking

Schedule for Meeting

Time	Session	Speaker
11:00- 11:05	Introduction of HRLN	Aparajita Bose, Social Activist HRLN
11:05-11:20	Violence against women, Women Rights	Sandipan Das, Advocate, HRLN
11:20-12:15	Domestic Violence Act 2005, Child Marriage, Human Trafficking	Ankan Biswas, Advocate, HRLN
12:15-12:45	Women Justice Issues	Ajoy Majumder , Activist
12:45-01:15	Discussion with victims	Dipanjoy Dutta, Advocate, HRLN
01:15-01:45	Lunch Break	
01:45-03:00	Interactive Session	Advocates, HRLN

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Sl. No	Particulars	Page Number
1.	Introduction	4
2.	Speakers	5-7
3.	Interactive Session	12
4.	Recommendation & Action Plan	13
5.	Annexure A - Participants List	14-15
6.	Annexure B - Pictures	16-19

INTRODUCTION

Attaining equality between women and men and eliminating all forms of discrimination against women are fundamental human rights and United Nations values. Women around the world nevertheless regularly suffer violations of their human rights throughout their lives, and realizing women's human rights has not always been a priority. Achieving equality between women and men requires a comprehensive understanding of the ways in which women experience discrimination and are denied equality so as to develop appropriate strategies to eliminate such discrimination.

Every day, in every country in the world, women are confronted by discrimination and inequality. They face violence, abuse and unequal treatment at home, at work and in their wider communities – and are denied opportunities to learn, to earn and to lead. They have fewer resources, less power and less influence compared to men, and can experience further inequality because of their class, ethnicity and age, as well as religious and other fundamentalism.

Domestic violence (also named domestic abuse or family violence) is violence or other abuse in a domestic setting, such as in marriage or cohabitation. *Domestic violence* is often used as a synonym for *intimate partner violence*, which is committed by one of the people in an intimate relationship against the other person, and can take place in heterosexual or same-sex relationships, or between former spouses or partners. In its broadest sense, domestic violence also involves violence against children, teenagers, parents, or the elderly.

Child marriage refers to any formal marriage or informal union between a child under the age of 18 and an adult or another child. While the prevalence of child marriage has decreased worldwide – from one in four girls married a decade ago to approximately one in five today – the practice remains widespread. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, more than 100 million girls were expected to marry before their eighteenth birthday in the next decade. Now, up to 10 million more girls will be at risk of becoming child brides as a result of the pandemic.

Human trafficking involves the use of force, fraud, or coercion to obtain some type of labour or commercial sex act. Every year, millions of men, women, and children are trafficked worldwide – including right here in the United States. It can happen in any community and victims can be any age, race, gender, or nationality. Traffickers might use violence, manipulation, or false promises of well-paying jobs or romantic relationships to lure victims into trafficking situations.

SPEAKERS SESSION

Aparajita Bose of HRLN stated a brief description of the work undertaken by HRLN for providing free legal aid to those who do not have access to or are deprived of assistance.

SPEAKER 1: SANDIPAN DAS

The speaker discussed about the violence against women— particularly intimate partner violence and sexual violence – is a major public health problem and a violation of women's human rights. He mentioned that the estimates published by WHO indicate that globally about 1 in 3 (30%) of women worldwide have been subjected to either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime. Most of this violence is intimate partner violence. Worldwide, almost one third (27%) of women aged 15-49 years who have been in a relationship report that they have been subjected to some form of physical and/or sexual violence by their intimate partner. Violence can negatively affect women's physical, mental, sexual, and reproductive health, and may increase the risk of acquiring HIV in some settings. Violence against women is preventable. The health sector has an important role to play to provide comprehensive health care to women subjected to violence, and as an entry point for referring women to other support services they may need.

The speaker further stated the principle of gender equality is enshrined in the Indian Constitution in its Preamble, Fundamental Rights, Fundamental Duties and Directive Principles. The Constitution not only grants equality to women, but also empowers the State to adopt measures of positive discrimination in favour of women. These include the right to live free from violence and discrimination; to enjoy the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health; to be educated; to own property; to vote; and to earn an equal wage. India has also ratified various international conventions and human rights instruments committing to secure equal rights of women. Key among them is the ratification of the Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) in 1993.

SPEAKER 2: ANKAN BISWAS

The speaker discussed about Domestic Violence Act 2005, Child Marriage and Human Trafficking. He mentioned Child marriage is rooted in gender inequality and the belief that girls and women are inferior to boys and men. It is made worse by poverty, lack of education, harmful social norms and practices, and insecurity. Its drivers vary between communities and it looks different across the world. Child marriage looks different from one community to the next. There is no single solution, actor or sector to end it; we must all work together. Solutions must be local, contextual and integrated. Child marriage or marriage without the free and full consent of both spouses is a human rights violation. Progressive legal frameworks are one element of the comprehensive response needed to successfully address child marriage.

The speaker further mentioned Human trafficking in India, although illegal under Indian law, remains a significant problem. People are frequently illegally trafficked through India for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced/bonded labour. Women and girls are trafficked within the country for the purposes of commercial sexual exploitation and forced marriage, especially in those areas where the sex ratio is highly skewed in favour of men. Men and boys are trafficked for the purposes of labour and may be sexually exploited by traffickers to serve as gigolos, massage experts, escorts, etc. A significant portion of children are subjected to forced labour as factory workers, domestic servants, beggars, and agriculture workers, and have been used as armed combatants by some terrorist and insurgent groups. Human trafficking in India results in women suffering from both mental and physical issues. Mental issues include disorders such as PTSD, depression and anxiety. The lack of control women have in trafficking increases their risk of suffering from mental disorders. Women who are forced into trafficking are at a higher risk for HIV, TB, and other STDs. Condoms are rarely used and therefore there is a higher risk for victims to suffer from an STD.

He further discussed about the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted to protect women from domestic violence. It was brought into force by the Indian government and Ministry of Women and Child Development on 26 October 2006. The Act provides a definition of "domestic violence" for the first time in Indian law, with this definition being broad and including not only physical violence, but also other forms of violence such as emotional/verbal, sexual, and economic abuse. It is a civil law meant primarily for protection orders, rather than criminal enforcement.

SPEAKER 3: AJOY MAJUMDER

The speaker discussed about the justice for women goes **beyond claiming individual rights**. It is more encompassing, including women's full participation in shaping systems and in creating social change to address global challenges. Women victims of violence experience various difficulties and barriers in accessing justice. The recognition of women's rights and a rights claim approach has been one of the forerunners of the feminist movement. The rights claims energized the women's movement and started the conversation. Women's rights have been necessary for the political development of women, particularly because they combat the privatization of women's oppression. However, rights, although vigorously fought for, cannot perform the task of social reconstruction. . Gender gap exists regarding access to education and employment. Rural women are more prone to domestic violence than that of urban women. A large gender gap exists in political participation too. The study concludes by an observation that access to education and employment are only the enabling factors to empowerment, achievement towards the goal, however, depends largely on the attitude of the people towards gender equality.

INTERACTIVE SESSION

Dipanjoy Dutta, Advocate, HRLN spoke with the victims enquiring about their problems followed by an interactive session with the participants. In this interactive session, the participants raised various questions which were answered by the advocates of HRLN. cleared doubts

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION PLAN

More Awareness Meetings regarding Women Rights, Child Marriage, Human Trafficking,, Domestic Violence issues is required in the future.

HRLN District lawyer will look up to the cases regarding the same and take necessary action.

Annexure A

HRLN
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW NETWORK

Venue -
Date -

SL NO	NAME	MOBILE NO	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL-ID	SIGNATURE
21.	Sathi Dasgupta	9382714504	UNA/NETAJ	-	Sathi Biswas
22.	Pritya Sankar	8944811836	"	-	Pritya Sankar
23.	UTTIWA Aditya	6295921583	"	-	Uttal Aditya
24.	Jayanta Sankar	9597125905	"	-	Jayanta Sankar
25.	Rajdeep Roy	8945959911	"	-	Rajdeep Roy
26.	Bipanjay Dutta	9883387744	HRLN	-	Bipanjay Dutta
27.	Biplab Mandal	9584904088	UNA/NETAJ	-	Biplab Mandal
28.	Shamir Ghoshal	9126446812	Nirvaya	-	Shamir Ghoshal
29.	SANJIT KR. DAS	9933113495	NIRVAYA	sanjitmayer@yahoo.co.in	Sanjit Kr. Das
30.	Duti Paul	7477914775	UNA/NETAJ	-	Duti Paul

HRLN
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW NETWORK

Venue - Kalpur Bongaon
Date - 27/02/2021

SL NO	NAME	MOBILE NO	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL-ID	SIGNATURE
1.	Sifat Hossain	7676664721	Jibonwip Samiti	-	Sifat Hossain
2.	Atiqul Hossain	9735741581	"	-	Atiqul Hossain
3.	SHAMPA DEY	8101885150	Basuravichay	-	Shampa Dey
4.	JINIYA ROYCHOWDHURY	8392855508	"	-	Jiniya Roy Chowdhury
5.	PAYEL GHOSH	7319311020	UNA/NETAJ	-	Payel Ghosh
6.	TRIYA SARKAR	7478173076	"	-	Triya Sarkar
7.	MOUMITA ROY	7001064309	"	-	Moumita Roy
8.	ADRIJA HALDER	7478240736	"	-	Adrija Halder
9.	MAYURI GHOSH	8513858574	"	-	Mayuri Ghosh
10.	SUMITA DEBNATH	9635843209	"	-	Sumita Debnath

HRLN
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW NETWORK

SL NO	NAME	MOBILE NO	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL-ID	SIGNATURE
11.	GURNIMA SINGHA	8514837952	UNA1 NETAJI	—	Gurnima Singh
12.	ARCHANA Roy	9083904535	"	—	Archana Roy
13.	TINA HALDER	9091969323	"	—	Tina Halder
14.	SATHI HALDER	8345993299	"	—	Sathi Halder
15.	TARALA Roy	9593110291	"	—	Tarala Roy
16.	Ankur R. Meen	9875455162	HRLN	Advocate ankurmeen20@gmail.com	Ankur Meen
17.	SUMONA Roy	9593110291	UNA1 NETAJI	—	Sumona Roy
18.	HUMAIYA RATUL KURRA	9908088461	Bamrapurichay	—	Humairatul Kurra
19.	Bisoylakshmi Sankar	8345872571	UNA1 NETAJI	—	Bisoylakshmi Sankar
20.	Putra Chakraborty	9064527064	"	—	Putra Chakraborty

HRLN
HUMAN RIGHTS LAW NETWORK

SL NO	NAME	MOBILE NO	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL-ID	SIGNATURE
31	Sandhya Mondal	7029035720	UNA1 NETAJI	—	Sandhyamandal
32	Sikha Mondal	"	"	—	Sikha Mondal
33	Rina Mondal	"	"	—	Rina Mondal
34	Mohini Mondal	"	"	—	Mohini Mondal
35	Anima Mondal	"	"	—	Anima Mondal
36	Sumana Sarkar	7679477689	"	—	Sumana Sarkar
37	Mita Mohanta	9088039992	"	—	Mita Mohanta
38	Panul Mohanta	9593059757	"	—	Panul Mohanta
39	Lalita Paul	9932887002	"	—	Lalita Paul
40	Sucheta Paul	9073303105	"	—	Sucheta Paul



Venue -

Date -

SL NO	NAME	MOBILE NO	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL-ID	SIGNATURE
41.	Shyamoli Mishra	9609229670	UNAI NETAJI	—	Shyamoli Mishra
42.	Shilpi Pramanik	9144359453	"	—	Shilpi Pramanik
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47.					
48.					
49.					

Annexure B







