

PASCHIM MEDNIPUR DISTRICT MEETING

Date: 23.01.2021

Time: 11 AM - 3PM

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Edited By: Venkatesh Kodukula



**LAW RELATING TO VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN & THEIR JOURNEY FORWARD.**

Schedule for Meeting

Time	Session	Speaker
10:30 - 11:00	Introduction	Suravi Barik, HRLN
11:00 – 11:30	Role of Women in Society	Jharna Acharjee, Social Activist, HRLN
11:30 – 12:00	Law relating to POCSO Act.	Santi Kumar Dutta (Sr. Advocate, Medinipur Judges Court)
12:00 – 13:00	Sharing personal experiences of Speakers (victim)	Baha Murmu, Salma Bibi, Isita Nayek, Sanchayita Jadav, HRLN Kolkata
13:00- 13:30	Under Trial Prisoners	Aparajita Bose, Social Activist and Asst. Director, HRLN, Kolkata
13:30 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 14:30	Law relating to Acid Attack	Soumitra Karmakar & Sandipan Das, Advocates, HRLN, Kolkata
14:30 - 14:45	Law relating to Domestic Violence Act.	Suravi Barik, HRLN
14:45 - 15:00	Interaction	Advocates, HRLN

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INTRODUCTION

Right from the time of her birth or even before a girl could become victim of a crime or target of a crime. The 2012 National Crime Records Bureau report of India states a reported crime rate of 46 per 100,000, rape rate of 2 per 100,000, dowry homicide rate of 0.7 per 100,000 and the rate of domestic cruelty by husband or his relatives as 5.9 per 100,000.

A 2014 study in the Lancet states, “Whereas an 8.5% prevalence of sexual violence in the country [India] is among the lowest in the world, it is estimated to affect 27.5 million women in India [given India’s large population]. Further, the 2006 survey found that 85% of women who suffered sexual violence, in or outside of marriage, never sought help, and only 1% report it to the police.”

Domestic Violence can be described as where one adult in a relationship misuses power in order to control another. It is the establishment of fear in a relationship through violence that includes other forms of abuse. The violence may involve physical abuse, sexual assault and threats. At times it can be more subtle, such as making someone feel worthless, not letting them have any money, or not allowing them to leave the home.

To curtail the growing incidents of dowry torture and dowry death , a new Section was incorporated into Indian Penal Code , that is, Section 498A .According to this Section, whoever being husband or relative of husband of a woman , subjects her to cruelty shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and fine.

Speaker 1:

Santi Kumar Dutta, Senior Advocate, Medinipur Judges Court

Learned Senior Advocate, Ex-Bar Council Member and Former President, Midnapore District Bar Association, Shri Santi Kumar Dutta delivered his speech on POCSO Act (Prevention of Children from Sexual Offence Act, 2012) and gave all the audiences a brief insight about the Act and also told the importance of the Act especially in a country where 40% of the population falls below the age bracket of 18 years and major portion of children specially female child have been a subject to some form of sexual abuse by some near relatives even and also told about the provision of paying compensation to the victim and further mentioned about the importance of this act in our society and how it has not yet been widely circulated and the necessity of the sexual assault, harassment etc. towards minor people are to be dealt seriously and very quickly. He further added that although the Special Courts have already been setup in all the District Head Quarters but the problem is general people are not till aware about the law.

Speaker 2:

Aparajita Bose, Social Activist and Assistant Director, HRLN, Kolkata

The speaker delivered lecture on the various rights of the prisoners. She also shared her personal experience and further elaborately described pain and agony of the prisoners.

She mentioned how even today female prisoners go through a persevere situation in prison. She also elaborately discussed about the works and facilities which provides by HRLN.

Speaker 3:

Soumitra Karmakar, Advocate, HRLN, Kolkata

The speaker delivered his speech on various laws relating to Acid attacks on Women and also described 326A of I.P.C in which punishment of acid attack has been described and the minimum punishment is 10 years imprisonment. It can extend up to life imprisonment. He expressed also the facilities given by HRLN for filing any case in High Court as well as also in Lower Courts.

Speaker 4:

Sandipan Das, Advocate, HRLN, Kolkata

The speaker delivered his speech on various laws relating to Acid attacks on Women and also described 326A of I.P.C in which punishment of acid attack has been described and the minimum punishment is 10 years imprisonment. It can extend up to life imprisonment. He also mentioned the facilities given by HRLN for filing any case in High Court as well as in Lower Court.

Speaker 5:

Jharna Acharyya, Social Activist, District East Medinipur (Jhargram), HRLN

The speaker described about the different problems of the women in paternal and matrimonial houses. She also describes Rights of Women regarding SC & ST Atrocity Act.

Speaker 6:

Suravi Barik, Advocate, HRLN, West Medinipur

The speaker delivered her speech in respect of Domestic Violence Act and its reliefs which are described under section-18,19,20,21,22 and 23 of D.V.Act,2005.

She mentioned about Divorce alimony and maintenance of women and mentioned about the procedure for getting free legal aid from HRLN and discussed about the procedure to file any complaint.

She further mentions how women are tortured in day to day life in the houses and how the DV Act case will be filed in courts and also before Protection Officer. She mentioned that how women can seek help from HRLN.

Speaker 7:

Sanchayita Jadav, Social Activist, HRLN, Kolkata

The speaker shared her life journey. In September, 2014 she was attacked with acid as she didn't respond to the romantic advances on being approached by a man. She was hospitalized for 19 days in a Government hospital in Kolkata. She lost her right eye vision due to the attack.

During this time, the family support is very needed and, in her case, it was her mother and friend who is presently her spouse. The police atrocity and negligence were noticed. After four long years, accused was arrested after the judgement passed by Honourable Justice Dipankar Dutta, Calcutta High Court. The Judiciary system is extremely biased and such cases should be looked upon immediately without any delay.

The speaker further stated that the sale of Acid should be completely banned.

Speaker 8:

Baha Murmu, Victim

The speaker is a victim lady who lives with her husband, son and daughters. She shared her experience that in order to grab her property, her in-laws stigmatized her as a witch (Daini). Not only her in-laws but the habitants of her village also compelled her to leave the house. She mentioned that she filled a complaint against the accused and subsequently with the help of police and local administration she is now preparing house and entered into the house and lived peacefully.

Speaker 9:

Salma Bibi, Victim

The speaker is a victim herself. She described that her husband, sons and daughter-in-law drove out her from her house and now she has been residing in her relative's house and currently working as a maidservant in other's house. Now in the last stage of life she has been spending painful life.

Speaker 10:

Isita Nayek, Victim

The speaker is one of the victims. She shared that she married seven years ago and thereafter her husband and in laws drove her out and now she has been residing in her father's house. Ishita described due to not fulfilling the demand of money, she was subject to physical torture and mental torture and subsequently became a cardiac patient and further she also told that she filed a case u/s-498A I.P.C and also filed a maintenance case. Now, her father sold his land for paying all her operation costs and medical bills yet her husband has not paid a single penny.

RECOMMENDATIONS & ACTION PLAN

More Awareness Meetings regarding Women Rights and other issues is required in the future.

HRLN District lawyers will look up to the cases regarding Domestic Violence and other related issues.

INTERACTIVE SESSION

An inter-active session was opened up for the audience. In this inter-active session, the participants raised various questions regarding to women rights which were answered by the speakers of the meeting. There were other participants who came up with legal issues which they had faced and they also cleared doubts.

Annexure A

Participants

1.	Isita Nayek	6294424725
2.	Salma Bibi	9046330201
3.	Debashee Laskar	
4.	Piyali Dutta	
5.	Gouri Dagra	
6.	Chhaya Karak	
7.	Chhabi Jana	
8.	Nilima Dolai	
9.	Niyati Mahali	
10.	Panmani Murmu	
11.	Pankaj Chatterjee	
12.	Champa Mahali	
13.	Jaya Choudhuri	7586970773
14.	Sutapa Dutta	9732856144
15.	Lakhikanta Dolai	
16.	Anadi Dandapat	
17.	Puti Bibi	
18.	Manjira Nayek	
19.	Suman Pal	
20.	Mita Mukhi	
21.	Arup Bera	7076606546
22.	Kamali Pal	

23.	Rahul Pal	9002028127
24.	Rabi Mahata	
25.	Sk Chhatu	
26.	Anita Roy	
27.	Niloy kr Barik	9232651356
28.	Shyamal Bhunia	
29.	Somnath Makur	
30.	Debanjan Paul	
31.	Paresh Pal	
32.	Bharati Bera	
33.	Jharna Acharjee	
34.	Karan Thakkar	9553225914
35.	Soumitra Karmakar	8617734720
36.	Aparajita Ganguli	8697204258
37.	Sanchayita Jadav	8777646606
38.	Santi Kr Dutta	9832122825
39.	Sandipan Das	
40.	Jhuma Rana	
41.	Suravi Barik	9679747633
42.	Dipak Roy	

Annexure B









