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**ANNUAL REPORT  
2020-21**



Odisha State Commission for Women

**ODISHA STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**



**SMT. TUKUNI SAHU**  
**Minister**  
*Women & Child Development and  
Mission Shakti, Odisha*

D.O.No...../MWCDMS.  
Bhubaneswar  
Date. 24.8.2021

## MESSAGE

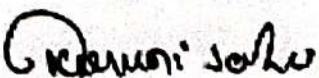


It is a matter of great joy to come across the fact that, the Odisha State Commission for women is bringing out its Annual Report for the year 2020-21.

Ensuring unrestrained freedom with equity and providing women a platform for socio-economic development has been at the forefront of women empowerment. Ensuring adequate amount of financial assistance to women, as well as providing mental and legal support with protection to vulnerable women, who come from underprivileged sections of the society, is the toughest challenge for any commission working in this regard.

The State Government is committed to provide a safe, secured and conducive environment to each and every woman of the State for her mental, social and economic growth. The State Commission for women have done a commendable work in discharge of their duties towards upliftment and protection of vulnerable women in the society.

I wish the commission the very best in their noble endeavours and wish the publication of the Annual Report all success.

  
**(Tukuni Sahu)**

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## Foreword

Odisha State Commission for Women has passed through a memorable period during 2020-2021. Covid-19 pandemic has engulfed the entire world and its menace still prevails in view of the resurgence of 2nd spell of the pandemic. In this critical time, the Commission has tried its level best to reach out to the women suffering from various angles. Ultimate aim of the Commission has been creating a ray of hope and smile in the face of the woman affected due to a problem, may it be domestic violence or workplace sexual harassment or dowry torture or cyber crime.

This Covid-19 year has changed the modus operandi of the State Commission for immediately taking action on the complaints filed by the suffering women. Commission has published a WhatsApp No.8763543013 through which distressed women have filed their complaints. Besides, through tele counselling and virtual hearing Chairperson and Members have been able to reach to the women found in problem.

Commission has observed its 28th Foundation Day on 14th January 2021 and as a token of recognising the outstanding work done by the Covid-19 women warriors has felicitated 20 such Covid-19 warriors. This felicitation programme was not confined to the State head qrs. But, it was also extended to District/Block level. Covid-19 women warriors of the district are being felicitated in a joint programme organised by the State Commission and District Administration.

As usual Commission has arranged legal awareness programmes and organized Camp Courts at the district/block level. Ultimate purpose to conduct such programmes is to sensitize and educate the women community to assert their legitimate rights for living a meaningful life with dignity and self esteem. Jail & Swadhar Greh visits has another important area to mix up with the inmates, realise their problems and to find out ways to solve their real problems.

There is no denying the fact that practices of sorcery & witch craft in certain districts of the State has caused serious social disharmony and resultant loss of lives. The problem is deep rooted in all the tribal dominated districts of the State and despite the implementation of the Orissa Witch Hunting Act-2014, the impact of the social evil has not been reduced to a considerable extent. There is much scope to be done on this count. Realizing this, State Commission has begun conducting a research study on witch hunting for bringing a full fledged enabling rules styled as 'Orissa Witch Hunting Rules' for appreciably curbing the evil practices and educate the tribals of its evils and serious consequences.

**Dr. Minati Behera**  
*Chairperson*  
*Odisha State Commission for Women*

## About the Commission

Government of Odisha set up the Odisha Commission for Women to protect, preserve and safeguard the rights and interests of women and deal with atrocities and offences against women in the State. Basic objective of the Commission has been for ensuring a women friendly society where the dignity & security of women in every sphere of life is well protected and women can enjoy their life without fear and despair.

State Commission for Women aims at rendering unbiased support to the Government in formulating polices and implementing laws to improve the socio-economic Status of each and every woman and girl to aware of her rights for living a life with dignity, safety and security as a member of the society.

## Major Functions of the Commission

- ❖ Speedy justice delivery without any financial burden on the affected parties,
- ❖ Resolution of complaints,
- ❖ Imparting training to all the stakeholders involved in improving the status of women,
- ❖ Doing advocacy for policy level changes and their amendments,
- ❖ Organising camp courts to reach out to women living in remote areas,
- ❖ Training & Orientation of organisations and institutions providing services to women,
- ❖ Offering internship programmes to law students.
- ❖ Undertaking research study onneed based for profection of interest of women and to recomend to the Government for consideration.

## Investigation of cases as a civil court U/s 10 (3) of the State Commission for Women Act, 1993

State Commission enjoys the power of a Civil Court trying a .... and in particular, in respect of the following matters namely :-

- ❖ Summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
- ❖ Requiring the discovery and production of any document;
- ❖ Receiving evidence on affidavits;
- ❖ Requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office;
- ❖ Issuing commissions for the examination of witness and documents and any other matter which may be prescribed.

## Composition

As per "The Orissa State Commission for Women Act,1993", the Commission comprises of :

1. a Chairperson, who is an eminent social worker or a professional committed to the cause of women to be nominated by the State Government;
2. Six Members to be nominated by the State Government from amongst persons of ability, integrity and standing of whom:
  - (a) One shall be an official,
  - (b) One shall be an eminent advocate,
  - (c) two shall be social workers of repute , and
  - (d) two shall be experts in education and health,

Provided that at least one Member shall be from amongst persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes respectively.

The composition of the Commission as on 31.03.2021 is as follows:

1. Dr. Minati Behera – Chairperson
2. Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty – Member
3. Ms. Swarnalata Samal – Member
4. Smt. Arati Singh – Member
5. Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini – Member

Shri Baikunthanath Sasmal –Secretary who belongs to Odisha Secretariat service and of the rank of Deputy Secretary.

## Present Staff Position

Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	In Position
Chairperson	01	01
Members	06	05
Convenor Secretary	01	01
Senior Field Officer	01	01
Asst. Field Officer	01	01
Accountant-cum-Storekeeper	01	01
Spl. Asst. to CP	01	01
Legal Assistants	02	02

Research Asst.	01	01
Jr. Stenographer	03	03
Jr. Clerks	09	09
Diarist	01	01
Despatcher	01	01
Driver	03	03
Counsellors	03	03
Typist	01	01
Peons	09	09
Sweeper-cum-Watchman	01	01
Jr. Programme Officer	01	01
Data Entry Operator	01	01
Consultant	01	01
<b>Total</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>48</b>

## Different Cells and their Activities

### Legal Cell

The Legal Cell consists of 02 (two) Legal Assistants and 10 Dealing Assistants. After receipt of petitions from the Diary Section, the Dealing Assistants prepare a synopsis of the case and put up the file with concerned letters received from the petitioner/opposite party/S.P/LSA/Collector/OIC and other officers to the Legal Assistants for their suggestions. The Legal Assistants examine the file with reference to the petition/complaint received, give suitable suggestions and endorse the file to Chairperson/Convenor Secretary for their perusal and orders. Then the Dealing Assistants carry out the orders made by the Chairperson/ Convenor Secretary. Legal Cell also issues summons to persons not attending to the Commission as per requirement.

Besides, dealing with petitions/complaints of the aggrieved parties, this cell organises Camp Courts (Lok Adalats and Janasunanis) at the district/ block level, takes care of Assembly questions and conducts Board Meetings as and when required.

## Research Cell

The Research Cell is manned by a Research Assistant who registers all the files received by the Commission from the petitioners district wise on a daily basis. The Cell compiles month wise and district wise data on registration of various types of case like dowry death, dowry torture, domestic violence, rape, sexual harassment, workplace harassment and other cases. At the year end, the cell compiles the data year wise.

Besides the above, the cell provides data for press and assembly questions, deals with NCW & SCW files and RTI matters of the State Women Commission.

## Investigation Cell

The Investigation Cell deals with such disputes which are not resolved through counselling sessions. These require further investigation by the Police which are expedited and monitored by the investigation cell. The duly constituted inquiry committee conducts spot enquires for dealing with serious crimes. While conducting enquiry, witnesses are being examined, evidence on the incident collected and thereafter the committee submits its reports with recommendations. Such investigation provides immediate relief and justice to the victims of violence and atrocity.

During the year 2020-21, the cell has investigated and submitted reports on 03 (three) cases.

## Accounts Cell

This cell comprises of an Accountant-cum-Storekeeper and a typist. The cell deals with the office establishment and stock & store charges. Original vouchers/records of the bills are safely maintained by the cell for audit compliances. It also calculates and draw the monthly honorarium and T.A. & D.A etc. of Chairperson and other Members and draw the salary & wages of Staff. The cell maintains the Cash Book for the day to day expenditure of the Commission.

## Counselling Cell

The Counselling cell comprises of 03 (three) Counsellors which constitutes an important segment of the Commission. It conducts counselling on different allegations submitted by women in distress. Many petitioners approach the Commission for counselling / advice even before submitting their complaints. In fact, many of the complaints are resolved through counselling processes. Post-marital counselling and pre-marital counselling help women in distress immensely in offering appropriate solutions to their problems / mis-understanding.

During 2020-21, 2461 nos. of counselling sessions have been held, out of which 107 cases have been settled.

## Library, Publications and IEC Material

Publication wing of the Commission has been constantly trying to bring out something new for strengthening women's cause and adding to their well being. During 2020-21, Commission published 02 books i.e. Hasa Phutila-Paribar Tisthila (containing the success stories of the commission) and FAQ on the problems faced by a women and their solutions. Besides, Annual Report for the year 2019-20 was also published.

## Category wise Registration and Disposal of Cases during 2020-21.

Nature of complaint	Registered	Disposed
Dowry death	26	36
Suspected death	36	24
Dowry desertion	493	652
Domestic violence	846	653
Rape	32	34
False promise to marry	93	66
Kidnap	43	53
Property right	60	38
Sexual harassment	21	12
Service harassment	39	33
Outrage modesty	106	213
Women right violation	319	315
<b>Total</b>	<b>2114</b>	<b>2129</b>

District wise registration and disposal of Cases for the year 2020-21

District	Registered	Disposed
Angul	45	7
Balasore	83	63
Bhadrak	114	78
Baragarh	20	50
Bolangir	25	3
Boudh	8	11
Cuttack	218	172
Dhenkanal	59	227
Deogarh	11	32
Ganjam	124	244
Gajapati	14	17
Jagatsinghpur	101	100
Jajpur	102	191
Jharsuguda	7	30
Kalahandi	25	33
Koraput	27	41
Kendrapara	130	97
Keonjhar	65	105
Khurda	200	117
Mayurbhanj	45	51
Malkangiri	12	3
Nayagarh	82	25
Nawrangpur	10	2
Nuapada	6	3
Puri	160	166
Kandhamal	41	79
Rayagada	11	13
Sundargarh	33	18
Subarnapur	9	6
Sambalpur	34	22
Bhubaneswar	293	123
<b>Total</b>	<b>2114</b>	<b>2129</b>

## Camp Court

S.No.	Date	District	Venue	No. of Cases Posted	No. of Cases disposed
1	20.01.21	Nayagarh	Nayagarh	56	38
2	29.01.21	Jajpur	Jajpur	53	42
3	10.02.21	Bhadrak	Bhadrak	78	36
4	24.02.21	Ganjam	Berhampur	79	45
5	17.03.21	Khordha	Khordha	65	28
6	19.03.21	Balasore	Balasore	71	37
7	24.03.21	Bhubaneswar	OSCW, BBSR	102	53
8	31.03.21	Kandhamal	Phulbani	40	24

### (1) Camp Court at Nayagarh

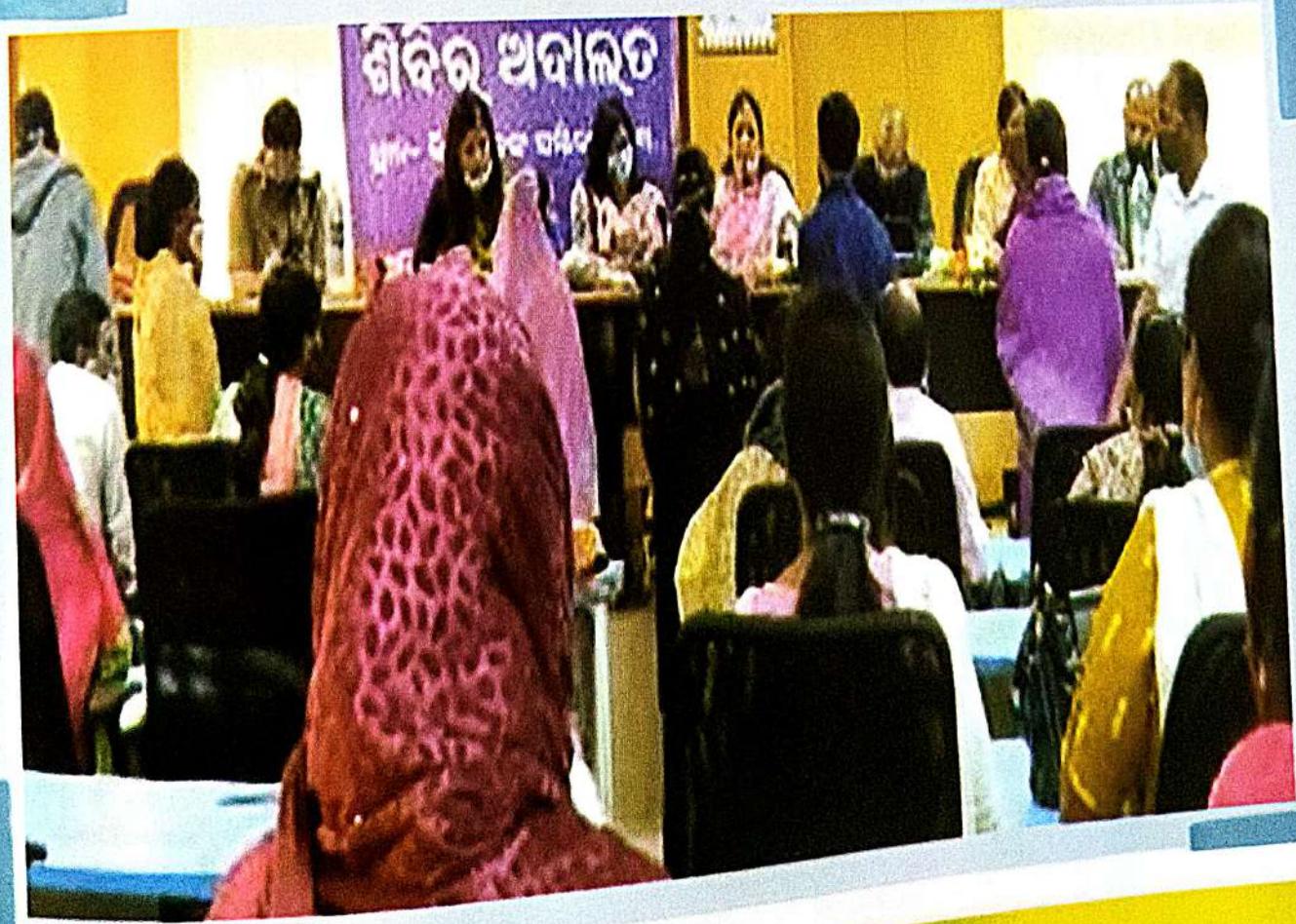
Held on -20.01.2021

No. of Cases Posted-56

No. of Cases disposed -38

Dignitaries present from Odisha State Commission for Women -Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty and Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, Members of OSCW. Guest present from the District- Collector, Superintendent of Police, District Social Welfare Officer, Nayagarh.





## (2) Camp Court at Jajpur

Held on -29.01.2021

No. of Cases Posted-53

No. of Cases disposed -42

Dignitaries present from OSCW - Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Ms. Swarnalata Samal and Smt. Arati Singh, Members of OSCW.

Guests representing the District Administration- Addl. District Magistrate, Jajpur, Superintendent of Police, Jajpur & District Social Welfare Officer.





### (3) Camp Court at Bhadrak

Held on -10.02.2021

No. of Cases Posted-78

No. of Cases disposed -36

Dignitaries present from OSCW -Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Ms. Swarnalata Samal and Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, Members of OSCW.

Guests representing the District Administration- Collector, Superintendent of Police, District Social Welfare Officer, Bhadrak.



#### (4) Camp Court in Ganjam District at Berhampur

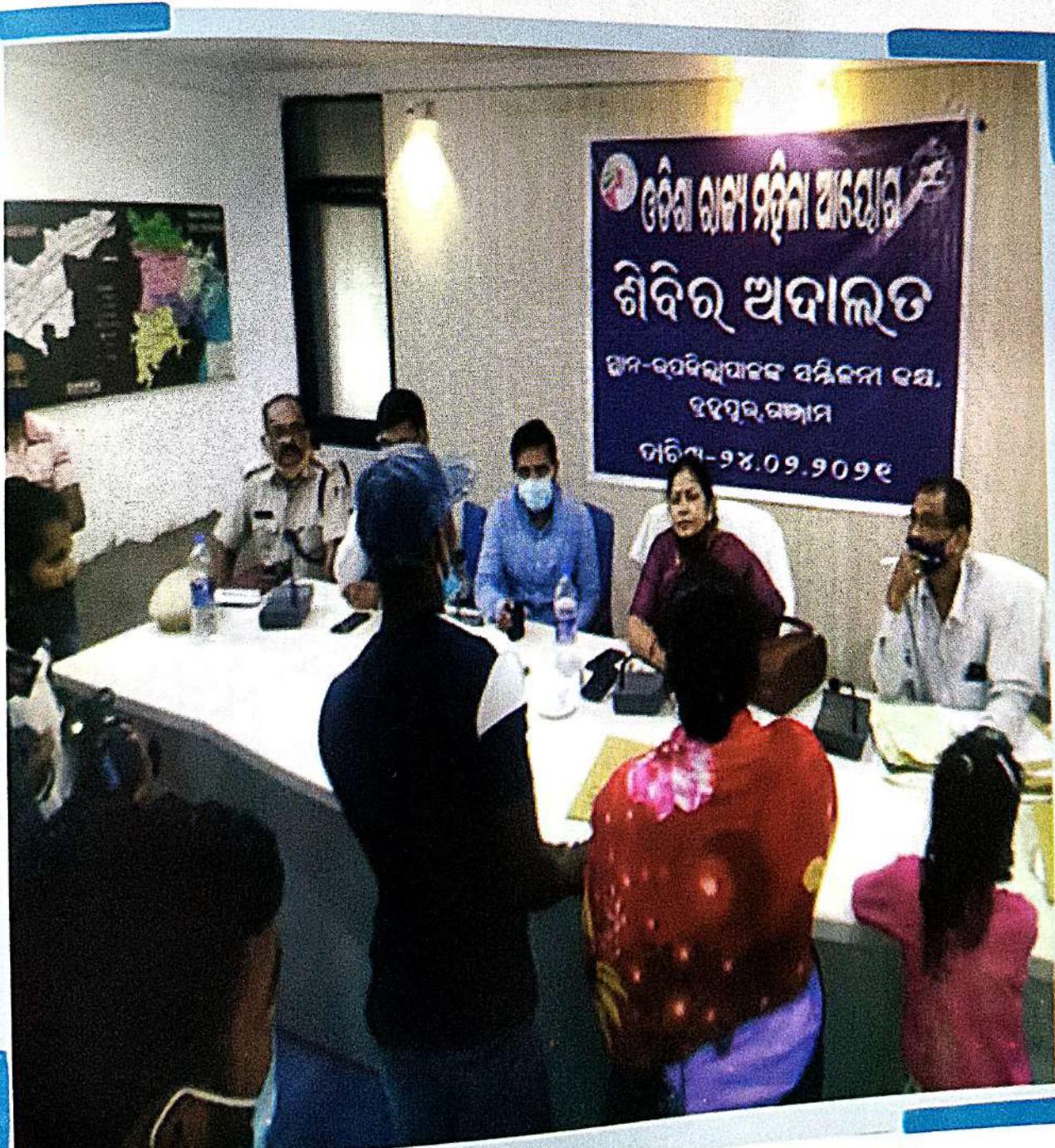
Held on -24.02.2021

No. of Cases Posted-79

No. of Cases disposed -45

Dignitaries present from OSCW -Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, Members of OSCW.

Representing the District Administration- Collector, Ganjam, S.P, Ganjam, Chatrapur, D.S.W.O, Berhampur





(5) **Camp Court at Khordha**

Held on -17.03.2021

No. of Cases Posted-65

No. of Cases disposed -28

Dignitaries present from OSCW -Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Ms. Swarnalata Samal, Smt. Arati Singh, all Members of OSCW and Shri Baikunthanath Sasmal, Convenor Secretary, OSCW.





## (6) Camp Court at Balasore

Held on -19.03.2021

No. of Cases Posted-71

No. of Cases disposed -37

Dignitaries present from OSCW -Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Smt. Arati Singh, Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, all Members of OSCW

Representing the District- Collector, Superintendent of Police & District Social Welfare Officer, Balasore



**(7) Bhubaneswar Camp Court,  
Venue : Odisha State Commission for Women, Satyanagar**

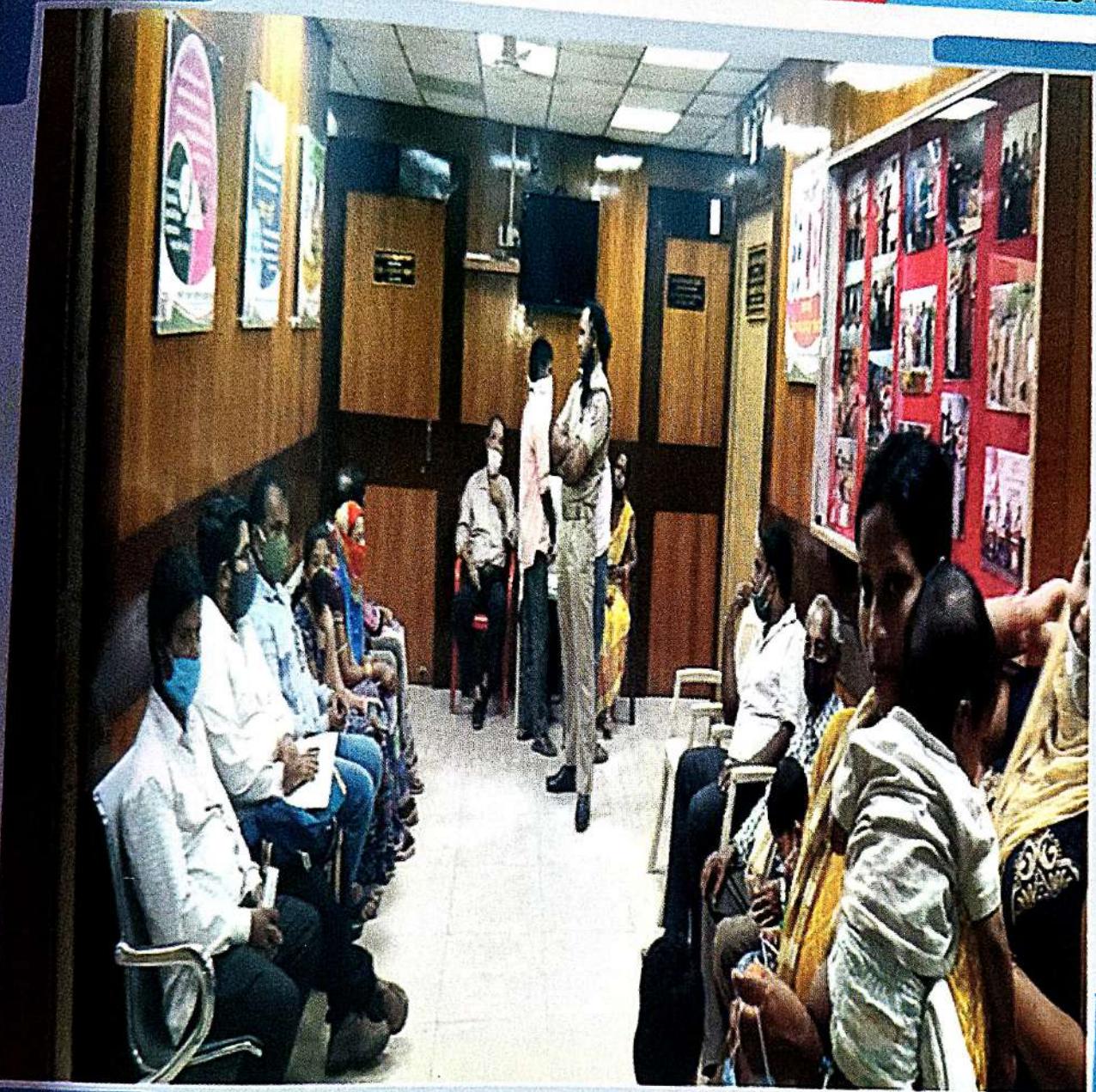
Held on -24.03.2021

No. of Cases Posted-102

No. of Cases disposed -53

Dignitaries present from OSCW -Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Ms. Swarnalata Samal, Smt. Arati Singh, Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini all Members of OSCW and Shri B.N. Sasmal, Convenor Secy., OSCW





## (8) Kandhamal Camp Court at Phulbani

Held on -31.03.2021

No. of Cases Posted-40

No. of Cases disposed -24

Members present from OSCW -Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, both Members of OSCW.

From District Administration: Collector, Kandhamal, Superintendent of Police, Kandhamal & DSWO, Kandhamal, Phulbani



## Legal Awareness Programme

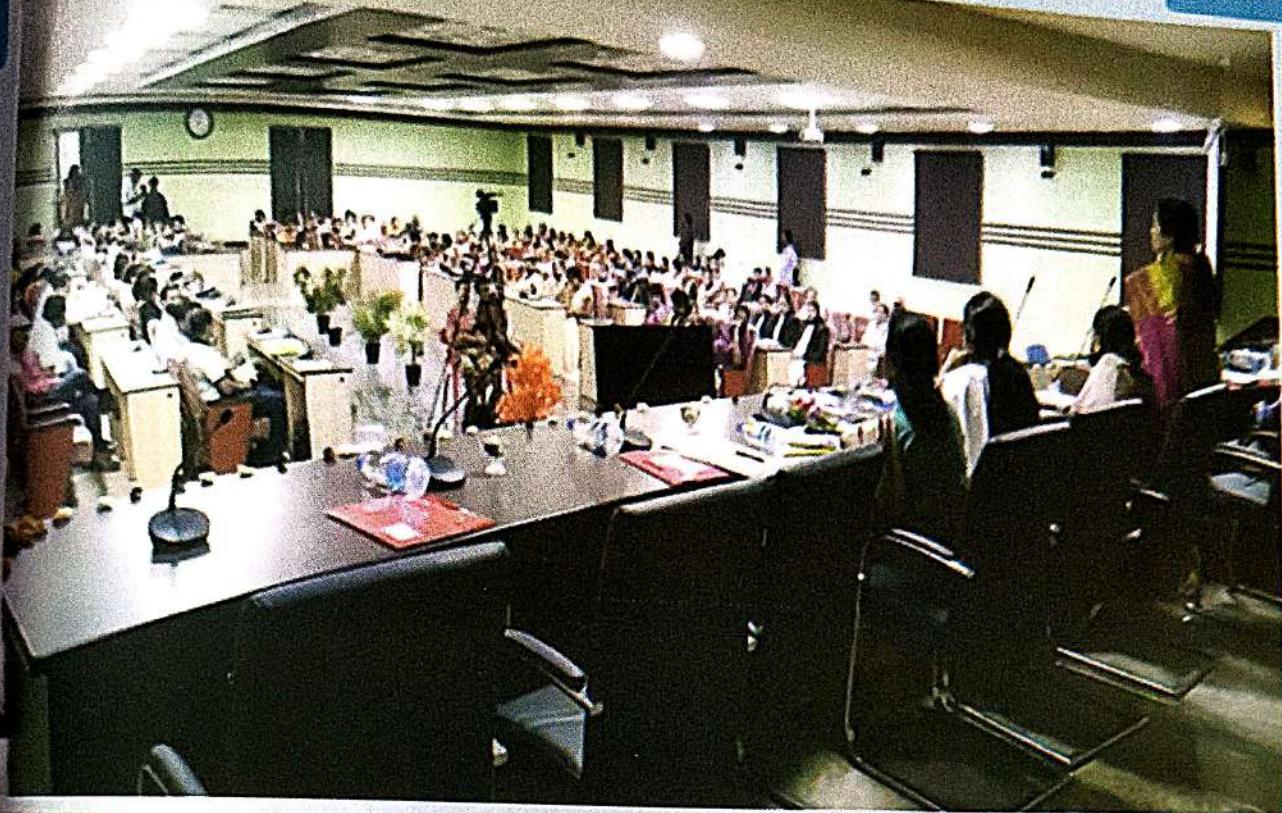
Date	District	Venue
01/11/20	Jagatsinghpur	Panchayat Samiti, Biridi
18/12/20	Cuttack	Panchayat Samiti, Mahanga
12/02/21	Nayagarh	District Headquarters, Nayagarh
22/02/21	Subarnapur	District Headquarters, Subarnapur
30/03/21	Kandhamal	District Headquarters, Kandhamal

### Nayagarh

Legal awareness programme was organised in Nayagarh district on 12.02.2021 by the Commission coordinated by district administration, Nayagarh. Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Member of the Commission, Smt. Bijaya Barwa, Senior Field Officer, OSCW, District Collector, Superintendent of Police, President, Zilla Parisad and District Social Welfare Officer were present in the inaugural session. Different issues related to women were discussed in the technical session i.e. Witch Hunting, Hindu







Succession Act, Cyber Crime, Role of Police, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, PCPNDT Act, Protection of Women from sexual harassment at Workplace, Victim Compensation Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, and local issues related to Women. 08 nos. of Covid warriors were felicitated by the Chairperson and other Dignitaries present on the dias. The programme came to a close with active participation of all participants.

## Subarnapur

Legal awareness programme was organised in the district of Subarnapur on 22.02.2021 by the Commission coordinated by district administration, Subarnapur. Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, both Members of the Commission, Smt. Bijaya Barwa, Senior Field Officer, of the Commission, District Collector, Superintendent of Police, President, Zilla Parisad and District Social Welfare Officer were present in the inaugural session. Different issues related to women were discussed in the technical session i.e. Witch Hunting, Hindu Succession Act, Cyber Crime, Role of Police, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, PCPNDT Act, Protection of Women from sexual harassment at Workplace, Victim Compensation Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, and local issues





related to Women. 12 nos. of Covid warriors were felicitated by the Chairperson and other Dignitaries present on the dias. The session ended with active participation of all participants.

## Kandhamal

Legal awareness programme was organised in the district of Kandhamal on 30.03.2021 by the Commission coordinated by district administration, Kandhamal.





Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, both Members of the Commission, Smt. Bijaya Barwa, Senior Field Officer, of the Commission, District Collector, Superintendent of Police, President, Zilla Parisad and District Social Welfare Officer were present in the inaugural session. Different issues related to women were discussed in the technical session i.e. Witch Hunting, Hindu Succession Act, Cyber Crime, Role of Police, Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, PCPNDT Act, Protection of Women from sexual harassment at Workplace, Victim Compensation Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, and local issues related to Women. 10 nos. of Covid warriors were felicitated by the Chairperson and other Dignitaries present on the dias. The above awareness programme ended with active participation of all participants.

## Biridi Block, Jagatsinghpur District

A Legal Awareness Programme was conducted at Biridi Panchayat Samiti, Jagatsinghpur Dist. On 20.11.20 . Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty, Member of the Commission, Smt. Bijaya Barwa, Senior Field Officer of the



Commission and Dist. Social Welfare Officer, Jagatsinghpur were present in the said programme.

At the outset, Chairperson outlined & explained the purpose of holding such programme at Biridi. In a very lucid & meaningful manner, she gave focus on the various women related Act & Rules for protection of the interest and dignity of women. Other speakers discussed on Domestic Violence Act, Dowry Prohibition Act, Protection of Women from sexual harassment at workplace Act, and how to get benefit from such beneficial laws for remaining undisturbed during any problem that may ensue. Programme was highly successful and ended with active participation of all participants.

## Legal Awareness Programme at Mahanga Block

One day legal awareness programme was organised by the Odisha State Commission for Women in active cooperation of Mahanga Block Self Help Mahasangha of Cuttack district on 18th December 2020 at about 11 AM. in which one hundred women president and secretary of different SHGs attended.

Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Odisha State Commission for Women along with Members Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty and Ms. Swarnalata Samal and Sr. Field Officer Ms. Bijaya Barua had joined. District Social Welfare Officer, Cuttack district Ms. Nirupama Behera and Ms. Swagatika Parida, District Programme Coordinator, Mission Shakti also joined. Mr. Sarat Kumar Nayak, Chairman, Mahanga Block and Mr. Nihar Ranjan Mallick, Block Development Officer, Mahanga along with Ms. Sasmita Das, Block Federation President and Ms. Sasmita Mohanty, Secretary, Block Federation Society also joined. Ms. Gayatri Parida (In charge CDPO) and Mr. Vivekananda Samantaray were coordinating the programme.

There was vivid discussion on the rights of women and how the women will address the violence (from home to workplace) through different legal steps. The topic was on Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005, Prevention of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013, PCPNDT (Pre-Conception and Pre Natal Diagnostic Technique Act, Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, Protection of Children from Sexual Offence Act 2012, Child Marriage Prohibition Act, Cyber Crime and Role of Police. The Chairperson emphasised on the toll free number of different helpline.

The entire session was in a participatory method. The participants also asked questions on violence which they are facing in their home due to consumption of liquor by the male members of the family. Because of this addiction, the women are suffering from physical, mental and economical torture. The Chairperson and other speakers cleared their doubts in a very convincing and friendly manner.





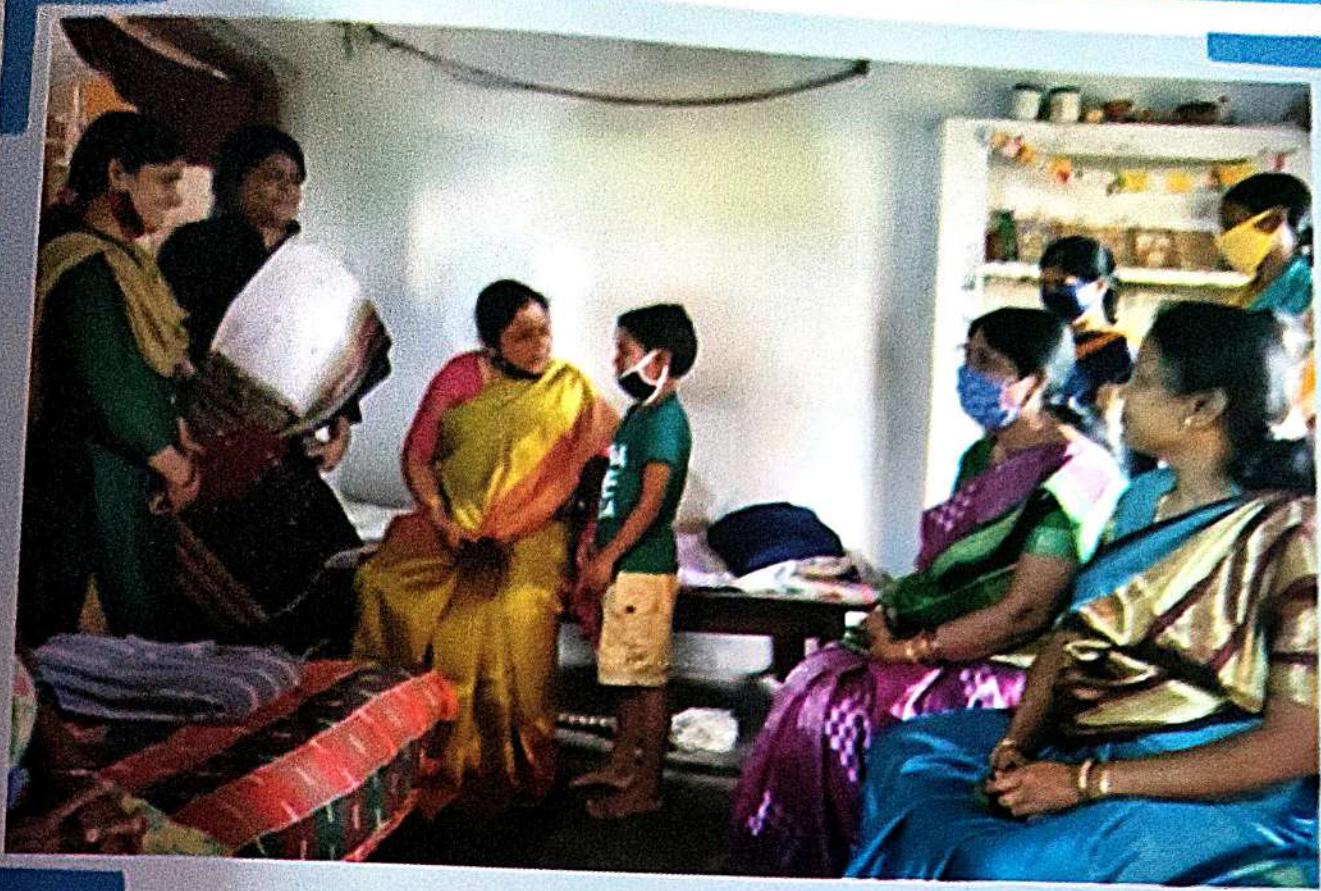
## Visit to Swadhar Greh

One of the important activities of the Commission is regular visit of Swadhar Grehs. The prime objective of visiting these homes is to provide services to destitute women, released women prisoners and women survivors of natural calamity. Accordingly, Chairperson along with other members of the Commission visited 04 Swadhar Grehs and participated in the inauguration of the new building of Banabasi Swadhar Greh in Kandhamal distt. during 2020-21.

Date	Name of the Swadhar Greh	District
10.02.2021	1. Society for weaker community 2. Fellowship	Bhadrak
12.02.2021	SEVA	Nayagarh
22.02.2021	ASHRAYA	Subranapur
24.02.2021	Swadhar Greh, Gopalpur	Ganjam
31.03.2021	New Building Inauguration of Banabasi, Swadhar Greh in the presence of District Collector & other officials of District Administration.	Kandhamal







## Visit to Jails

Date	District
29.01.2021	Jajpur
10.02.2021	Bhadrak
12.02.2021	Nayagarh
24.02.2021	Ganjam
19.03.2021	Balasore
31.03.2021	Kandhamal









## Mahila and Sishu Desk Visit

Date	District
31.03.2021	Kandhamal

## Sakhi Centre Visit

Date	District
22.02.2021	Subarnapur
31.03.2021	New Building Inauguration of Sakhi Centre in the presence of District Collector & other officials of District Administration, Phulbani.



## Hospital Visit

Date	District
22.02.2021	District Hospital, Subarnapur
24.02.2021	MKCG Hospital, Berhampur
31.03.2021	District Hospital, Phulbani





## PARTICIPATION OF STATE COMMISSION FOR WOMEN IN THE ONLINE DISCUSSION (WEBINARS)

Odisha State Commission for Women has organised / participated in the Webinars during 2020-21 as summed up below:

**10/07/20 - 'Trafficking in Women : Emerging Challenges, Barriers and Rehabilitation Provisions'.**

The National Commission for Women organized an online discussion on the topic 'Trafficking in Women : Emerging Challenges, Barriers and Rehabilitation Provisions' on 10/07/20. Chairperson along with Members participated in the virtual discussion. Prime motto behind conducting such discussion was to highlight the challenges & threat of trafficking in women and the necessity of enacting stringent legislation to curb its menace.

**26/08/20 - 'Strengthening Online Complaints & Investigation System, Increase in domestic, Sexual and gender based violence during Covid-19 Pandemic and steps taken by SWCs to address these issues'.**

The National Commission for Women had conducted an online interactive meeting with the State Commissions for Women on how to strengthen on line complaints & investigation system. Further, the steps taken by the State Commission to deal with the issues of increase in domestic, sexual and gender based violence during Covid-19 was another important item of discussion of the above meeting. Cyber Crime Cases and how to address it also figured in the discussion. Distinguished Panelists offered their valuable inputs on the selected subject of discussion.

**31/08/20- One day Law Review Consultation on "Cyber Crime against Women -Do Indecent Representation of Women's Act, IT Act and other prevailing laws suffice?"**

NCW organized one day interactive meeting on the above subject. The objective of the consultation was to review and analyse the development of regulatory instruments, statutes, recommendations, guidelines etc. pertaining to Cyber Security frame work for women. An endeavour was made to formulate consolidated recommendations for viable amendments in the existing law in the interests of women.

**20/10/20 - 'National Education Policy 2020- Gender & Sexuality'.**

An online discussion (webinar) was organised by National Commission for Women in the context of the approval of the National Education Policy - (NEP 2020) by the Union Cabinet of India on 29th July, 2020 on the theme "Gender & Sexuality".

Chairperson & other Members of the Commission participated in the discussion. The sole purpose for holding such discussion was ensuring equitable access to quality education to all students with special emphasis on how to improve Gross Enrolment Ratio for girls / women. Secondly, to give focus on gender sensitivity and encouraging development of Gender neutral teaching modules and building capacity of teaching staff.

**13/11/20 - 'State Level virtual Interface with Protection Officers'.**

This webinar was organised by the State Commission on 13/11/20 with the Protection Officers in the districts with the purpose of collecting information from them regarding their action in dealing with cases of domestic violence associating the Service Provider and Sakhi Centres. Discussion helped in a greater way in answering some of the pertinent points raised by the participants for their easy discharge of work.

**25/11/20 to 27/11/20 - 'India against Abuse on Women'.**

National Commission for Women, New Delhi had organized a webinar on " India against Abuse on Women" spreading over 03 (three) days from 25/11/20 to 27/11/20.

The objective behind conducting such a webinar was to have discussion on various issues / challenges faced by women and girls, physically or virtually and eminent speakers had thrown light on the measures /ways in ending violence against women.

### **23/12/20 - 'No Health or Wellbeing of women without Mental Health'.**

Chairperson and Members of State Commission for Women participated in the Webinar i.e., "No Health or Wellbeing of women without Mental Health" organized by National Commission for Women on 23/12/2020. The underlying purpose for conducting such Webinar is to raise mental health awareness and to reduce the stigma or discrimination and improving awareness through advocacy & sensitization to dispel the blight of mental illnesses.

### **01/03/2021 - 'Financial Literacy and Education - Inspire Women to take charge of their finances.'**

Chairperson and Members of State Commission for Women participated in the Webinar titled "Financial Literacy and Education -Inspire women to take charge of their finances" organized by National Commission for Women on 01.03.2021.

The prime objective of conducting the webinar is to ensure Gender equality in terms of economic and financial opportunities and to take forward the benefits achieved through the financial inclusion efforts for bringing financial well-being of the women community.

Distinguished panelists very emphatically gave their opinion / views on the topic which would help in ensuring the financial well-being of women.

### **12/03/2021 - 'Regional Consultation (Eastern) on Law Review on Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005.'**

A webinar was organized on 12/03/2021 by the Regional Consultation (Eastern) on Law Review on Protection of women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. Chairperson and other Members of the Commission participated in the webinar.

Objective of holding such webinar is to bring certain changes in the role of protection officers for effective protection of the rights of women guaranteed under the constitution who are the victims of domestic violence. Reputed Panelists subscribed their highly valuable inputs on the topic which the Law Reviewing Committee to recommend to the appropriate authorities for necessary action.

## **Participation in Events**

Celebration of 29th Years of Institution of National Commission for Women on 31st January, 2021 - Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson along with Ms. Snehanjali Mohanty and Ms. Jalina Priyadarsini, both Members of the Commission attended the celebration

of 29th years of institution of National Commission for Women, New Delhi on 31st January 2021 at Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

On 1st February, 2021 Chairperson and Members participated in the Interactive Meeting followed by a discussion themed ' Covid Women Warriors- The Real Heros'.

### **Seminar on 23/03/2021-**

Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson and Shri Baikunthanath Sasmal, Convenor Secretary of the Commission attended the Seminar on 23rd March 2021 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi organized by the Ministry of Women & Child Development, Govt. of India on the theme 'Safety and Empowerment of Women through NCW & SWCs'. Hon'ble Chairperson & Members of National Commission for Women and Chairpersons of other State Commission for Women participated in the programme. Very fruitful discussion was held and several resolutions made towards safety and empowerment of women.

### **A Special Occasion to receive award from the Indian National Bar Association (INBA) in their much awaited event "The Phenomenal She" – Third Edition held on 7th March, 2021 in Constitution Club, New Delhi.**

The Indian National Bar Association, New Delhi invited Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson of State Women Commission to their much awaited event "The Phenomenal She" – Third Edition held on 7th March, 2021 on the occasion of International Women's Day in order to acknowledge and appreciate the resilience and hard work of 100 women hailing from distinguished fields. Dr. Behera, Chairperson is one of such award recipients.

Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson accepting the invitation of INBA attended the Award Ceremony and received the award in the prestigious event which was followed by a High Tea Programme. Conferring the award, the Organizing Committee applauded the outstanding work performed by Dr. Behera, Chairperson of State Commission for Women in Safeguarding the interests of women in the State.

### **Celebrating 28th Foundation Day of the Odisha State Commission for Women**

Odisha State Commission for Women celebrated its 28th Foundation Day on 14th January, 2021 at Hotel Kalinga Ashok, Bhubaneswar. Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson, Shri Asim Amitav Dash, Hon'ble Member, Odisha Human Rights Commission, Dr. Amar Pattnaik, Member of Parliament, Shri Tusharkanti Behera, Minister, Electronics & Information Technology, Sports & Youth Services, Shri Arvind Agarwal, IAS, Director, Social Welfare, Deptt. of Women and Child Development and Mission Shakti with Addl. Charge of M.D. Mahila Vikas Samabaya Nigam attended the celebration as distinguished guests.

Besides the above dignitaries, all Members of the Commission, Convenor Secretary and Officials & staff of the Commission, front line Covid Warriors and invited guests were present in the foundation day.

All distinguished guests had highlighted the role and responsibility undertaken by the State Women Commission for safeguarding the legitimate interests and upholding the prestige & dignity of women community. Commission has been a successful & strong institution towards fostering the well being and happy living of the women in the society- the dignitaries emphasised.

03 (three) books were inaugurated on this auspicious day by the dignitaries. The first one is "Hasa Phutila Parivara Tistila" covering case studies and success stories of families on reunion. 2nd book is Annual Report for the Year 2019-2020 and the 3rd one is "Frequently Asked Questions" depicting therein the solution/ways to build up the legitimate rights of women and how to safeguard it in the event of any untoward incident.

Also, Commission had the privilege of felicitating 20 State level Women frontline workers for their outstanding contribution in strengthening women's cause during Covid Pandemic. The celebration came to a close with presentation of "Pala" by Sushree Rajalaxmi Dalei & her group in up keeping this beautiful culture of our State.









## Celebration of International Women's Day and Organization of Seminar 'Men for Women'

The Odisha State Commission for Women has celebrated the International Women's Day for the current year 2021 and organised a closeted conversation themed 'Men for Women' at IDCOL Auditorium, Bhubaneswar on 10th March, 2021 at the behest of National Commission for Women, New Delhi.

The programme began at 11:00 A.M. with the keynote address by Dr. Minati Behera, Chairperson of State Commission for Women and was graced by Shri Ashok Chandra Panda, Minister, Science & Technology, Public Enterprises and SSEPD Deptt. and Shri Dilip Kumar Bisoi, State Information Commissioner as Chief Guest and Chief Speaker respectively. Besides, 04 eminent persons of the State by name Shri Bibhu Prasad Tripathy, Advocate, Orissa High Court, Cuttack, Shri Dillip Routray, OAS, Addl. Secretary & OSD to Chief Secretary, Dr. Murtyunjaya Mohapatra, Professor, Gynaecology, Cuttack and Prof. Natabar Satpathy, Retd. Professor (Odia) attended the ceremony as Resource Persons who gave their highly valuable inputs purporting to the theme 'Men for Women'. About 250 participants representing different fields like Social Activists, Ex-Corporators, Law Practitioners, Journalists, Members of NGOs by their august presence in the occasion made it purposeful and successful.

Shri Baikunthanath Sasmal, Convenor Secretary, Odisha State Commission for Women gave the vote of thanks and there after the celebration of the programme was concluded at about 2:30 P.M.

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# Celebrating International Women's Day

Men for Women

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Celebrating International Women's Day

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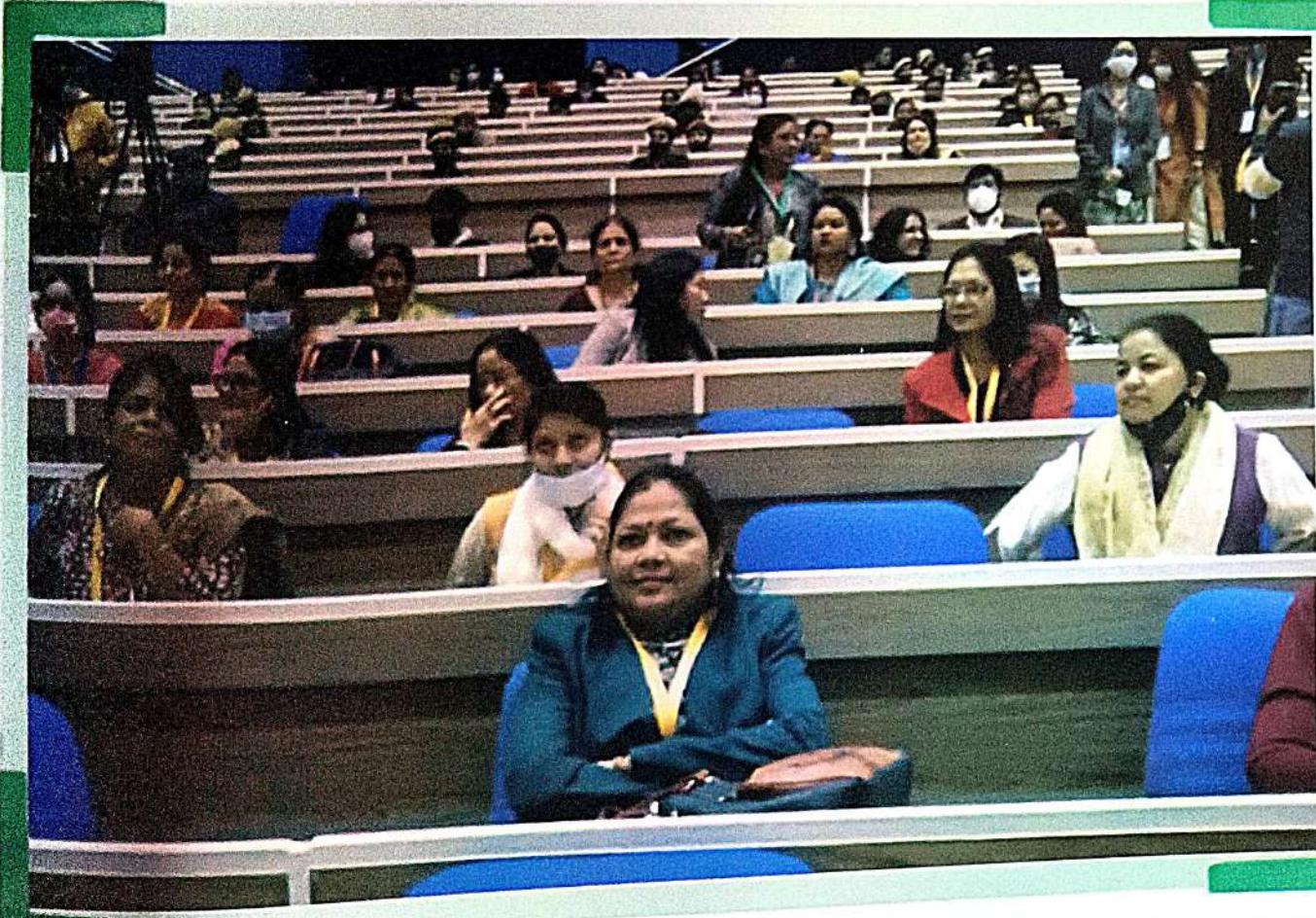
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