

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2890

ANSWERED ON:13.03.2015

STRENGTHENING OF NCW

Shekhawat Shri Gajendra Singh;Yadav Shri Jay Prakash Narayan

**Will the Minister of WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether the Government has received any proposal to strengthen the National Commission for Women (NCW) in the recent past, if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the details of constitutional rights presently available with/conferred to the NCW;
- (c) whether the Government has constituted a Committee with a view to bestow more constitutional rights to the NCW, if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether the said committee has submitted its report to the Government, if so, the details thereof along with the follow-up action taken by the Government thereon;
- (e) whether the NCW has recommended for enhancing the age limit for marriage, if so, the details thereof and the response of the Government thereto; and
- (f) the other steps taken/being taken by the Government to provide adequate powers to the NCW?

**Answer**

MINISTER OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI MANEKA SANJAY GANDHI)

(a) The National Commission for Women made recommendations for strengthening the Commission. The recommendations, among other things, include vesting the Commission with additional investigating powers, bestowing powers relating to enquires, power to recommend compensation and increase in the number of Members of Commission.

(b) The National Commission for Women was set up as a statutory body in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.

As per sec 10(4) of the National Commission for Women Act, 1990, the Commission shall, while investigating or examining all matters relating to the safeguards provided for women under the Constitution and other laws and while looking into complaints and take suo moto notice of matters relating to deprivation of women's rights, have all the powers of a civil court trying a suit and, in particular in respect of the following matters, namely:-

- i) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person from any part of India and examining him on oath;
- ii) requiring the discovery and production of any document;
- iii) receiving evidence on affidavits;
- iv) requisitioning any public record or copy thereof from any court or office;
- v) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses and documents; and
- vi) any other matter which may be prescribed.

(c) No, Madam.

(d) Does not arise

(e) No, Madam. However, NCW recommended for uniformity of marriageable age in all laws/ statutes.

(f) The NCW draws its powers under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.