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**SOCIAL SECURITY BRANCH  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE  
GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL CAPITAL TERRITORY OF DELHI  
7<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, MSO BUILDING, ITO, NEW DELHI - 110002**

**F.30(938)/Shakti Vahini/ DD(SS)/DSW/2020-21**

**DATE: 24 MAR 2021**

**Minutes of Meeting**

A meeting of the Committee Members of Safe House was convened in the Conference Hall, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, New Delhi-02 on 12/03/2021 at 4:00 PM to address the emergent issues related to Inter-caste/faith couple.

**Following attended the meeting:**

- Special Secretary cum Director, Department of Social Welfare, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
- Representative on behalf of Member Secretary, DCW, C-Block, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vikas Bhawan, ITO, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-02
- Dy. Secretary (Home II), 5<sup>th</sup> Level, Wing-C, Delhi Secretariat, I.P. Extension, New Delhi-92
- Chief Probation Officer, Department of Social Welfare, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
- Assistant Commissioner of Police (Head Quarter), MSO Building, Indraprastha Marg, I.P. Estate, New Delhi, Delhi- 110095.
- Sub-inspector, (Head Quarter), MSO Building, Indraprastha Marg, I.P. Estate, New Delhi, Delhi- 110095.
- Dy. Director (Social Security), Department of Social Welfare, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
- Superintendent (Safe House), Blind hostel, Sewa Kutir, Kingsway Camp, Delhi- 09.
- Suptd. (Social Security), Department of Social Welfare, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
- Welfare Officer (Safe House), Blind hostel, Sewa Kutir, Kingsway Camp, Delhi- 09.
- Welfare Officer (Social Security), Department of Social Welfare, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
- Dealing Assistant (Safe House), Blind hostel, Sewa Kutir, Kingsway Camp, Delhi- 09.

Following issues were deliberated upon in the meeting:


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1. The details of the Couple staying in the Safe House was provided by the Staff of Blind House, according to which 5 couples have been provided accommodation in the Safe House since the time of its initiation and presently 3 couples are staying in the premise.
2. In the meeting, it was brought into notice of the participants by the Suptd. (Social Security) that majority of the requests for accommodations are being received from the couples, both of whom are not the residents of GNCTD. View emerged that 'Safe House' facility be provided to the distressed couples having residence outside the GNCTD based on the directions of Hon'ble Court and only as temporary relief.
3. In General, the timeline of the stay of the distressed couple will be as per the directions of the Hon'ble Court.
4. The DLSA will provide legal aid for obtaining protection from the home state of the couple, till the threat to the couple is existent.
5. The police officials of the states of residence of the couple will also be contacted to relocate the couple in their respective states.
6. A roadmap shall be created to ensure the responsibilities of the other states of India to develop 'Safe Houses' in their respective geographical entities.
7. The participants also came at the consensus that the Department of Social Welfare will provide space to the couples only after getting the written recommendations from the Special Cells.
8. The meetings of the Special Cells will be organized in the office of the DCP of the concerned district. The schedule of the meeting will be decided as per the quantum and nature of the requests received in the respective districts.
9. The Social Security Branch as well as the members of Blind Hostels brought the matter into the cognizance of the participants that the requests are being received from the parents/guardians/relatives of the couple to meet them. In this regard, it was decided that consent need to be sought from the concerned DCP before organizing the meeting between the couple and parents/guardians/relatives. It was also suggested that by the members present in the meeting that in case of threats faced by the couple from the parents or guardians the meeting should be organized in the presence of any police personnel.
10. The Superintendent as well as the Welfare Officer of the Blind Hostel, who have been looking after the basic provisions of the Safe House, shared that they are facing threats as well as security issues from the parents and guardians of the couples. Along with this the couples are also sharing that they have life threat from their family members. It was recognized that the Department of Police has been given the responsibility of ensuring the safety and security of the couples in the Safe House and outside the complex, as well as the government officials who are working in the Safe House. Since, it was informed by the Superintendent and Welfare Office of the Blind Hostel that there is no regular police security, the 'round-the-clock' security should be mandatorily provided in the 'Safe House' by Delhi Police.



11. The representative of DCW also suggested that the Security Professionals should be provided to the couples especially at the time of their hearings. It was also dealt upon that Personal Security Officer (PSO) can also be provided to the couple if the Hon'ble Court directs.
12. The participants also decided that a well elaborated 'Scheme Proposal' along with the 'Budget Estimate' should be developed for the functioning of the Safe House. The scheme's model can be developed on two lines, one to be run as per the present arrangement and the other on the outsourced basis. The authorities of the Department shall take a Decision in this regard.
13. It was also suggested that 'Pay and Stay Model' be incorporated in the scheme as this is in tune with the Order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court-  
*"After the marriage, if the couple so desire, they can be provided accommodation on payment of nominal charges, in the Safe House initially for a period of one month to be extended on monthly basis but not exceeding one year in aggregate, depending on their threat assessment on case to case basis."* (Court Order dated, 27.03.2018, para 53, point II, sub-point D, page. 51)  
 The Social Security Branch will work out the details of the same.
14. The Social Security Branch was directed to get support from the members of the Blind Hostels to have an overview about the necessary requirements of the couple and the budget estimate for the same. Dr. Mahesh Sharma (CPO and DSWO- North) will facilitate in developing the said model.
15. It was also decided in the meeting that the DCW's representative will have an in-depth analysis of the Supreme Court's Order regarding the establishment of Safe House and will facilitate the Department of Social Welfare in developing the modalities of its smooth functioning.
16. The DCW will provide the feedback with regard to the number of calls received from the distressed couples since the inception of the Safe House.
17. Data Bank needs to be generated with regard to Safe Houses in other States.
18. The public notice should be displayed in the District Offices and Police Stations for awareness about the services of the Special Cells and Safe House.

Meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

  
 Deputy Director (SS)

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Copy to:

1. PS to Secretary, Department of Social Welfare, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.

2. PA to Special Secretary cum Director, Department of Social Welfare, GLNS Complex, Delhi Gate, Delhi.
3. Member Secretary, DCW, C-Block, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Vikas Bhawan, ITO, I.P. Estate, New Delhi-02
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6. Assistant Commissioner of Police (Head Quarter), MSO Building, Indraprastha Marg, I.P. Estate, New Delhi, Delhi- 110095.
7. Sub-inspector, (Head Quarter), MSO Building, Indraprastha Marg, I.P. Estate, New Delhi, Delhi- 110095.
8. Superintendent, Blind hostel, Sewa Kutir, Kingsway Camp, Delhi- 09.
9. Senior System Analyst, Computer Cell, Department of Social Welfare



Deputy Director (SS)