

**WORKSHOP ON FORMULATION OF STATE POLICY FOR WOMEN**

A workshop on formulation of State Policy For Women was conducted by The Department of Social Welfare And Women Empowerment, Tamilnadu, on 12.08.2021, at Chennai, under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department.

The Principal Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department welcomed the dignitaries and explained the need for the formulation of State Policy for Women by the department in terms of Women Welfare, Women Rights, Women Protection and Women Empowerment.

As the first step, the preliminary workshop was inaugurated by Tmt.P.Geetha Jeevan, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare And Women Empowerment Department. On addressing the stakeholders, the Hon'ble Minister stated that under the instructions of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of TamilNadu, in order to ensure Women Welfare, Rights, Protection, Social Justice, Equity, a State Policy is to be formulated and this first workshop has been constituted to get the recommendations of higher officials, learned persons. It has been proposed to conduct series of workshop of the kind to get the views and recommendations of all eminent personalities from various fields. All these recommendations are to be documented and with the approval and guidance of the Hon'ble chief minister of TamilNadu the State Policy for Women would be formulated.

As Special Guest, MS Kanimozhi Karunanidhi, Hon'ble Member of Parliament was invited to the workshop, for her contribution to the Policy. In her special address, she emphasized that Livelihood, Protection and Rights of Women need to be taken into account on formulation of the State Policy. She further added that Women are engaged in many unrecognized work in various unorganized sectors including domestic work, and are not

paid equal wages as compared to men, especially in agriculture and fisheries sectors. Also Every Women should have the Right to choose her own choice and make her own decision and should be freed from all forms of violence including domestic violence.

**Tmt. Seema Agarwal, I.P.S., ADGP, Thiru.Vanniaperumal, I.P.S., ADGP, Tmt. U. Vasuki, National Vice-President, AIDWA, Tmt. Arulmozhi, Advocate, Dr. Thara Rangaswamy, sychiatrist , SCARF, Tmt. Nappinai, Consultant Psychologist , Tmt. Kavitha Muralidharan, Journalist, Dr. Yazhini, Medical Professional, Activist., Dr.S.Raja Samuel, Principal, Madras School of Social Work, Dr. Goutaman, Head of the Department, Dept. of Sociology, Loyola College, Chennai** were the eminent persons who offered their valuable views and suggestions to be included in the State Policy for Women.

Thiru.Ravikumar,M.P, Hon'ble Member Of Parliament, Tmt. Bala Bharathi Ex, Member of Parliament and Tmt.Thenmozhi, from the office of the Commissioner of Police, Chennai Corporation joined in a virtual mode in the workshop to offer their valuable recommendations.

Tmt.D.Rathna, I.A.S., Director of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department, Tmt.V.Amudhavalli, I.A.S., Director of Integrated Child Development Services, Tmt.Valarmathi, I.A.S., Director of Social Defence Department and Department officials participated in the workshop.

The workshop was concluded with vote of thanks from the Principal Secretary to Government, Social Welfare And Women Empowerment Department who assured that the department would take robust efforts to formulate the State Policy with a broader perspective with recommendations of renowned personalities from all sectors.

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