



# All India Andhra Bank Award Employees' Union

(Affiliated to AIBEA)

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TO

**ALL OUR MEMBERS:**

Dear Comrades,

- 1. An hour of grief, an hour of shame**
- 2. Let us condemn it with full-throated voice**
- 3. Let us build a society devoid of this shame**
- 4. AIBEA demands protection for women – Stringent Action against the culprits of Delhi Gang Rape**

Crime and violence against women and insult and humiliation of women folk have always been an evil part of our age-old social system. Whether in the epics or in real life, one cannot escape to observe the perennial perpetuation of injustice to women and manifestation of chauvinism and feudalism to the detriment of women in society. But when we claim and boast that we live in a progressive and modern society in the second millennium, it is disgusting and irreconcilable that atrocities on women are continuing, but increasing too.

There are disturbing statistical details which show the aggravation and enormity of all types of violence against women in India. Last year more than 24,000 cases of rape have been reported and we know many a times, it never gets reported. What is more sad is that in most of the cases, the punishments have been mild and delayed. The worst part is that even girl children are not spared of such violence. It is a shame that we live in such a barbaric society.

**Generally women suffer from multiple social neglect; poor health indicators, lower literacy levels, lesser wages compared to men, etc are pointer to the discriminations. In the era of globalization, women have become much more vulnerable and susceptible. Greed for profits has resulted in commoditization of women and portrayal of women as commercial objects. It has resulted in cultural and moral degeneration. These are the evils of unrestricted globalization and liberalization.**

There has been an outrage against the brutal attack and gang rape of the 23 year old Para medical student on December, 16<sup>th</sup> from all quarters across the country.

The outrage is not against this particular incident only, but it is against the increasing cases of violence, crimes, rapes and abuse of women in some form or the other, and the insensitivity of the Government, to this issue.

**Our union condemns this brutal violence and rape of this Delhi girl. But that is only a tip of the iceberg. There are many such victims. While our heart goes for this brave young girl, we must be part of the struggle against such social evils. We cannot live in such uncivilized society. We deserve a better society. We have to fight for it.**

Even as the nation is to recover from the shock of the above incident, women are still under attack in other parts of the country as well.

This is due to a very low conviction rate for the crime committed. It is also because of a slow, lethargic process to disposal of cases.

**The Government has set up Justice Verma Commission, to probe into the lapses in the system and invited suggestions. The commission is to submit its report within 30 days.**

**The overall cases or crime against women is 22,28,650 of which rape cases are about 24,078.**

We strongly condemn this incident and demand the Government of India as follows:

- ☞ **Stringent laws to protect women and safeguard the rights of women**
- ☞ **Setting up of fast track courts to ensure speedy trials of all crimes against women. All pending cases to be brought to fast track courts.**
- ☞ **Amendment in rape law to include other forms of assault, too.**
- ☞ **Conviction or verdict to be pronounced within 3 months.**
- ☞ **Give sensitivity training to police.**
- ☞ **Formulate easier way to lodge complaints. FIR to be lodged immediately, when complaint comes to police station.**
- ☞ **Filling up of vacancies in female police force. Process of interrogation in these cases to be more human. International Human Rights Standard to be maintained.**
- ☞ **The victimized person should be called rape survivor not rape victim.**
- ☞ **Punitive action like life imprisonment to be given to the criminal.**
- ☞ **Gender sensitive education should be part of school syllabus to have a proper mindset.**
- ☞ **Setting up of a dedicated helpline for complaints**
- ☞ **Filling up of vacancies of judges in fast track courts.**
- ☞ **No arrest of women at night.**
- ☞ **The affected to record her statement only once before a Judicial Officer.**
- ☞ **All cases of sexual assault to be heard in camera and not publicly.**
- ☞ **More CCTV's to be installed in public transport vehicles and trains.**
- ☞ **Ensure implementation of decisions by a strong monitoring cell. There should be supervision and follow-up on the activities and movements of the accused, periodically.**
- ☞ **Make rape a non bailable offence.**
- ☞ **Protection of survivors till case is disposed of.**
- ☞ **Compensation to be given to the survivors and concerned family of the affected.**
- ☞ **Name of convicted individual to be publicized to alert citizens.**
- ☞ **Prohibit the convicted individuals from holding public position or contesting any public elections.**

Let us demand a better and safer society for women and children and resolve to fight together to ensure an India which upholds the dignity of women.

With greetings,

Yours Comradely,



**(T. RAVINDRANATH)**  
**General Secretary**