Seminar Program and Call for Papers for a

**National Seminar on Women’s Empowerment, Safety and Protection**  
(Sponsored by the National Commission for Women, Government of India)  

**At**  
Mrs. Helena Kaushik Women’s PG College  
(http://helenakaushik.org)  
P.O. Malsisar, Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, India 331 028

Friday- Saturday, March 1-2, 2013  

1. **Seminar Statement**

In the last decade, a few government programs exclusively for women like Development of Women and Children in Rural Area (DWCRA) have been implemented. Opportunities and incentives for women to eliminate gender inequalities are critical to the successful implementation of such programs and policies.

Safety and Protection of women has come to the national attention as a result of a large number of incidents of mistreatment, sexual attacks and violence against women in rural as well as urban areas.

Thus helping women entrepreneurs in their own productive economic activities as small scale business enterprises can be a significant source of their personal economic empowerment and national development.

Safety and Protection at work place, in educational institutions, and during travel in private and public transportation systems and indeed at home is of paramount importance so that their personhood and livelihood are maximized.

The center and states have begun to use existing laws, regulations, law and order and judicial systems to provide safety and protection to women and punish those who violate women as persons, family members, workers and travelers.

2. **Education and Training of Women**

Access to education and training in vocations is important whereby they become capable of owning economic activities to generate their own source of income. With proper education and training women's engagement in small micro enterprises (SMS) can be a significant source of their personal economic empowerment.

3. **The Focus of the Seminar**

The main focus of the seminar is on:
• The existing arrangements for education and training including possible vocational enterprises in each area, district, state, etc.
• Adequacy and constraints on financial resources.
• Regulatory and legal changes for safety and protection.
• Strengthening democratic participatory mechanisms.
• Identification of successful models for safety arrangements in different states and at the center.
• Existing and new proposed monitoring and evaluation system for enhanced safety and protection, prevention systems and punishment modalities if crimes against women are committed.
• Impact on the status of rural women with regard to economic, social and political empowerment as well as protection and safety in all places at all times.
• Policy recommendations from papers presented at the seminar.