

## **Press Release**

The National Commission for Women organized a meet with women MPs to discuss various draft bills relating to women recommended by the Commission and awaiting approval of the Government/Parliament. Around 22 MPs participate in the meet.

Welcoming the MPs, Dr. Girija Vyas, Chairperson, National Commission for Women briefed them about the important issues, Bills/Acts relating to women such as Prohibition of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Bill, Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986, Marriageable Age, Scheme for Relief and Rehabilitation to victims of Rape and Acid Attacks, The Prevention of Crimes in the name of Honour and Tradition Bill, 2010, Domestic Workers Welfare and Social Security Act, 2010. She urged the Women MPs to support these bills relating to women in the Parliament, irrespective of their party affiliations. She also said that the Commission has sought review of a recent Supreme Court decision to reduce punishment to the rape convicts as it is not a compoundable event and the judgment could set a bad precedent in such cases.

The Chairperson also expressed the view that women MPs should form smaller groups focussing on respective Bills/Acts and subjects relating to women and build positive opinion about them. The MPs welcomed this suggestion and assured the Chairperson that they would work unitedly for the purpose of passing of these Bills by the Parliament. They also appreciated the work done and the many initiatives taken by the Commission during the tenure of Dr. Girija Vyas who will be demitting office on 8<sup>th</sup> April after completing two successful tenure as Chairperson, NCW.