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## **PRESS RELEASE**

11-04 -2014

National Commission for Women (NCW) has taken *suo-moto* cognizance of the media reports and the complaints received from various organizations and individuals on the reprehensible comments made by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav, President Samajwadi Party, on Thursday,10<sup>th</sup> April,2014 while questioning the death sentence awarded to three men who were convicted of two gang-rapes in Mumbai last week.

Taking serious note of his controversial remarks, Smt. Mamta Sharma, Hon'ble Chairperson, NCW has sent a notice to Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav to provide an explanation to the Commission in the matter within three days failing which he has to appear before the Commission. In a separate letter written to Shri Akhilesh Yadav, Chief Minister of UP, Smt. Mamta Sharma has requested the Chief Minister to examine and to intervene into the matter and to take action as per law.

In another letter to the Chief Election Commissioner of India, Chairperson, NCW has expressed her serious concerns over the statement made by Shri Mulayam Singh Yadav and requested to take action against him in accordance with the Code of Conduct of Election Commission of India since such statements made during the pendency of the Model Code of Conduct of ECI not only reflects his sheer insensitivity towards rape victims/survivors, utter disregard for women, threat to women's security but also encourages disrespect towards the laws of the land.

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