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TOWARDS EQUALITY

Report
Of The Committee
On The
Status Of Women
In India



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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND
SOCIAL WELFARE
DECEMBER 1974

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DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE
NEW DELHI
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New Delhi
December 31st, 1974

Dear Professor Hasan,

We have great pleasure in submitting to you the Report of the Committee on the Status of Women in India. We take this opportunity to thank you for the support and understanding that you have so generously extended to us. We have endeavoured to fulfil, to the best of our ability, the objectives of the Terms of Reference set before us. As you are aware, they cover a wide perspective, including all the important aspects affecting the life of women. Since this was the first investigation of its kind, we had no model or material to use as a frame of reference. The paucity of data posed another great problem.

Any assessment of the status of women cannot be done outside the social framework. We have, therefore, based our enquiry keeping in mind the diversities and inequalities that prevail in our society.

Our investigation has revealed that large masses of women in this country have remained unaffected by the rights guaranteed to them by the Constitution and the laws enacted since Independence. Our recommendations are made primarily with a view to making these rights more real and meaningful. We are confident that they will be considered in this light and measures for their implementation will be initiated expeditiously.

We are fortunate that the presentation of this Report coincides with the celebration of 1975 as the International Women's Year. We hope that our findings will provide better understanding of the problems facing women and aid the policy of integrating them fully in the process of national development, ensuring thereby, improvement in their status in our society.

With warmest regards,

Yours sincerely,

Phulrenu Guha
Maniben Kara
Savitri Shyam
Neera Dogra
Vikram Mahajan
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