

POLICE SENSITIZATION PROGRAMME CUM INTERACTION SESSION

MALVIYA NAGAR and PS UTTAM NAGAR

19.03.2015

Socio-Legal Information Centre organized a Police Sensitization cum Interaction Session at PS Malviya Nagar and PS Uttam Nagar on **19 March 2015**. The rationale of the meeting was to strengthen and enhance relation with the police to aware them on Refugees Protection issues. This exercise was also essential to orient new incumbents of the PS on refugee issues and their cooperation when refugee cases. Most importantly, it was also to create a platform and comfort level of the refugee community to approach for legal redressal with the police.

At PS Malviya Nagar, the session was attended by ATO Insp. Lokender Singh (8750870862) and beat officers of Khirki Extension Sanjeev Kumar (9811697838) and Chet Ram (7827932210). Afghan community was represented by M. Assaf Ziaee, M. Dawod Sharifi and Dr. Fakhria Khalid.

SLIC was represented by Belover Hutten, Advocate Fazal Abdali, Ahmad (Afghan Interpreter and Ali Abbas (Somali Interpreter).

The meeting started with introduction of the participants and a brief explanation of UNHCR and its operation in India including SLIC legal services to Refugees and Asylum seekers. A short overview of Refugees Protection and refugee issues in India in general was highlighted. The participants were briefed about refugee population mainly that of Afghan and Somali refugee populated residing in Hauz Rani, Khirki extension of Malviya Nagar area. SLIC highlighted issues faced by refugee population owing to their status as refugees and the local sometimes treat them in inhospitable manner.

M. Assaf Ziaee shared to the police how as refugees, they generally faced problems from their landlords on issue pertaining rent agreement, security deposit amount, electricity bill etc. he shared that since they are refugees, they have to get residential permit from FRRO but landlord generally refuse to provide them their ID proof and other documents required by FRRO.

Regarding the Residential Permit, the ATO Insp. Lokender Singh told the refugee representative that the matter should be raised with FRRO so some solution could be arrived at. However, the locals generally are reluctant to engage with police, however, if

there is any assistance required from police then refugee community can always contact them.

Similar session was conducted the same day (19 March 2015) at **PS Uttam Nagar** where 30 police personnel including the SHO Baghwan Singh were present. SLIC was represented by Hema Bisht, Sunil Kumar, Adv. Divya and Chharaliana (Interpreter).

Apart from the general introduction and briefing on SLIC and UNHCR role in providing services to refugees. SLIC highlighted that Burmese refugees residing in Hastal and other adjoining areas that comes under the jurisdiction of PS Uttam Nagar. Further more, since the tenant verification document has been made mandatory by FRRO for issuance of Residential Permit, the police was informed about the same.

In both the sessions, the Police shared their contact numbers with refugees and SLIC staff for future reference.