



Harvard University kicks-off the Gender Violence Project with 'Gender Justice and Criminal Law Reform Conference' in Delhi

~The conference will be the first step in sharing ideas with a group of stakeholders from the public and private sectors, the academy, service providers and NGOs~

New Delhi, 5th July 2013: The Harvard Gender Violence Project (HGVP) will host its inaugural India conference titled, "Gender Justice, Criminal Law and Curricular Reforms" on July 12-13, 2013 at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

The Harvard Gender Violence Project (HGVP) is collaboration between the Harvard South Asia Institute, Harvard Law School, the FXB Center for Health, Human Rights at Harvard and regional experts working in the area of gender violence prevention and intervention programs. The HGVP was established after the 2012 Delhi gang rape case that generated a national and international call to action to address the pervasive global problem of violence against women.

The conference will focus on three key areas: Law and Law Enforcement, Building Good Practices and Curricular Innovation. The full schedule and the link to register is available at: http://southasiainstitute.harvard.edu/gender-violence-project_delhi-event/

After submitting recommendations to the Verma Committee, this project was established to create a sustained partnership with regional partners to explore effective legal, educational and social approaches to promoting gender equality. The conference will be an opportunity to learn about and share ideas on the most promising reforms and innovations.

The Chief Guests at the conference will be the members of the JS Verma Committee, Justice (Retd.) Leila Seth, Former Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh, and Mr. Gopal Subramanian, Former Solicitor-General of India. The keynote address on July 12th will be delivered by **Mr. Soli J. Sorabjee**, Former Attorney General of India and the opening session on law and law enforcement will be chaired by Mr. Ved P. Marwah, Former Commissioner of Police, Delhi and Former Governor of Manipur, Mizoram and Jharkand. The keynote address on July 13th will be delivered by **Mrs. Mamta Sharma**, Chairperson, National Commission for Women.

The conference will complement the ongoing crucial work being undertaken by advocates, experts and grass roots organizations in India. In association with the meeting participants, Harvard hopes to produce a set of consensus goals for work with regional partners over a multi-year period, to contribute to concrete recommendations and inform action plans for practical implementation by policy makers, educators, and service providers.

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Note for Editors:

About Harvard University's South Asia Institute:

The Harvard University **South Asia Institute** (SAI) engages faculty and students through interdisciplinary programs to advance and deepen the teaching and research on global issues relevant to South Asia.

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