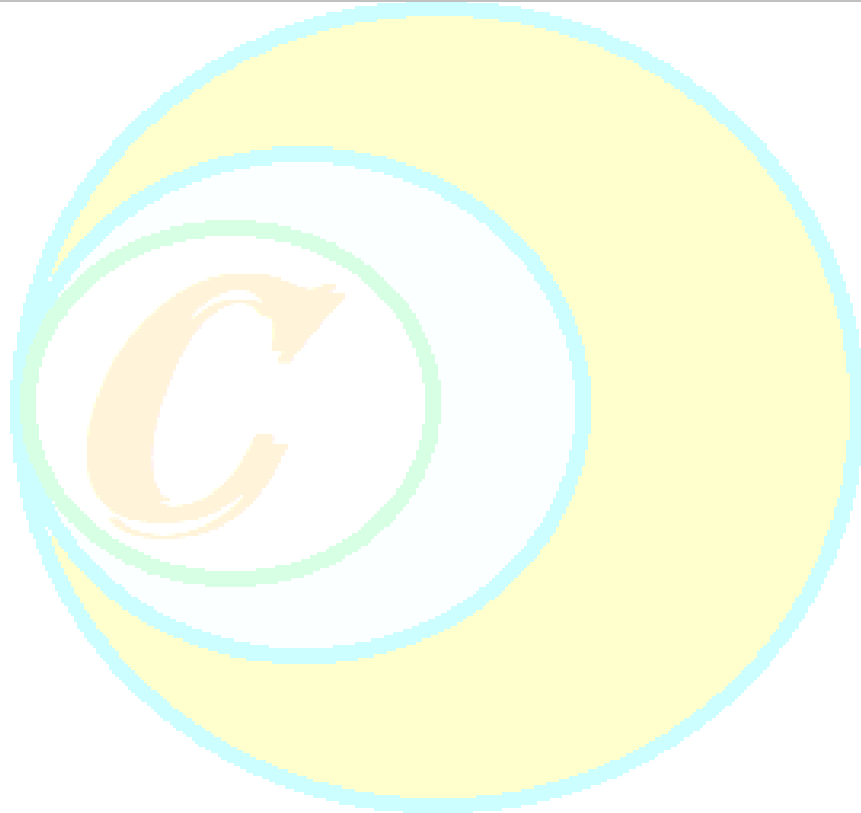


***Making Fundamental Duties
effective in a society***



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Making Fundamental Duties effective in a society requires a multi-faceted approach involving education, awareness, and legal measures. Here are several measures that can be implemented to enhance the effectiveness of Fundamental Duties:

1. Incorporate Fundamental Duties in Educational Curriculum:

- Include the study of Fundamental Duties as a part of the school and college curriculum. Educate students about their moral and civic responsibilities from an early age.

2. Public Awareness Campaigns:

- Launch nationwide awareness campaigns highlighting the importance of Fundamental Duties and their role in building a responsible citizenry.

3. Media Engagement:

- Utilize mass media, including television, radio, newspapers, and social media, to disseminate information about Fundamental Duties and their significance.

4. Community Engagement:

- Encourage community organizations, NGOs, and civil society groups to conduct workshops, seminars, and awareness programs on Fundamental Duties.

5. Incorporate in Government Initiatives:

- Integrate the promotion of Fundamental Duties into government initiatives, such as Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (Clean India Mission), to emphasize civic responsibilities.

6. Legal Enforcement:

- Consider enacting laws that enforce specific Fundamental Duties. This could include penalties for actions that violate these duties.

7. Reward and Recognition:

- Recognize and reward individuals and organizations that actively promote and fulfill their Fundamental Duties. This can serve as positive reinforcement.

8. School and College Programs:

- Schools and colleges can organize programs and competitions related to Fundamental Duties, fostering a sense of responsibility among students.

9. Parental and Community Involvement:

- Encourage parents and local communities to instill these values in children and young adults, emphasizing their role in shaping responsible citizens.

10. Public Service Announcements:

- Broadcast public service announcements on television and radio that remind citizens of their Fundamental Duties, similar to campaigns promoting voting or road safety.

11. Engage Religious and Spiritual Leaders:

- Seek the support of religious and spiritual leaders to promote the moral and ethical aspects of Fundamental Duties.

12. Regular Audits and Reports:

- Establish mechanisms for regular audits and reports on the adherence to Fundamental Duties, creating accountability.

13. Integration with Government Services:

- Link access to certain government services or benefits with the fulfillment of specific Fundamental Duties, such as environmental protection or community service.

14. Continuous Review and Amendments:

- Periodically review and amend the list of Fundamental Duties to ensure they remain relevant to the changing needs of society.

15. Youth Engagement:

- Encourage youth involvement in promoting and practicing Fundamental Duties through youth clubs, volunteer programs, and leadership opportunities.

16. Public-Private Partnerships:

- Collaborate with private sector organizations to sponsor initiatives related to Fundamental Duties, promoting corporate social responsibility.

17. International Collaboration:

- Exchange best practices with other countries that have similar civic duty frameworks to learn from their experiences.

The Verma Committee, officially known as the "Committee on Amendments to Criminal Law," was a high-level committee formed in the aftermath of the horrific Delhi gang rape case of December 2012. The committee was named after its chairman, Justice J.S. Verma, a former Chief Justice of India. Its objective was to review and suggest amendments to criminal laws in India, particularly in cases of sexual assault and violence against women.

Background:

1. Delhi Gang Rape Incident (2012):

- The catalyst for the formation of the Verma Committee was the brutal gang rape and murder of a young woman in Delhi on December 16, 2012. The incident triggered widespread outrage and protests across the nation, demanding stringent measures to address sexual violence.

2. Committee Formation:

- In response to the public outcry, the Indian government appointed a three-member committee headed by Justice J.S. Verma to review and

recommend amendments to existing criminal laws related to sexual assault.

Objectives:

3. Review of Existing Laws:

- The Verma Committee's primary objective was to comprehensively review and recommend changes to the existing criminal laws dealing with sexual assault, harassment, and violence against women.

4. Strengthening Legal Framework:

- It aimed to strengthen the legal framework to ensure swifter justice, enhance the safety and security of women, and deter potential offenders.

Key Recommendations:

5. Broader Definition of Sexual Offenses:

- The committee recommended widening the definition of sexual offenses to encompass a broader range of actions, including stalking, voyeurism, and acid attacks.

6. Redefining Consent:

- It proposed redefining the concept of consent in sexual assault cases to ensure that only informed and unequivocal consent would be considered valid.

7. Gender-Neutral Laws:

- The committee suggested making sexual assault laws gender-neutral, recognizing that both men and women could be victims of sexual violence.

8. Stricter Penalties:

- It recommended stricter penalties, including life imprisonment for cases involving extreme sexual violence and the death penalty for instances leading to the victim's death or in a persistent vegetative state.

9. Police Reforms:

- The Verma Committee stressed the need for police reforms to improve the handling of sexual assault cases, including better training and sensitization of law enforcement agencies.

10. Fast-Track Courts:

- It recommended setting up fast-track courts to expedite the trial of sexual assault cases and reduce the backlog of cases in regular courts.

11. Awareness and Education:

- The committee emphasized the importance of creating awareness about gender equality and sexual rights through educational institutions and public campaigns.

Impact:

12. Legislative Changes:

- Many of the recommendations of the Verma Committee were incorporated into the Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013, which brought about significant changes in sexual assault laws in India.

13.Public Awareness:

- The committee's work sparked a national conversation on gender-based violence, women's rights, and the need for legal reforms.

14.Policy Initiatives:

- The Verma Committee's recommendations also influenced the formulation of various policies and initiatives aimed at improving the safety and security of women in India.

The Verma Committee played a pivotal role in redefining India's legal framework related to sexual assault and violence against women. It responded to a pressing need for legal reforms and contributed to raising awareness about gender-based violence and the importance of ensuring the safety and dignity of women in society.

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