

KASHMIR KI AWAAZ

5 February 2012

URGENT CIVIL SOCIETY ISSUES OF THE DAY

- **Primary Health Care**
- **Contaminated Food Supply Chain**
- **Children With Special Needs**
- **Economic Justice**
- **Physically Challenged People**
- **Ecological/Industrial Hazards**
- **Women's Issues/Domestic Violence**
- **RTI/PDL**
- **Minority Rights**
- **Corruption**
- **Consumer Protection**

ISSUES CONCERNING WOMEN IN KASHMIR (UPDATED)

6 February 2012

The previous list containing 20 top issues was pared down to 9, and 1 new item was added, resulting in a revised list of top 10 issues facing women in the valley. The items are listed in no particular order.

- 1. Inadequate family support, counseling and legal aid to address Domestic Violence (spousal and in-law abuse, dowry deaths, harassment, etc.)**
- 2. Financial Empowerment**
- 3. Sexual Violence like rape, molestations, eve teasing in public areas and in work places**
- 4. Inadequate education and diminished or no role in decision making**
- 5. Job discrimination in work places**
- 6. Lack of means to assure women can secure fair and equitable property rights**
- 7. Inadequate access to loans and other facilities to women due to institutional barriers**
- 8. Inadequate government health coverage and old age pension, especially for widows**
- 9. Ability of women to inflict violence on other women**
- 10. Acceptance of girl-child**

“Discussion & Dinner”

6 February 2012

- 1. Now that Omar Abdullah has been confirmed by his coalition partner as the CM for the next 3 years, why does he continue to raise populist demands that are nominally unacceptable in New Delhi?**
- 2. Globally, the number one pressing issue of the day is growing inequality between the rich and the poor. Recently, an analysis by the ASSOCHAM indicated that highest inequalities between the rich and the poor exist in J&K. Do you see any political or intellectual debate on this issue in the valley?**
- 3. Mirwaiz supports the “Musharraf Plan” while its author is trying to save himself from a certain death if he returns back to Pakistan. Geelani complains that Pakistan has forgotten valley based Kashmiris. Is Hurriyat a spent force?**
- 4. Spurious medical drugs, disgraceful maternity healthcare, high infant mortality, rush to fetus gender identification, and even contaminated milk – have Kashmiris lost their “higher moral ground”, or is it simply following an unavoidable trend in the sub-continent?**
- 5. PDP after Mufti – will the organization whither, grow or remain the same? And how about Sajjad Lone – under what scenario can he become the “Imran Khan” of Kashmiri politics?**
- 6. At one time, Kashmiri intelligentsia trashed the Interlocutor Report, sight unseen. Now it is supporting Dr. Pudgaonkar in his efforts to get the report released. Is it a case of curiosity, or yet another example demonstrating that Kashmiri intellectuals lack political depth and objectivity?**
- 7. As Pakistan lessens its economic and political dependency on America, it is increasing its dependency on India. India feels it will reduce the possibility of Pakistani mischief in regards to terrorism and Kashmir. What is your view?**
- 8. Who do you see as becoming the next Chief Vigilance Commissioner (CVC)? Will his name be announced this week as mentioned earlier? Do you see him/her as having more, less or equal impact in Kashmir polity as the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC), Mr. Sufi?**



