

## NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR WOMEN PRESS NOTE

## NCW takes cognizance

New Delhi, October 28, 2022: The National Commission for Women has come across several media posts wherein it has been reported that girls were auctioned off to settle disputes over loan repayments Bhilwara, Rajasthan. It has been further reported that in many settlements of the village, girls are sold for prostitution on stamp paper. In some cases, their mothers are subjected to rape on the diktats of caste panchayats for the settlement of disputes.

The Commission has taken cognizance of the reported crime which is extremely appalling and traumatizing. The Commission has constituted a two member Fact Finding Team to look into the matter. Chairperson Ms Rekha Sharma has written to Chief Secretary, Government of Rajasthan to take urgent action in the matter and apprise the Commission of the action taken.

The Commission has also written to the Director General of Police, Rajasthan to immediately invoke relevant provisions in the FIR and to arrest all the accused at the earliest. A copy of the letter has also been sent to Superintendent of Police, Bhilwara.