

**MAHILA Helpline- BY RAPID ACTION FOR HUMAN ADVANCEMENT TRADITION(RAHAT)**  
**FROM 2007 TO 2017**  
**DISTRICT - KISHANGANJ, BIHAR**

**Brief Introduction :** **Rapid Action for human Advancement Tradition(RAHAT)** *Responding to issues of violence against women is difficult because of the mindsets, biases and non-co-operative societal attitudes towards this issue. The cases of atrocities on women are seldom reported because people fear that it would only bring dishonour to the family. In situations where the matter gets reported, the possibility of getting justice remains dismal. This is because, like other forms of oppression VAW is also a systemic violation of women's rights and dignity. With patriarchal values pervading all the spheres, walks and systems of the society, women end up being side-lined and marginalized. Considering the exigency to respond to such issues, the MNSY has provision of Women Helpline for each District in Bihar. It is a unit within the system of the government, which is committed to respond to the critical needs of the victims of violence. HELPLINE under takes this challenge by making believes that:*

**Woman is as much an individual as man is.**

**There is no justification of violating her dignity and rights, through whatever means and under whatever circumstances.**

**Human rights for all.**

**Society has responsibility to protect its members.**

There are people in society who want to make a difference in whatever way possible big or small.

The Women HELPLINE was established in Kishanganj in 2007 as a crisis intervention center for women in distress.

**The problems and needs of women are numerous; however, Women HELPLINE restricts itself to the issues of violence against women as its area of intervention. While Women HELPLINE is focusing on the issues of VAW, the long-term objective of Women HELPLINE is to establish a supportive network which can respond to every need of women by using the potential available within the system itself. Women HELPLINE is committed to respond to the needs of the victimized women in every manner possible. The Women HELPLINE scheme is to respond to both practical and strategic needs of the issue at hand. It is to be understood that our ultimate goal is to realize a gender-just and violence free society. The goals and objectives of the Women HELPLINE can be summarized as ....**

**Crisis intervention in case of atrocities on women. assist women in seeking justice and help from the society.**

- **Activate the system to respond to the issues of violence against women.**
- **Working towards deinstitutionalization of violence.**
- **Strengthening a network of support systems for women in need of help.**

**Sensitizing and influencing the policy makers on gender aspects of policies, laws and other related documents concerning women.**

**To broaden the base of Women HELPLINE and facilitating its replication throughout the state.**

## **Short Stay Home**

According to immoral Traffic Prevention Act,1986 and Protection from Domestic Violence Act,2005, The major objective of setting up short stay home is to protect women and adolescent girls from human trafficking and to provide protection and security to women victims of domestic violence. It also aim with a view to protect and rehabilitate those women and girls who are facing social economic and emotional problems due to family problems, mental stress, social, ostracism, exploitation or other causes. WDC aims at providing temporary shelter and support to women and girls, who are victims of these kinds of violence and have no social support system to rely on. it also incurs psychological counselling, medical services, legal consultation capacity building and skill development which facilitate them to reintegrate in the main strata of the society. SSH works in tandem with HL. Cases referred from HL. RAHAT organization has established this short stay home at kishnaganj district of bihar with the help of District administration and WDC Patna in 2009, and hand overed to the district administration in 20017.

- Those referred from court
- Capacity building & vocational training to rehabilitate them
- Activities/efforts to sensitize family,community to accept the women in the family.
- Education,vocational and recreational activities
- Follow up by counsellors for those women who have left the Homes,needs to be done to ensure their well-being ans safety

