

### **3. SPECIAL INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN**

#### **(i) National Commission for Women**

In January 1992, the Government set-up this statutory body with a specific mandate to study and monitor all matters relating to the constitutional and legal safeguards provided for women, review the existing legislation to suggest amendments wherever necessary, etc.

#### **(ii) Reservation for Women in Local Self-Government**

The 73<sup>rd</sup> Constitutional Amendment Acts passed in 1992 by Parliament ensure one-third of the total seats for women in all elected offices in local bodies whether in rural areas or urban areas.

#### **(iii) The National Plan of Action for Girl Child (1991-2000)**

The Plan of Action is to ensure survival, protection and development of the girl child with the ultimate objective of building up a better future for the girl child.

#### **(iv) National Policy for the Empowerment of Women, 2001**

The Department of Women & Child Development in the Ministry of Human Resource Development has prepared a “ **National Policy for the Empowerment of Women** ” in the year 2001. The goal of this policy is to bring about the advancement, development and empowerment of women.

#### **(v) The Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act 2005**

The Hindu Succession (Amendment) Act is to remove gender discriminatory provisions in the Hindu succession Act (1956) and gives the following rights to daughters under section 6.

- The daughter of a coparcener shall by birth become a coparcener in her own right in the same manner as the son.
- The daughter has the same rights in the coparcenary property as she would have had if she had been a son
- The daughter shall be subject to the same liability in the said coparcenary property as that of a son; and any reference to Hindu Mitakshara coparceners shall be deemed to include a reference to a daughter of a coparcener.
- The daughter is allotted the same share as is allotted to a son.

- The share of the pre-deceased son a pre-deceased daughter shall be allotted to the surviving child of such pre-deceased son or of such pre-deceased daughter.
- The share of the pre-deceased child of a pre-deceased son or of a pre deceased daughter shall be allotted to the child of such pre deceased child of the pre-deceased son or a pre-deceased daughter.

**(vi) The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act , 2005**

This is an Act to provide for more effective provision of the rights of women guaranteed under the Constitution who are victims of violence of any kind occurring within the family and for matter connected there with or incidental thereto

