

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT HYDERABAD
FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AND
THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH

GENDER SENSITIZATION AND INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

Consequent to the framing and publicizing of the Gender Sensitization & Sexual Harassment of Women at the High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad for the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Regulations, 2013, the High Court Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee for the State of Telangana and the State of Andhra Pradesh was reconstituted by the Hon'ble The Chief Justice of High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad vide Notification No.29/SO/2016 in Roc.No.761/SO/1/2000/2013 dated 27.10.2016, published in Telangana Gazette Part-II Extraordinary, with the following Honourable Judges and other members to fulfil the important public function of sensitizing the public to gender issues and to address any complaints as mentioned under Regulation 2(k) of Chapter I of the Regulations, in relation to gender sensitization/sexual harassment issues of women in the High Court precincts.

1.	The Hon'ble Sri Justice P.V.Sanjay Kumar	Chairperson
2.	The Hon'ble Sri Justice M.Seetharama Murthi	Member
3.	The Hon'ble Smt.Justice Anis	Member
4.	Mrs.D.Pramada, Advocate, High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	Member
5.	Sri G.Elisha, Advocate, High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	Member
6.	Ms..Manjari S.Ganu, Advocate, High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	Member
7.	Smt.M.Bhagyasri, Advocate, High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	Member
8.	Smt.Sunitha Krishnan, General Secretary, Prajwala NGO, Hyderabad	Member
9.	Sri RLN Charyulu, Deputy Registrar, High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	Member
10.	Smt.M.Santhi Vardhani, Deputy Registrar, High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad	Member Secretary

This report outlines the activities undertaken by the Committee and the activities/steps to be taken up in the year 2016.

After reconstitution, the first Meeting of the GSICC was held on 5.12.2016 at 4.45 pm presided over by the Chairperson Sri Justice P.V.Sanjay Kumar. The Committee considered the matter in the context of statutory obligations under the Act and the Regulations for providing safe, secure and enabling environment to the women and protecting women from any form of indecency, indignity and disrespect within the precincts of the High Court. The Committee was also of the view that all concerned i.e., lawyers, litigants and persons employed/deployed in or visiting the High Court premises should be sensitized to ensure that there is no discrimination on the basis of gender and be made aware of the mechanism available for redressal of grievances of women, the constitution of Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee and the statutory safeguards against making of false and malicious complaints.

The Committee recommended that:-

- (i) The Official Notification constituting the Committee, the Gazette Notifications and the Regulations to be placed in the GSICC portal of the Official Website.
- (ii) To undertake translation of Regulations into Urdu language and place them in the GSICC portal of the Official Website.
- (iii) To erect laminated flexies for prominent publicity of the policy in the precincts of High Court together with contact details of the Members of the Committee at eleven (11) conspicuous places by adding pictorial presentation. It was also resolved that a notice for designing and installing the flexies containing the policy and the pictorial presentation may be placed in the website of the High Court calling for tenders from interested parties/agencies
- (iv) To have a skit conducted in the High Court by the Bar Members during the next cultural day celebrations of the Bar Associations of both the States of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

- (v) To secure the help of NGOs, , Volunteers, and Women's Colleges viz., St Francis and Villa Marie etc., to organize skits and programmes of short duration during the lunch break on any working day of each month to sensitize all stake holders on the issues relating to sexual harassment and gender bias.

In furtherance of the recommendations of the Committee, the following activities have been undertaken by the Committee.

- The Regulations, the notification of constitution of the Committee and the Gazette Notifications have been uploaded in the GSICC portal of the Official Website.
- The contact details of the Member Secretary have been put up in the GSICC portal of the High Court's Website, by way of a notice, for the purpose of making any complaint by the aggrieved woman to the GSICC through the Member Secretary.
- The information such as - unwelcome acts or behaviour amounting to sexual harassment, the mechanism for redressal of grievances, the details of the Chairperson and Members of the Committee, the contact details of the Member Secretary for making written complaint, and statutory safeguards against making false and malicious complaints – to be displayed on the flexies that are to be erected at conspicuous places identified in the precincts of the High Court has been worked out. Pending erection of flexies, the said information has been uploaded in the GSICC portal of the High Court's Website.
- A letter has been addressed to the Registrar (Management) requesting assistance by taking follow up action regarding erection of flexies in the premises of the High Court Building.
- The Principals of St Francis and Villa Marie Women's Colleges have been addressed by the Committee for conducting skits in the High Court precincts and St Francis College has come forward to do so.

- The Registrar of the Moulana Azad National Urdu University, Gachibowli has been requested to translate the Regulations into Urdu.
- The work of placing, the tender notice for designing and installing the flexies with pictorial presentation on the website, is in process.

Sd/-

(JUSTICE P.V.SANJAY KUMAR)
Chairperson

/ BY ORDER/



M.SANTHI VARDHANI
Member Secretary, GSICC, High Court at Hyderabad