

HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD

GENDER SENSITIZATION AND INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE

ANNUAL REPORT

In exercise of powers conferred under Regulation 4 (2) of Chapter II of the Gender Sensitization and Sexual Harassment of Women at the High Court for the State of Telangana (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Regulations, 2013 (for short 'the Regulations'), the then Hon'ble the Chief Justice of the High Court for the State of Telangana, Hon'ble Sri Justice Ujjal Bhuyan garu, presently the Hon'ble Judge of the Supreme Court of India, was pleased to re-constitute the High Court Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC) (for short 'GSIC Committee) vide notification No.12/SO/2023, dated 21-06-2023, published in the Telangana Gazette Part-II Extraordinary on 26-06-2023, with the following Judges and other Members, to fulfil important public function of sensitizing the public on gender issues and to address any complaints, as mentioned under Regulation 2(k) of Chapter 1 of the Regulations, in respect of gender sensitization/sexual harassment issues of women in the High Court precincts:

1	The Hon'ble Smt. Justice T. Madhavi Devi, Judge, High Court for the State of Telangana.	Chairperson
2	The Hon'ble Smt. Justice Juvvadi Sridevi, Judge, High Court for the State of Telangana.	Member
3	Dr. J. Vijaya Lakshmi, Advocate, High Court for the State of Telangana.	Member
4	Smt. Vaijayanthi. B, Advocate, High Court for the State of Telangana.	Member

5	Sri Chandra Mohan Reddy. S, Advocate, High Court for the State of Telangana.	Member
6	Smt. Sravya Katta, Advocate, High Court for the State of Telangana.	Member
7	Smt. Poornasri Vangala, Advocate, High Court for the State of Telangana.	Member
8	Smt. Kondavveti Satyavati, Bhumika Women's Collective, Hyderabad	Member
9	Sri B.S. Chiranjeevi, Joint Registrar, High Court for the State of Telangana	Member
¹⁰	Smt. K. Shyleshi, Deputy Registrar, High Court for the State of Telangana	Member Secretary

The report outlines the activities undertaken by the Committee and the activities/steps to be taken up in the year 2024.

The GSICC meetings after its re-constitution were held on 01.09.2023, 12.10.2023, 03.11.2023 and 17.11.2023, wherein it was recommended as follows:

- i) To erect laminated digital metal boards with iron frame in all the conspicuous places in the High Court premises, apart from the places where they have been installed, as directed by the earlier committee, indicating the penal consequences of a complaint.
- ii) Create an e-mail in the name of Member Secretary and upload in the GSICC page of the High Court's Website.
- iii) To consult the Chairman of the Bar Council, Hyderabad to address the new entrants into the profession on every Thursday before enrolment of the members at the Bar Council to sensitize and inform them about the provisions of the Act

- iv) To conduct various programmes such as quiz and essay writing competitions on the subject “**how to tackle gender based violence**” both for advocates as well as for the staff of the High Court in view of “16 days of activism against gender based violence”, and International Day for Elimination of Violence against Women.

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

- i) Laminated digital metal boards (8 in English language and 7 in Telugu language) with iron frame have been erected in all the conspicuous places in the High Court premises, apart from the places where they have been installed, as directed by the earlier committee, indicating the penal consequences of a complaint.
- ii) An e-mail ID in the name of Member Secretary has been created and included the details of the Member Secretary and uploaded in the GSICC page of the High Court's Website.
- iii) Dr. J. Vijaya Laxmi and Sri Chandra Mohan Reddy. S, Advocate Members were nominated by the Committee to consult the Chairman of the Bar Council, Hyderabad to address the new entrants into the profession on every Thursday before enrolment of the members at the Bar Council and to secure the help of the lawyers, lawyers' bodies etc.
- iv) Quiz and essay writing competitions on the subject “**how to tackle gender based violence**” both for advocates as well as for the staff of the High Court in view of “16 days of activism against gender based violence”, and International Day for Elimination of Violence against

Women were conducted on 05.12.2023. The 1st, 2nd and consolation winners of the competition would be presented with the prizes by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice for the State of Telangana, in the programme to be conducted by GSICC.

Only one complaint dated 05-07-2023 was received from Mrs. Eunice, Advocate, High Court for the State of Telangana. The Committee has gone into the contents of the complaint and observed that except a mention of sexual harassment in the subject portion of the mail, there is no reference of any specific or general act of sexual harassment by any person, to attract the definition of sexual harassment under Regulation 2 (k) of the Gender Sensitization & Sexual Harassment of Women at the High Court for the State of Telangana (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Regulations, 2013. Therefore, it was unanimously resolved by the Committee that the complaint does not merit any investigation nor does it deserve any consideration and accordingly closed the same.

Sd/-
T. MADHAVI DEVI, J
Chairperson

//BY ORDER//

K. Shyleshi

K. SHYLESHI
Member Secretary, GSICC, High Court at Hyderabad