

ANNUAL REPORT

[As required under Rule 7(2)(iii) of the Gender Sensitisation and Sexual Harassment of women at the Supreme Court of India (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Regulations, 2013]

The Supreme Court Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee (hereinafter called as 'GSICC') was constituted by the then Hon'ble Chief Justice of India vide Office Order No. 277 of 2013 dated 26.11.2013. After the then Hon'ble Chairperson Mrs. Justice Ranjana P.Desai demitted the office, it was reconstituted vide order dated 31.10.2014 as :-

*Hon'ble Smt. Justice R.Banumathi Chairperson
Judge, Supreme Court of India*

*Hon'ble Mr. Justice Prafulla C. Pant Member
Judge, Supreme Court of India*

*Mr. L. Nageswara Rao, Member
Senior Member of Supreme Court
Bar Association*

*Ms. Indu Malhotra, Senior Member Member
of Supreme Court Bar Association*

*Ms. Bina Madhavan, Representative *(Her resignation is pending
of Supreme Court Bar Association consideration from this post)*

*Ms. B. Sunita Rao, Representative Member
of Supreme Court Advocate-on-
Record Association*

*Ms. Madhu Chauhan, Member
Representative of Supreme Court
Clerks Association*

*Ms. Bharti Ali, Co-Director,
HAQ: Centre for Child Rights New
Delhi,*

*Member (nominated by
Hon'ble the Chief Justice of
India) under clause 4(2)(f) of
the Regulations*

*Prof. (Dr.) G. Mohan Gopal, Director,
Rajiv Gandhi Institute for
Contemporary Studies, New Delhi,*

*Member (nominated by
Hon'ble the Chief Justice of
India) under clause 4(2)(h)
of the Regulations.*

Ms. Rachna Gupta, Registrar

Member Secretary

In the year 2014, GSICC convened 4 meetings:

- First on 14th February, 2014.
- Second on 4th March, 2014.
- Third on 17th April, 2014
- Fourth on 18th July, 2014.

COMPLAINTS AND INTERNAL SUB-COMMITTEE:-

Two complaints as were pending inquiry before Internal Sub-Committee of GSICC were inquired finally. The recommendations of Internal Sub-Committee with respect to both the said complaints were duly accepted by the then Hon'ble Chairperson of the GSICC and also by the then Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India. Respondent No. 1 was accepted to be admonished and the complaint against him was allowed to be simply dropped. The recommendation with respect to Respondent No. 2 debarring his entry into the

Supreme Court precincts for a specified period extending upto a maximum period of one year was accepted restricting the said entry for a period of six months thereof. It was also decided about Respondent No. 2 that the order passed by the then Hon'ble Chief Justice of India against the respondent be intimated to Bar Council of Karnataka as the respondent being the member of the said Bar Council, and the punishment so imposed was also ordered to be uploaded on the website of the Supreme Court of India.

Two more complaints were filed in the year 2014. The Internal Sub-Committee for inquiring into the said two complaints was re-constituted by the GSICC. Complaint No. 3 was withdrawn by the complainant thereof. However, with respect to Complaint No. 4, the GSICC had observed that the complaint was actually the copy of the writ petition already pending adjudication before Delhi High Court. It was decided that since competent authority is already seized of the matter, GSICC should not interfere with the said proceedings and the complaint was accordingly filed.

Further a representation was received from a complainant who had intervened in a writ petition filed by Ms. X in Delhi High Court. She raised her contention for developing a mechanism to deal with the complaints of sexual

harassment against the judges. However, it was unanimously decided by GSICC that since the jurisdiction of GSICC is confined only to such acts of sexual harassment as have occurred within the precincts of Supreme Court of India the representation was not be considered as her grievance was against her Senior Officers in Research and Analysis Wing (RAW) where she herself was an Officer. Otherwise also, the grievance was sub-judiced before the Competent Court and the contention about the mechanism as prayed for was also the part of the prayer in the said writ petition also. Hence, the representation of this aggrieved women was also filed by GSICC.

As on date no complaint of any aggrieved women is pending inquiry before the Internal Sub Committee of GSICC.

VOLUNTEERS:

Initially a panel of 10 volunteers; 5 male and 5 female was constituted by the GSICC. Later vide Minutes dated 18.07.2014 it was decided to increase the number of volunteers and member advocate Ms. B. Sunita Rao and Ms. Madhu Chauhan were asked to provide a proposed list of volunteers. In compliance thereof a panel of 29 volunteers was prepared. Name of volunteer

advocate Haripriya Padmanabhan was deleted vide minutes dated 18.07.2015 of GSICC. *(The old as well as new list of volunteers is attached herewith for perusal and for approval of the existing panel of the volunteers).*

Volunteers were asked by the GSICC to meet at least once a month. In consequence thereof the volunteers have convened meetings as on:-

- First on 28th August, 2014.
- Second on 19th September, 2014.
- Third on 10th December, 2014

SENSITIZATION AND PUBLICITY:

Vide minutes dated 14.02.2014 of GSICC meeting the then Hon'ble Chairperson of GSICC and the then Hon'ble Judge Member of the Committee directed to consult Ms. Abha Joshi Singhal from NGO, MARG and Ms. Madhu Mehra, from NGO Partners in Development of Law (PLD) as resources person to guide preparing the posters/ pamphlets, subject to approval. The Member Secretary was asked to get the samples thereof approved.

Member Secretary in association of both the above mentioned female volunteers and both the said resource persons prepared various posters. However, six of them were approved by the GSICC vide minutes dated 04.03.2014.

Vide minutes dated 17.04.2014 the Member Secretary GSICC was asked to consult the two NGO's to extend their cooperation as trainers also and to help in organization of seminars or the workshops for sensitizing the young generation of lawyers on the gender issue and to sensitize the people in the precincts of Supreme Court of India. Accordingly the seminars were asked to be organized. It was decided by GSICC vide minutes dated 18.07.2014 that the workshops for selected volunteers be organized on 8.8.2014 and a seminar for all persons available in the precincts of Supreme Court of India be organized on 22.8.2014 In compliance thereof both the said trainers were called to first of all sensitize the volunteers who were taken on the panel of GSICC and a seminar was organized for the volunteers on 8.8.2014.

However, the other seminars could not be organized on 22.8.2014 due to the unavailability of the resource persons/ the proposed trainers from the aforesaid two NGO's. Subsequently also, due to the then Hon'ble Chairperson demitting her office shortly thereafter. Workshops, seminars and training programmes for various target groups available within the precincts of Supreme Court of India shall be organised in the year 2014.

FINANCIAL ISSUES

For the effective implementation of the GSICC regulations the initial budget of Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand Only) was announced by the then Hon'ble CJI and vide order dated 20.12.2013 GSICC was asked to work out the requirement of funds for implementation of the GSICC regulations for the coming year and to inform the same to Cash & Accounts Branch.

Vide order dated 02.12.2013, the honorarium for the outside members of GSICC i.e. the nominees of Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India as per regulation 4(2)(f) was fixed at the rate of Rs. 3,000/- per day of the proceeding. However, both the said two nominees have requested not to disburse the said honorarium to them as is recorded in the minutes of the meeting dated 09.12.2013. In compliance of order dated 20.12.2013 the proposed allocation of funds for the calender year 2014 was submitted vide previous annual report for an amount of Rs. 5,20,000/- (Rupees Five lakh twenty thousand only) but the amount was not utilised as the workshops/ seminars could not be organized. Though the six different types of posters for publicity within the precincts of Supreme Court of India got printed and even placed on various conspicuous parts of the precincts but the payment thereof is still pending for the want of the bill to be raised by the printer. The remuneration of outside

members was also not withdrawn. The meeting of GSICC as well as the sub-committee and the seminar for volunteers was organized at the Registry level itself by Caretaking Branch of the Registry.

However, in the present year the seminars and workshops have to be organized, hence following is the proposed budget for the calender year 2015:-

S. No.	Object	Amount
1.	Workshops/ Seminars/ Publicity	Rs. 2,00,000/-
2.	Expenses for sending process during inquiry and for record maintenance thereof.	Rs. 2,00,000/-
3.	Training for volunteers	Rs.50,000/-
4.	Remuneration to outside members	Rs.36,000/-
5.	Expenses for holding Meetings of GSICC as well as Sub-Committee	Rs.10,000/-
	Total	Rs.4,96,000/-

Sd/-

Rachna Gupta
Member Secretary, GSICC
Supreme Court of India
 04.02.2015