

# **HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH**

## **Gender Sensitization & Internal Complaints Committee**

### **ANNUAL REPORT-2024**

The Punjab and Haryana High Court has constituted Gender Sensitization & Internal Complaints Committee, for gender sensitization and redressal of grievances against sexual harassment in precincts of this Court in terms of **The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013**. Besides addressing any incident of sexual harassment, the committee is continuously on its path to safeguard the constitutional and legal rights of women in the High Court precincts.

The Committee has taken various initiatives since its inception in the year 2014 for gender awareness and sensitization in the society regarding rights of women at workplace. The Committee believes that introducing Gender Sensitization and legal awareness is indispensable for instilling values of equality. This is essential for creating a safe, healthy and supportive environment which fosters optimal output and efficiency while ensuring an atmosphere conducive for wholesome growth/development of all.

Composition of Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee of this Court is as follows:-

1. Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Lisa Gill, (Chairperson).
2. Hon'ble Mrs. Justice Manjari Nehru Kaul
3. Hon'ble Ms. Justice Nidhi Gupta
4. Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjay Vashisth
5. Registrar (Vigilance), Punjab and Haryana High Court.
6. Mr. R.S Cheema, Senior Advocate
7. Ms. Alka Chatrath, Advocate
8. Joint Secretary, High Court Bar Association.
9. Prof. Madhurima Verma, Department of Sociology, USOL, Panjab University, Chandigarh.
10. Mrs. Vijay Nijhawan, Deputy Registrar (Vigilance), Punjab and Haryana High Court (Member Secretary).
11. Ms. Ritu Gupta, Senior Assistant, Punjab and Haryana High Court.


During the year 2023-2024, the Committee received two complaints pertaining to gender issues. The status of these complaints is as follows:

1. One complaint has been filed.
2. The other complaint has been disposed of by the Committee.

In order to protect the dignity and to provide decent and comfortable atmosphere for all in the court complexes, the matter regarding installation of Sanitary Napkin Vending Machines, Creches for children of employees and Advocates and separate ladies washrooms with complete facilities, in all the Districts of the State(s) of Punjab and Haryana and U.T Chandigarh, has been taken up. The action taken reports indicate that the work is in progress in various District Courts of Punjab and Haryana.

Like previous years, 550 Table Calendars-2025 on behalf of Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee have been got published and distributed amongst Hon'ble Judges in Supreme Court, Hon'ble Judges of this High Court, all High Courts of India, all District and Sessions Judges in the State(s) of Punjab and Haryana and U.T., Chandigarh and all members of the Hon'ble Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee.

Last but not the least, the Gender Sensitization and Internal Complaints Committee is hopeful that programmes for gender sensitization, organized from time to time shall be successful in cracking gender stereotypes, promote objective and rational thinking in this regard and help everyone to collectively move towards society, which is free from gender bias.

  
(Lisa Gill)  
Judge, Chairperson, GSICC.  
Punjab and Haryana High Court,  
Chandigarh