

Policy of the Company under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013

1. Objective

Sastasundar Ventures Limited ('the Company' or 'Sastasundar') is committed to providing a work environment free from harassment of any kind and in particular, a work environment that does not tolerate sexual harassment. We respect dignity of everyone involved in our work place, whether they are employees, suppliers or our customers. We require all employees to make sure that they maintain mutual respect and positive regard towards one another.

2. Definition of sexual harassment

Sexual harassment may be one or a series of incidents involving unsolicited and unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favours, or any other verbal or physical conduct of sexual nature.

Sexual Harassment at the workplace includes:

- a. unwelcome sexual advances (verbal, written or physical),
- b. demand or request for sexual favours,
- c. any other type of sexually-oriented conduct,
- d. verbal abuse or 'joking' that is sex-oriented,
- e. any conduct that has the purpose or the effect of interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment and/or submission to such conduct is either an explicit or implicit term or condition of employment and /or submission or rejection of the conduct is used as a basis for making employment decisions.
- "*Employee*" means any person on the rolls of the Company including those on deputation, contract, temporary, part time or working as consultants.

3. INTERNAL COMPLAINT COMMITTEE

3.1 A Committee has been constituted by the Management to consider and redress complaints of Sexual Harassment. The Chairman and Members of the Committee are as follows:

Initially, and till further notice, the Internal Complaint Committee will Comprise of the following four members out of which at least three members will be women:

Member from an NGO or Lawyer	Chairperson
Head-Corporate HR	Member
Employee at the level of Assistant General Manager or above from	Member
Personnel & Administration Department	
Divisional Personnel Head of the Division or a Functional Head	Member
from the division from where the complaint has originated	

3.2 A quorum of 3 members is required to be present for the proceedings to take place. The quorum shall include the Chairperson, at least two members, one of whom shall be a lady.



4. Procedure for dealing with complaints of sexual harassment

Redressal Process:

- 4.1 Any employee who feels and is being sexually harassed directly or indirectly may submit a complaint of the alleged incident to any member of the Committee in writing with his/her signature within one month of occurrence of incident.
- 4.2 The Committee will maintain a register to endorse the complaint received by it and keep the contents confidential, if it is so desired, except to use the same for discreet investigation.
- 4.3 The Committee will hold a meeting with the Complainant within five days of the receipt of the complaint, but not later than a week in any case.
- 4.4 At the first meeting, the Committee members shall hear the Complainant and record her/his allegations. The Complainant can also submit any corroborative material with a documentary proof, oral or written material, etc., to substantiate his / her complaint. If the Complainant does not wish to depose personally due to embarrassment of narration of event, a lady officer for lady employees involved and a male officer for male employees, involved shall meet and record the statement.
- 4.5 Thereafter, the person against whom complaint is made may be called for a deposition before the Committee and an opportunity will be given to him / her to give an explanation.
- 4.6 An "Enquiry/Investigation" shall be conducted and the complainant and the accused shall be informed of the outcome of the investigation. The investigation shall be completed within 3 months of the receipt of the complaint. If the investigation reveals that the complainant has been sexually harassed as claimed, the accused will be disciplined accordingly.
- 4.7 In the event, the complaint does not fall under the purview of Sexual Harassment or the complaint does not mean an offence of Sexual Harassment, the same would be dropped after recording the reasons thereof.
- 4.8 In case the complaint is found to be false, the Complainant shall, if deemed fit, be liable for appropriate disciplinary action by the Management.

5. Disciplinary Action

In case any such conduct amounts to a specific offence under the Indian Penal Code or under any other law, the company shall initiate appropriate action in accordance with the law by lodging a complaint with the appropriate authority.

Sexual harassment will not be tolerated at Sastasundar. Where any misconduct is found by the Committee, appropriate disciplinary action shall be taken against the accused. Disciplinary action may include transfer, withholding promotion, suspension or even dismissal. This action shall be in addition to any legal recourse sought by the complainant.

6. Confidentiality

The contents of the complaint, the identity and addresses of the aggrieved staff member, respondent and witnesses, any information relating to conciliation and inquiry proceedings, recommendations of the Internal Committee and the action taken by Sastasundar shall not be published, communicated or made known to the public, press and media in any manner. All complaints / grievances of sexual harassment will be taken seriously, will be held in strict



confidence and will be investigated promptly in an impartial manner. For the purpose of completing the investigation, key witnesses or other stakeholders may be required to be taken into confidence at the strict discretion of the Complaint Redressal Committee.

7. Protection against retaliation

Regardless of the outcome of the complaint made in good faith, the employee lodging the complaint and any person providing information or any witness, will be protected from any form of retaliation.

While dealing with complaints of sexual harassment, the Committee shall ensure that the Complainant or the witness are not victimized or discriminated against by the accused. Any unwarranted pressures, retaliatory or any other type of unethical behaviour from the accused against the complainant while the investigation is in progress should be reported by the complainant to the Complaints Committee as soon as possible. Disciplinary action will be taken by the Complaints Committee against any such complaints which are found genuine.

8. Documentation

The Committee shall keep complete and accurate documentation of the complaint, its investigation and the resolution thereof. The incident would be documented in both the complainant's and the accused's files with the full report of the Complaints Committee.

9. Dissemination of the Policy

A copy of this Policy shall be given to all employees and to all new recruits and they shall sign a statement acknowledging that they have received, read, understood and will abide by the Policy.

10. Complaints made with a malicious intent

This policy has been evolved as a tool to ensure that in the interest of justice and fair play, our employees have a forum to approach in the event of instances of sexual harassment. However, if on investigation it is revealed that the complaint was made with a malicious intent and with the motive of maligning the concerned individual / tarnishing his/her image in the company and to settle personal/professional scores, strict action will be taken against the complainant. The employees who are victims of sexual harassment may, in addition to the above, seek legal remedies as may be provided under the various laws for the time being in force.

11. Applicability

This Policy is applicable to Sastasundar and its subsidiary companies. The Policy shall become operational from the date as may be decided by the Board of Directors of the Company.