# Policy on Prevention of Sexual Harassment (PoSH) of women at workplace

# Introduction

This policy has been framed in accordance with the provisions of "The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013" and rules framed thereunder (hereinafter "the Act"). Accordingly, while the policy covers all the key aspects of the Act, for any further clarification reference shall always be made to the Act and the provisions of the Act shall prevail.

The Company will not tolerate any form of sexual harassment and is committed to take all necessary steps to ensure that its employees are not subjected to any form of harassment.

#### Scope

This policy applies to all employees (full-time, part-time, trainees and those on contractual assignments) of the Company including all subsidiaries and affiliated companies at their workplace or at client sites and also to visitors of the Company.

# The workplace includes:

- 1. All offices or other premises where the Company's business is conducted.
- 2. All company-related activities performed at any other site away from the Company's premises.
- 3. Any social, business or other functions where the conduct or comments may have an adverse impact on the workplace or workplace relations.

# Definition of Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is unwelcome conduct of a sexual nature which makes a person feel offended, humiliated and/or intimidated. It includes situations where a person is asked to engage in sexual activity as a condition of that person's employment, as well as situations which create an environment which is hostile, intimidating or humiliating for the recipient.

Sexual harassment can involve one or more incidents and actions constituting harassment may be physical, verbal and non-verbal. Examples of conduct or behaviour which constitute sexual harassment include, but are not limited to:

# Physical conduct

- Unwelcome physical contact including patting, pinching, stroking, kissing, hugging, fondling or inappropriate touching
- Physical violence, including sexual assault

#### Verbal conduct

- > Comments on a worker's appearance, age, private life etc.
- Sexual comments, stories and jokes
- Sexual advances
- Repeated and unwanted social invitations or physical intimacy
- > The use of job-related threats or rewards to solicit sexual favours
- Insults based on the sex of the worker
- Sending sexually explicit messages (by phone or by email)

#### Non-verbal conduct

- Display or showing of sexually explicit or suggestive material
- Sexually-suggestive gestures
- Whistling
- Leering

# Responsibilities Regarding Sexual Harassment

All employees of the Company have a personal responsibility to ensure that their behaviour is not contrary to this policy.

All employees are encouraged to reinforce the maintenance of a work environment which is free from sexual harassment.

# Responsibilities of Managers:

All managers must ensure that nobody is subject to harassment. They must also ensure that all employees understand that harassment will not be tolerated; that complaints will be taken seriously; and that the complainant, respondent/s, or witnesses are not victimized in any way.

#### Complaint Mechanism

An appropriate complaint mechanism in the form of "Complaints Committee" has been created in the Company for time-bound redressal of the complaint made by the victim.

# Complaints Committee

The Company has instituted a Complaints Committee for redressal of sexual harassment complaint (made by the victim) and for ensuring time bound treatment of such complaints.

Initially, and till further notice, the Complaints Committee will comprise of the following five members:

- 1. Presiding Officer
- 2. Woman Employee (Member)
- 3. Male Employee at Managerial level (Member)
- 4. Women Member from Outside the Organization who have legal knowledge on issues relating to sexual harassment (Member)

The Presiding Officer can nominate more members of appropriate seniority and rank in the committee to conduct such enquiries to ensure equal representation of the gender as that of the complainant or for any other valid reason.

The term of the Office of the Committee members shall be for 3 years from the date of appointment.

The Complaints Committee is responsible for:

- > Investigating every complaint of sexual harassment
- Taking appropriate remedial measures to respond to any substantiated allegations of sexual harassment
- > Discouraging and preventing employment-related sexual harassment.

# PROCEDURES FOR RESOLUTION, SETTLEMENT OR PROSECUTION OF ACTS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The Company is committed to provide a supportive environment to resolve concerns of sexual harassment as under:

#### Informal Resolution Options

When an incident of sexual harassment occurs, the victim of such conduct can communicate their disapproval and objections immediately to the harasser and request the harasser to behave decently.

If the harassment does not stop or if victim is not comfortable with addressing the harasser directly, the victim can bring their concern to the attention of the immediate superior or Department Head for redressal of their grievances. Who shall provide an informal resolution option.

# Complaints:

 An employee with a harassment concern, who is not comfortable with the informal resolution options or has exhausted such options, may make a formal complaint to the Presiding Officer of the Complaints Committee constituted by the Management. The complaint shall have to be in writing, submitted within 3 months from the date of the incident and in case of a series of incidents, within a period of 3 months from the date of the last incident. The Complaints Committee can extend the timeline for filing the complaint, for reasons to be recorded in writing, by another period of 3 months. The employee is required to disclose their name, department, division and location they are working in, to enable the Presiding Officer to contact them and take the matter forward.

- 2. The Presiding Officer of the Complaints Committee will proceed to determine whether the allegations (assuming them to be true only for the purpose of this determination) made in the complaint fall under the purview of Sexual Harassment, preferably within 30 days from receipt of the complaint.
- 3. In the event, the allegation does not fall under the purview of Sexual Harassment or the allegation does not constitute an offence of Sexual Harassment, the Presiding Officer will record this finding with reasons, and communicate the same to the complainant.
- 4. If the Presiding Officer of the Complaints Committee determines that the allegations constitute an act of sexual Harassment, she will proceed to investigate the allegation with the assistance of the Complaints Committee.
- 5. Where such conduct, on the part of the accused, amounts to a specific offence under the law, the Company shall initiate appropriate action in accordance with law by making a complaint with the appropriate authority.
- 6. The Complaints Committee shall conduct such investigations in a timely manner and shall submit a written report to the Board of Directors of the Company containing the findings and recommendations on action to be taken as soon as practically possible and in any case, not later than 90 days from the date of receipt of the complaint.
- 7. In case the complaint is found to be false, the Complainant shall, if deemed fit, be liable for appropriate disciplinary action by the Management.

#### Confidentiality

The Company understands that it is difficult for the victim to come forward with a complaint of sexual harassment and recognizes the victim's interest in keeping the matter confidential.

To protect the interests of the victim, the accused person and others who may report incidents of sexual harassment, confidentiality will be maintained throughout the investigatory process to the extent practicable and appropriate under the circumstances.

# Access to Reports and Documents

All records of complaints, including contents of meetings, results of investigations and other relevant material will be kept confidential by the Company except where disclosure is required under disciplinary or other remedial processes.

# Protection to Complainant / Victim

The Company is committed to ensuring that no employee who brings forward a harassment concern is subject to any form of reprisal. Any reprisal will be subject to disciplinary action.

The Company will ensure that the victim or witnesses are not victimized or discriminated against while dealing with complaints of sexual harassment.

However, anyone who abuses the procedure (for example, by maliciously putting an allegation knowing it to be untrue) will be subject to disciplinary action.

In conclusion, the Company reiterates its commitment to providing its employees, a workplace free from harassment/ discrimination and where every employee is treated with dignity and respect.

# Jandia Complaints Committee

- Presiding Officer Keerthana.M
- 2. Women Employee Nithya.R
- 3. Male Employee Nirmal Kumar
- 4. External Member Sheerin Fathima

For JANDIA ENGINEERING (P) LTD,

**Authorised Signatory**