WOMEN DEVELOPMENT CELL IN COLLABORATION WITH IQAC

COUNSELLING SESSION ON

'SEXUAL HARASSMENT: PROBLEMS AND SOLUTIONS'

An awareness Counselling Session was conducted by Women Development Cell in collaboration with IQAC,Shyam Lal College on 8th December, 2016. The Counsellor for the session was Dr.Aradhana Sharma. Around 120 students turned up for this session. This session aimed at creating awareness among the students regarding various types of sexual harassments and respective solutions. Inherently, it has been characterised as unlikelihood in terms of social and moral reasonableness. The harassment of any nature at workplace does not only cause mental and/or physical damage to the person harassed; but also seriously curtails opportunities at work by creating a discriminatory work environment for the employee. Hence disrupting the work culture in the organisation for always.

People are discriminated against and oppressed based upon several grounds. And since the base for harassment is rooted in discrimination, there can be several kinds of harassment. Much visible and discussed is the Physical assaults /molestation, propositions or other lewd comments or gestures, noises, remarks, jokes, or comments about any individual. However, this is not the umbrella definition of the Harassment owing to the Gender. The definition extends on to include the economic violence, mental violence, overpowering the political structures and even ideological decisions are imposed on women by the patriarchs around.

The misery begins when these misconducts are observed in the virtual spaces as well. The online presence on social media has made these confrontations way more susceptible giving birth to more of cyber crime at a single click. The remedies suggested encapsulated to strengthen economic supports for women and their families. Also, strengthening leadership and opportunities for girls is a prerequisite. Thereafter, creating Protective Environments is the need of the hour. This can be channelised by improving safety and monitoring in schools/Colleges, establishing and consistently applying workplace policies and then addressing community-level risks through environmental approaches.

Many students asked questions from the speaker on the legal framework which may prove to be assistive to mankind. Apart from that there were many questions and speaker answer all those and after that discuss about various laws in context to sexual harassment namely, Indian Penal Code, Criminal Procedures Code and Information Technology Act also took place.

Sexual harassment of women is an alarming concern today. If the women today do not feel safe and are intimidated or suffer oppression, then this is a shame for each one of us as she was the genesis of every single human being. Not just sexual harassment but all forms of harassment need to stopped and opposed. Sexual violence poses an obstacle to peace and security and in the long run, the existence of humanity on the planet. Today, the situations are such that people atleast talking about them without alleging the victim. Ensuring the equality is a fundamental right even granted by our constitution. The awareness and education system are heading in the right direction. But the issue is more social in nature and less scientifically proven. The issues are improving with times; however, the rate of change is gradual and perhaps looking forward to collaborative efforts. We need to make them better, and hopefully, we will.

