

# POLICY ON PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORKPLACE

# I. <u>COMMITMENT:</u>

Shah Investor's Home Limited is committed to providing work environment that ensures every employee is treated with dignity and respect and afforded equitable treatment. The Company is also committed to promoting a work environment that is conducive to the professional growth of its employees and encourages equality of opportunity.

Shah Investor's Home Limited 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.

### II. <u>SCOPE:</u>

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.

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.

### III. 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:

- 1. unwelcome sexual advances (verbal, written or physical),
- 2. demand or request for sexual favours,
- 3. any other type of sexually-oriented conduct,
- 4. verbal abuse or 'joking' that is sex-oriented,

5. 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



# IV. <u>COMPLAINT MECHANISM:</u>

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

- 1. Any aggrieved person may make, in writing, a complaint of sexual harassment at workplace to the committee giving details of the sexual harassment meted out to her/him within a period of 3 months from the date of incident and in case of a series of incidents, within a period of 3 months from the date of last incident, which may be extended for a further period of 3 months, if circumstances warrant such extension in the opinion of the Internal Complaints Committee, for reasons to be recorded in writing.
- 2. The Presiding Officer or any Member of the Internal Complaints Committee can render reasonable assistance to the person for making complaint in writing, in case they are unable to do so.
- 3. On receipt of complaint, the Internal Complaint Committee shall decide the place and time for hearing the complaint and shall intimate the date, time and place of hearing to the Complainant and Respondent.
- 4. Internal Complaints Committee on receipt of such written complaint, may, if require ask the aggrieved person to furnish additional information about the alleged harassment.
- 5. The Complaints Committee shall conduct such investigations in a timely manner and shall submit a written report containing the findings and recommendations to the Board of Directors.
- 6. Where the Committee and Board of Directors together arrives at the conclusion that the allegation against the respondent has been proved, it may take the following actions depending upon the circumstances :
  - a. Formal apology
  - b. Counseling
  - c. Written warning to the Respondent and a copy of it maintained in the employee's file.
  - d. Change of work assignment / transfer for either the Respondent or the Complainant. e. Suspension or termination of services of the employee found guilty of the offence
  - f. Granting of compensation or damages to the Complainant

# V. <u>COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE:</u>

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 four members:

1. Presiding Officer: Woman employee at the level of Assistant General Manager or above

2. Not less than 2 members from amongst employees preferably committed to the cause of women or who have had experience in social work or have legal knowledge.

3. Member from an NGO or Lawyer or a person familiar with the issues relating to sexual harassment (Member)



# VI. <u>CONFIDENTIALITY:</u>

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.

# VII. 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.

# VIII. <u>CONCLUSION</u>

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

# IX. <u>GENERAL</u>

The provisions of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 shall be applicable in addition to this Policy.

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