



META INFOTECH LIMITED

**POLICY ON PREVENTION OF
SEXUAL HARASSMENT**

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POLICY ON PREVENTION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Purpose

Meta Infotech Limited (the company) is committed to providing a safe environment for all its employees free from discrimination on any ground and from harassment at work including sexual harassment. Meta Infotech Limited will operate a zero tolerance policy for any form of sexual harassment in the workplace, treat all incidents seriously and promptly investigate all allegations of sexual harassment. Any person found to have sexually harassed another will face disciplinary action, up to and including dismissal from employment. All complaints of sexual harassment will be taken seriously and treated with respect and in confidence. No one will be victimized for making such a complaint.

Applicability

This policy is applicable to all permanent employees, probationers, temporary employees, trainees, apprentices of the Company and any person visiting the Meta Infotech Ltd, Andheri, Thane and Hyderabad offices, in connection with any work.

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
- Physical contact, e.g. touching, pinching
- The use of job-related threats or rewards to solicit sexual favours

Verbal conduct

- Comments on a worker's appearance, age, private life, etc.
- Sexual comments, stories and jokes
- Sexual advances
- Repeated and unwanted social invitations for dates or physical intimacy
- Insults based on the sex of the worker
- Condescending or paternalistic remarks
- Sending sexually explicit messages (by phone or by mail)

Non-verbal conduct

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

Anyone can be a victim of sexual harassment, regardless of their sex and of the sex of the harasser. Meta Infotech Limited recognizes that sexual harassment may also occur between people of the same sex. What matters is that the sexual conduct is unwanted and unwelcome by the person against whom the conduct is directed.



Meta Infotech Limited recognizes that sexual harassment is a manifestation of power relationships and often occurs within unequal relationships in the workplace, for example between manager or supervisor and employee.

Anyone, including employees of (the company), clients, customers, casual workers, contractors or visitors who sexually harasses another will be reprimanded in accordance with this internal policy.

All sexual harassment is prohibited whether it takes place within the company premises or outside, including at social events, business trips, training sessions or conferences sponsored by the Company.

Internal Complaints Committee

In order to provide a safe, secure, and congenial work environment and to protect employees from sexual harassment at the workplace, the Company has constituted an Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) at its various locations, in accordance with the provisions of the **Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 ("POSH Act")**.

The Presiding Officer (Chairperson) and every member of the Internal Complaints Committee shall hold office for a period of three (3) years from the date of their nomination.

The Internal Complaints Committee shall be responsible for receiving, inquiring into, and redressing all complaints of sexual harassment at the workplace in a fair, confidential, and time-bound manner, as prescribed under the POSH Act.

Complaint of Sexual Harassment

Any aggrieved employee may make, in writing, a complaint of sexual harassment **to the Human Resources - Head of the Company or to any member of the Internal Complaints Committee**, in accordance with the provisions of the POSH Act at the workplace to the Internal Committee within a period of three months from the date of the incidence. Provided further that the internal complaints committee may, for the reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the time limit not exceeding three months, if it is satisfied that the circumstances were such which prevented the women from filing a complaint within the said period.

Handling of complaints by Internal Complaints Committee

Anyone who is subject to sexual harassment should, if possible, inform the alleged harasser that the conduct is unwanted and unwelcome. The Company recognizes that sexual harassment may occur in unequal relationships (i.e. between a supervisor and his/her employee) and that it may not be possible for the victim to inform the alleged harasser. If a victim cannot directly approach an alleged harasser, he/she can approach one of the members of ICC responsible for receiving complaints of sexual harassment. This person could be another supervisor, a member of the human resources department, etc. When a member receives a complaint of sexual harassment, he/she will:

- immediately record the dates, times and facts of the incident(s)
- ascertain the views of the victim as to what outcome he/she wants
- ensure that the victim understands the Company's procedures for dealing with the complaint
- discuss and agree the next steps: either informal or formal complaint, on the understanding that choosing to resolve the matter informally does not preclude the victim from pursuing a formal complaint if he/she is not satisfied with the outcome
- keep a confidential record of all discussions
- respect the choice of the victim
- ensure that the victim knows that they can lodge the complaint outside of the company through the relevant country/legal framework

Throughout the complaints procedure, a victim is entitled to be helped by a counsellor within the Company. The Company will nominate a person from senior management and provide him with special training to enable him to



assist victims of sexual harassment. The Company recognizes that because sexual harassment often occurs in unequal relationships within the workplace, victims often feel that they cannot come forward. The Company understands the need to support victims in making complaints.

Informal complaints mechanism

If the victim wishes to deal with the matter informally, he/she will bring the matter to HR Head:

- give an opportunity to the alleged harasser to respond to the complaint
- ensure that the alleged harasser understands the complaints mechanism
- facilitate discussion between both parties to achieve an informal resolution which is acceptable to the complainant, or refer the matter to a designated mediator within the company to resolve the matter
- ensure that a confidential record is kept of what happens
- follow up after the outcome of the complaints mechanism to ensure that the behavior has stopped
- ensure that the above is done speedily and within 7 days of the complaint being made

Formal complaints mechanism

If the victim wants to make a formal complaint or if the informal complaint mechanism has not led to a satisfactory outcome for the victim, the formal complaint mechanism should be used to resolve the matter.

The designated person who initially received the complaint will refer the matter to a senior human resources manager to instigate a formal investigation. The senior human resources manager may deal with the matter him/herself, refer the matter to an internal investigator in accordance with this policy.

The person carrying out the investigation will:

- interview the victim and the alleged harasser separately
- interview other relevant third parties separately
- decide whether or not the incident(s) of sexual harassment took place
- produce a report detailing the investigations, findings and any recommendations
- if the harassment took place, decide what the appropriate remedy for the victim is, in consultation with the victim (i.e.-an apology, a change to working arrangements, a promotion if the victim was demoted as a result of the harassment, training for the harasser, discipline, suspension, dismissal)
- follow up to ensure that the recommendations are implemented, that the behavior has stopped and that the victim is satisfied with the outcome
- if it cannot determine that the harassment took place, he/she may still make recommendations to ensure proper functioning of the work place
- keep a record of all actions taken
- ensure that the all records concerning the matter are kept confidential
- ensure that the process is done as quickly as possible and in any event within 7 days of the complaint being made

Outside complaints mechanisms

A person who has been subject to sexual harassment can also make a complaint outside of the Company. They can do so through labour court or judicial court.

Sanctions and disciplinary measures

Anyone who has been found to have sexually harassed another person under the terms of this policy is liable to any of the following sanctions:



- verbal or written warning
- adverse performance evaluation
- reduction in wages
- transfer
- demotion
- suspension
- dismissal

The nature of the sanctions will depend on the gravity and extent of the harassment. Suitable deterrent sanctions will be applied to ensure that incidents of sexual harassment are not treated as trivial. Certain serious cases, including physical violence, will result in the immediate dismissal of the harasser.

Implementation of this policy

Meta Infotech Limited will ensure that this policy is widely disseminated to all relevant persons. It will be included in the staff handbook. All new employees must be trained on the content of this policy as part of their induction into the Company. Every year, Meta Infotech Limited will require all employees to attend a refresher training course on the content of this policy. It is the responsibility of every manager to ensure that all his/her employees are aware of the policy.

Effective Date

This Policy is effective from the date of approval of the same by the Board of Directors of the Company.

Policy Review

The Board may subject to the applicable laws amend any provision(s) or substitute any of the provision(s) with the new provision(s) or replace the Policy entirely with a new Policy.

Disclosures

The Company shall disclose the Policy on its website and on beehive portal.



Version Control

Date	Version No.	Description	Reviewed by	Approved by
23/09/2024	1.0	Policy on Prevention of Sexual Harassment	Ms. Ashwini Panchal, HR Head	Board of Directors
22/01/2026	1.1	Policy on Prevention of Sexual Harassment	Ms. Ashwini Panchal, HR Head	Board of Directors

