## REPORT OF INTERNAL COMPLAINTS' COMMITTEE YEAR: 2024

**COLLEGE NAME: DESHABNDHU COLLEGE, University of Delhi** 

#### **EVENT 1**

Date:\*\* April 24, 2024

Location:\*\* Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi Organized by:\*\* Internal Complaints' Committee (ICC)

Topic:\*\* Gender Sensitization

#### Introduction:

On April 24, 2024, the Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) of Deshbandhu College, University of Delhi, organized a session on gender sensitization. This session aimed to address issues surrounding gender stereotypes, healthy boundaries, body image, and relationships, with a particular focus on consent. The event featured four distinguished speakers, each bringing expertise in their respective fields.

#### \*\*Session Overview:\*\*

The session began with a welcome address by the ICC chairperson, who outlined the importance of gender sensitization in promoting a safe and inclusive campus environment. The chairperson emphasized that the objective of the session was to foster awareness, challenge stereotypes, and encourage positive interactions among all genders.



\*\*Talk by Ms. Sunanda Lahiri Kashyap: Stereotypes\*\*

Ms. Sunanda Lahiri Kashyap, a prominent gender studies scholar, opened the session with a discussion on gender stereotypes. She highlighted how stereotypes can limit opportunities and perpetuate discrimination. Ms. Kashyap provided examples from popular culture and everyday life, demonstrating how these stereotypes are often ingrained from a young age. She urged participants to critically evaluate their beliefs and work towards breaking down these harmful stereotypes.





\*\*Talk by Ms. Sangeeta Bose Tagore Anand: Body Image\*\*

Ms. Sangeeta Bose Tagore Anand, a body image expert, took the stage to discuss body image and its impact on self-esteem. She highlighted societal pressures that often lead to negative body image, especially among young people. Ms. Anand encouraged students to embrace body positivity and reject unrealistic beauty standards. She also provided resources for those struggling with body image issues, promoting a message of self-acceptance and confidence.



\*\*Talk by Ms. Aanchal Sethi: Relationships and Consent\*\*

The final speaker, Ms. Aanchal Sethi, an advocate for gender equality, focused on relationships and consent. She defined consent in clear terms and discussed its importance in all types of relationships, including romantic and platonic. Ms. Sethi emphasized that consent must be enthusiastic, informed, and reversible, urging participants to practice and promote these principles. She also addressed common misconceptions about consent and highlighted the role of bystanders in preventing harassment and assault.



#### \*\*Conclusion:

The session concluded with a Q&A segment, where participants had the opportunity to ask questions and share their experiences. The speakers provided insightful responses, reinforcing the key messages of the session. The ICC chairperson closed the event by thanking the speakers and attendees for their participation, reiterating the college's commitment to fostering a safe and inclusive environment.



Overall, the session on gender sensitization was informative and thought-provoking, offering valuable insights into breaking stereotypes, setting boundaries, promoting positive body image, and understanding consent in relationships. The ICC plans to organize similar events in the future to continue raising awareness and promoting a culture of respect and equality at Deshbandhu College.

#### Event 2:

Date- August 28, 2024 Venue- Old Block Room 33

Conducted by: Dr Vineeta Kashyap, Member IC

A new group of ICC students was created on August 28, 2024. These students were trained on the Act – What is sexual harassment, workplace, complainant, respondent, process of filing a complaint, conciliation, inquiry, possible actions, confidentiality and appeal. These students then created scenarios and shared the same in different forums.



# **Event 3:** Awareness to new joinees

Organised by IC Date- 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2024

The new students were made aware of the presence of a strong IC in college to protect everyone from any sexual misconduct under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013.





Event 4

Name of Event: Film Screening LAAPATAA LADIES

Organizing Committee: Internal Complaints' Committee, Gender Champion Cell

and 35 MM Movie club Date: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024

Venue: Second floor, Conference hall, Deshbandhu College







Internal complaints' Committee, Gender champions And 35 MM collaborated to screen a Kiran Rao's directorial and India's official Hindi film entry for 2025 Oscars "Laapataa Ladies" on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2024 in the Conference Hall.

The satirical presentation of the state of women in rural India during the late 1990s attempts to throw light on some very daunting women issues that are so prevalent yet so disregarded.

The need for "financial independence" for women and "the stigma associated with abandonment of bride by groom" was beautifully displayed by the character of "Phool devi" - a teenage bride, who was mistakenly switched with another teenage bride "Jaya" during a bedlam at a train station.

The unintended switch of the two brides flashed Phool foolishness of being "a naive abla naari " and the arduous switch was courageously turned into an opportunity by Jaya to pursue her dream of higher studies, which was crumbled because of her misogynist parents, despite her being a bright student.

The movie highlights the pathetic hierarchy of our patriarchal society where women are assumed to be the subordinate of the men. The movie beautifully displays the strong and consistent efforts needed to alleviate the social status of women in our society for the establishment of an egalitarian society, which completely resonates with the core idea of the "Gender Champions' Cell" and the insatiable thirst of the "35mm club" to actively participate in social uprising.



The movie screening was one among the many efforts by the Internal Committee, Gender Champion Cell under the guidance of our Principal Prof. Rajendra K Pandey,

Vice Principal Prof Sunil Kayesth and Convenors of 35 MM Movie Club Dr Preeti Dewan and GCC Dr Vineeta Kashyap to make the students aware about the state of women in our society and a little attempt to uplift the life of the half of our population and it pledges to keep taking the steps for establishing the impactful influence of academia in the society. A huge number of students watched the film, which was followed by an engaging discussion on it. Issues such as gender identities, gender roles, confinement of women to the private sphere, neglect of their education leading to their disempowerment were highlighted in a vibrant discussion.

#### **EVENT5**:

Name of Event: Film Screening of Hindi Film "PINK"

Organizing Committee: Internal Complaints' Cell and 35 MM Movie club

Date: 8th November 2024

Venue: Second floor, Conference hall, Deshbandhu College





Internal Complaints' Committee And 35 MM collaborated to screen a Hindi film "PINK" on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2024 in the Conference Hall, Deshbandhu college

"We thought we would leave for our Fresher's Party practice but the movie was too gripping", "It triggered us. We just couldn't move" were some reactions from students.

Consent and boundaries were relooked at.All information related to when and how to approach the Internal Committee, what to expect when one makes a complaint, minimum to maximum punishment, impact of a malicious complaint, confidentiality and appeal was discussed after the screening.



Another attempt at keeping <u>DeshbandhuCollege DelhiUniversity</u> a sexual harassment free zone under the guidance of our Principal Prof. <u>Rajendra K Pandey</u>, Vice Principal Prof. <u>Sunil Kayesth</u> and Convenor of 35MM Movie Club <u>Dr Preeti Gupta Dewan</u> and Convenor of ICC <u>Prof Surabhi Dhingra</u>. The ICC members <u>Dr Chandrika Gulati</u>, Dr <u>Vineeta Chattree</u>, Dr <u>Irengbam Rocky</u>, Mr <u>Jagmohan Kaushik</u> and Ms Sushila Kullu were a huge support.

### LEGAL TRAINING OF IC MEMBERS

August 14, 2024 Attended by all members along with Principal Prof. Rajendra Kumar Pandey Venue; First Floor Committee Room

