



**Report
on
“SENSITIZE THE MANAGEMENT AND TEACHERS
OF TECHNICAL INSTITUTES TO TACKLE THE MENACE OF
SEXUAL CRIME AGAINST WOMEN”**

Gujarat Technological University, Ahmedabad and AICTE, New Delhi hosted a Workshop on – “Sensitize the Management and Teachers of Technical Institutes to tackle the Menace of Sexual Crime against Women” at Chandkheda, Ahmedabad Campus on 21st December 2013. The workshop was conducted to meet compliance as per directive of the MHRD vide letter No. F. 13-10 / 2013 – U -5 dated 6th May, 2013. More than 220 participants including Trustees, Deans, Directors, Principals, Faculties and Administrative Officers of affiliated colleges in Zone 1, Zone 2, Zone3 and Zone 5 participated in the same.

Dignitaries on the dais were:-

- ◆ Dr. Akshai Aggarwal (Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, GTU),
- ◆ Dr. G. P. Vadodaria (Registrar I/c., GTU),
- ◆ Dr. Ashok Patel (RO & Director, AICTE- Central Regional Office),
- ◆ Dr. Renu Bapna (Advisor-I, All India Council for Technical Education) ,
- ◆ Prof. Usha Neelkanthan (Chairperson of Woman Development Committee of Gujarat Technological University)
- ◆ Mrs. Meena Jagtap (Social worker, Associated with NGO “DASTAK”),
- ◆ Mrs.Ruzan Khambhata (Activist & Director of N Wave Tech Pvt. Ltd),





Program was initiated with Lamp Lighting

Welcome of all dignitaries:-



**Dr. G. P. Vadodaria
(I/c. Registrar, GTU)
welcomed
Dr. Ashok Patel
(RO & Director, AICTE- Central Regional Office)**



**Prof. Usha Neelkanthan
(Chairperson-Woman Development Committee, GTU)
welcomed
Dr. Renu Bapna
(Advisor-I, All India Council for Technical Education)**



**Mr. Monarch Joshi
(Assistant Professor - C.M.E.)
welcomed
Mrs. Meena Jagtap
(Advocate & Activist - "DASTAK")**



**Dr. Mamta Singh (Assistant Professor)
welcomed
Mrs. Ruzan Khambhata
(Director of N Wave Tech Pvt. Ltd)**



Dr. G. P. Vadodaria (I/c. Registrar) delivered a welcome speech to audience present for the workshop. He emphasised to tackle the day in and day out incidents occurring in society. He mentioned about a provision viz. Gujarat Civil services Act 1971 – 1999, Section 3A for sexual harassment of working women to tackle the same the at place of employment. He also ensured that all rules for the same are strictly implemented at the university office to provide safe and healthy working environment for women. He thanked all the delegates and resource persons for their presence and active participation in the workshop.



Dr. Akshai Aggarwal (Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Gujarat Technological University) addressed the audience by sharing his ideas on steps to be taken to tackle the menace. He stated that beyond granting affiliation, AICTE is also a regulating body to execute many other roles, one of it is to tackle any such incidents in technical institutes and colleges. He stated that all institutes of higher learning & university have to ensure to become role model for providing transparent and safe working environment

for women. He mentioned that for the society, it is important that women feels comfortable and do not feel any difficulties. The news we see on TV may be creating a fear complex. Environment in Gujarat Technological University affiliated colleges should be normal and women, students and teachers should feel happy. Nowadays we don't have many orthodox practices and restrictions, but all is not enough and hence it is very important to know how to create an environment to live safe. At last he stated that the State of Gujarat is quite safe and Gujarat Technological University works to ensure that the environment remains healthy.



Dr. Renu Bapna (Advisor - I, University Bureau & Chief Coordinator CMAT & GPAT

All India Council for Technical Education; New Delhi) addressed the audience and stated – “Nari position - Maza me nahi.” She mentioned – ‘We deal with the theory. Once you know about the theory, you will be able to know grass roots of problems. What

can we do to implement technically?’ Moreover every month Prime Minister’s Office receives – ‘Action Taken Report’ from respective departments engaged to tackle and propagate the message on the respective issue. She discussed several national level crimes which took place from 16th Dec 2012 to 16th Dec 2013. She made the audience aware by making available the constitutional safeguards, few of them are stated as:- Article 14, 15, 15 (3), 16, 19 (1), 39, 42-46, 47, 51(A), 243 D (B), 243 D (4), 243 T (3), 243 T (4). Moreover many available acts for protection were also discussed during her speech, few of them are as follows:-

- 1) Indecent Representation of Women act 1986
- 2) Protection of woman against Domestic violence act (PWDUA) 2006.

Laws under the Indian penal code (IPC), Dowry prohibition act, Section 304B, 498 A, 376 (Rape law), Sexual harassment of woman at workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013. The criminal law (Amendment) act 2013, Marriage laws amendment bill 2013.

Few of the challenges enlisted by her are: Cultural mindset about women, Vulgar presentation in mass media, “Superiority” of men versus “inferiority” of women (both within private spaces like the family, and public spaces like the workplace), Dual responsibilities, “Public” domestic violence (“honor” killings, community courts, Khap, Panchayats), Eve teasing, Weak enforcement of law, long proceedings and delay in justice.

At last, she discussed a few preventive measures, implementation of which can help to tackle the crime against women viz. Teaching value System, Training to girls in self-defence, Gender sensitising workshops, Organizing awareness programs, Counsellor on 15-20 students, Interact with parents periodically, Defence dressing in colleges should be arranged, Proper Services at the institutional premises, Proper guidelines and complains committee.



Mrs. Meena Jagtap who is an advocate and is also associated with the NGO “DASTAK” addressed audience with enthusiasm. She remarked that change is always painful and most of laws for women are made by men. She stated that in orthodox family system and till date up to some extent all rules are made for woman only and not for men, hence equal platform to perform is not provided to women. Implementation is required. Today’s society Projects them as – super woman. As every problem has a solution, soon measures and implementation of policies will help to tackle all the crime against women. She narrated several cases which she solved inside and outside court of related issue. Moreover she shared her mobile number and details of her NGO with all delegates, and assured to guide and solve any problems related to such issues.



Miss. Ruzan Khambhata (Entrepreneur) demonstrated with technology enabled safety mechanism and device. She stated that it is never a gender fight, it is about good or evil. As the cases are shocking for society, why can’t we use technology to save our woman? She discussed how her social venture – Police HEART (Help Emergency Alert Rescue Terminal) works i.e. just by giving missed call on 1091. It takes 10 min to identify the location by Police department, moreover its toll free. To use this service one need to register with detailed information of family member & close relatives which will be helpful at time of emergency as they will automatically receive SMS, moreover nearest available PCR van will be sent at the location. Further it does not require smart phone or high end phone, neither at time of emergency one has to speak to anybody. Even people can register their landline number on the helpline number. At last she appealed to begin with – ‘let’s have zero tolerance at GTU’.



There was also Question –Answer Session. Many woman from audience asked questions covering incidence of eve-teasing during Navaratri, harassment by anti-social elements and vulgar comments while commuting in train or





buses, regarding the laws for physical presence of women after sunset at Police Station which were answered by Mrs. Meena Jagtap and by Mrs. Ruzan Khambhata respectively.



At the end, **Prof. Usha Neelkanthan** (Chairperson of Woman Development Committee of Gujarat Technological University, Ahmedabad) pro-posed a vote of thanks to the dignitaries as well as all the members present in the workshop.

Event was coordinated by Mr Monarch A Joshi, Assistant Professor – Centre for Marketing Excellence, Gujarat Technological University, Ahmedabad.

