



## **Policy on Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual harassment of Women at Work**

The below is in supersession to all the previous versions of Policy on Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal of Sexual harassment of Women at Work.

### **A. Background**

**Godfrey Phillips India Limited (hereinafter referred to as “the Company”)** is committed to provide equal opportunity and a harassment free workplace notwithstanding race, caste, religion, colour, marital status, gender, sexual orientation, age, nationality and believes that sexual harassment as a form of misconduct undermines the integrity of employment related relationships. Thus in order to create such a safe and conducive work environment, this Policy has been framed, in line with the provisions of the “Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013” of India (hereinafter referred to as the “Act”<sup>1</sup>) and existing rules framed thereunder namely the “Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Rules, 201 (hereinafter referred to as the “Rules”).

### **B. Purpose and Scope**

- a. The purpose of this policy is to provide protection against sexual harassment of women at workplace and the prevention and redressal of complaints of sexual harassment and matters related to it.
- b. This policy extends to the Company, its subsidiaries and all its employees; including individuals coming to the workplace for employment or for any other purpose whatsoever including but not limited to visitors, vendors, contractual resources and applies to any alleged act of sexual harassment against persons at workplace, whether the incident has occurred during or beyond office hours.

### **C. Important Definitions**

- a. “Aggrieved Individual” means in relation to a workplace, a person, of any age, whether employed or not, who alleges to have been subject to any act of sexual harassment by the respondent and includes contractual, temporary employees and visitors.
- b. “Complainant” is any aggrieved individual (including a representative as more fully described under Rule 6 of the said Rules, if the aggrieved individual is unable to make a complaint on account of his/her physical or mental incapacity or death or otherwise) who makes a complaint alleging Sexual Harassment under this Policy.
- c. “Employee” as defined under the Act and means a person employed with the Company for any work on permanent, temporary, part-time, ad-hoc or daily wage basis, either directly or through an agent, including a contractor, who with or without the knowledge of the Principal employer, whether for remuneration or not, or working on a voluntary basis or otherwise,



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- whether the terms of employment are expressed or implied and includes a co-worker, a contract worker, probationer, trainee, apprentice or called by any other such name.
- d. “Employer” means person who are responsible for management, supervision and control of the workplace including appointment/removal/termination of employees and will include ‘Director and General Manager’, ‘Chief Human Resource Officer (CHRO)’, ‘Chief Operation Office (COO) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)’.
- e. “Internal Committee” means and include an Internal Complaints Committee (hereinafter referred to as the “IC”).
- f. “Member” means a member of the IC.
- g. “Presiding officer” means the presiding officer of the IC and shall be a woman employed at a senior level at the workplace amongst the employees.
- h. ‘Respondent’ means a person against whom a complaint of alleging sexual harassment has been made under this policy.
- i. “Parties” means collectively the complainant and the respondent.
- j. "Sexual Harassment" includes any one or more of the following unwelcome acts or behaviour (whether directly or by implication) namely:
- i. Physical contact and advances; or
  - ii. A demand or request for sexual favours; or
  - iii. Making Sexually coloured remarks; or
  - iv. Showing pornography; or
  - v. Any other unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of sexual nature;
  - vi. Creating a hostile work environment for women by putting a women complainant (on sexual harassment) in disadvantageous position w.r.t. employment, associated privileges, benefits & career enhancement.
- The following circumstances, among other circumstances, if it occurs or is present in relation to or connected with any act or behaviour of sexual harassment may amount to sexual harassment:
- i. Implied or explicit promise of preferential treatment in her employment; or
  - ii. Implied or explicit threat of detrimental treatment in her employment; or
  - iii. Implied or explicit threat about her present or future employment status; or
  - iv. Interferes with her work or creating an intimidating or offensive or hostile work environment for her; or
  - v. Humiliating treatment likely to affect her health or safety.
- k. “Workplace” means establishments, enterprises, institutions, offices, branches, premises, locations or units established, owned, controlled by the Company or places visited by the employees out of or during the course of employment including accommodation, transportation provided by the employer for undertaking such journey.

#### D. Composition of Internal Committee

- a. Pursuant to the relevant provisions of the Act, an Internal Committee (IC) has been constituted to prevent sexual harassment and to receive and effectively deal with complaints pertaining to the same. Details of the members, including their names and contact information, of the IC constituted by the Company for all its offices at Delhi, Ghaziabad, Ahmedabad, Chandigarh, Mumbai, Hyderabad, Kolkata, Andhra Pradesh etc., are displayed at office notice board and will be updated on a periodic basis, as and when applicable.
- b. A quorum of 4 members is required to be present for the proceedings to take place. The quorum must include the Presiding Officer, at least two members (one of whom must be female) and the external member. The details of the members of the Internal committee for the Company is annexed as '**Annexure-I**'. The internal committee members may be amended from time to time.
- c. If any complaint arises against the Presiding Officer or any of the members of the Internal Committee, the Presiding Officer or the member as the case may be, will recuse himself or herself from the proceedings and an alternate member shall be appointed in his or her position to the committee to avoid any conflict of interest.

#### E. Complaint of Sexual Harassment

##### Raising a Complaint

Any aggrieved individual may make in writing, a complaint of sexual harassment to the **Presiding Officer** or through email id: [sakshia-gpi@modi-ent.com](mailto:sakshia-gpi@modi-ent.com) or within a period of three (3) months from the date of incident and in case of more than one incident, within a period of three (3) months from the date of last incident. Complaints arising of incidents more than three (3) months old shall not be accepted.

However, the IC may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend such time limit of filing complaint up to further 3 months, if it is satisfied that bonafide circumstances prevented the aggrieved individual from filing complaint within the time limit mentioned above. The complaint should clearly mention name and available details of both the aggrieved person and the respondent. Anonymous or pseudonymous complaints will not be investigated.

Where the aggrieved individual is unable to make the complaint on account of her/his physical or mental incapacity or death or otherwise, his/her representative, as more fully described under Rule 6 of the said Rules, may make a complaint.

The recipient of the complaint shall officially forward the complaint to the Presiding Officer of IC within seven (7) days from the date of receipt of the complaint.

The complainant shall submit six copies of the complaint accompanied by available supporting documents and relevant details concerning the alleged act of sexual harassment(s) including names and address of witnesses, if any which the complainant believes to be true and accurate.

## **F. Redressal Process**

### **i. Conciliation**

Before the IC initiates an inquiry, the complainant may request the IC to take steps to resolve the matter through conciliation provided no monetary settlement shall be made as basis of conciliation. If a settlement has been so arrived, the IC shall record the same and forward the same to the Employer and provide copies of the settlement to the aggrieved individual and the respondent. In such cases, no further inquiry shall be conducted by the IC.

### **ii. Inquiry**

- a. In case where a settlement is not feasible or could not be arrived at through conciliation, the IC will conduct an inquiry into the complaint. Additionally an inquiry may also be initiated if the aggrieved person informs the IC that any terms of settlement has not been complied with by the respondent.
- b. The IC within 7 (seven) working days of receiving the complaint shall forward one copy thereof to the respondent for obtaining a response.
- c. The respondent within 10 (ten) working days of receiving the complaint shall file his/her reply to the complaint along with list of supporting documents, names and addresses of witnesses.
- d. The IC shall consider the reply from the respondent and initiate an inquiry. The complainant or the respondent to the complaint shall not be allowed to bring any legal practitioner to represent them at any stage of the proceedings before the IC. IC shall hear both the complainant and the respondent on date(s) intimated to them in advance and the principles of natural justice will be followed accordingly.
- e. In the event of failure to attend personal hearing before IC by the complainant or the respondent on three consecutive dates (intimated in advance) without sufficient cause, the IC shall have the right to terminate the inquiry proceedings or give an ex-parte decision. However, the IC shall serve a notice in writing to the party (ies), 15 (fifteen) days in advance, before such termination or the ex-parte order.
- f. The inquiry process shall be completed maximum within the period of 90 (ninety) days from the date of receipt of the complaint.
- g. The IC within 10 (ten) days from the date of completion of inquiry shall provide a report of its findings and recommendation(s) to Management and such report and recommendation(s) shall also be forthwith made available to the complainant(s) and respondent(s).
- h. Where the conduct of Sexual Harassment amounts to a specific offence under the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860) or under any other law; it shall be the duty of IC to immediately inform the complainant of his/her right to initiate action in accordance with law with the appropriate authority, and to give advice and guidance regarding



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the same. Any such action or proceedings initiated shall be in addition to proceedings initiated and /or any action taken under this Policy.

**iii. Interim Relief**

During pendency of the inquiry, on a written request made by the complainant, the committee may recommend to the employer to:

- a. Transfer the aggrieved individual or the respondent to any other workplace; or
- b. Grant leave to the aggrieved individual of maximum 3 months, in addition to the leave he/she would be otherwise entitled; or
- c. Grant such other relief to the aggrieved individual as may found to be appropriate; or
- d. Restraint the respondent from reporting on the work performance of the complainant.

**G. Prohibition on Disclosure of Information**

This policy and the law prohibits any person including IC Members from publishing, communicating or making known to the public, press and media in any manner, contents of the complaint, the identity and addresses of the aggrieved person, respondent and witnesses, any information relating to conciliation and inquiry proceedings, or recommendations of the IC during the proceedings under the provisions of the Act. Any violation thereto shall also be subject to applicable disciplinary action as per the provisions of the Act & Rules.

**H. Harassment by Individuals outside this Policy**

If an aggrieved individual brings to the notice of the IC any instances of sexual harassment where the respondent is not an employee or other individuals covered under this policy, the Management or any person delegated by the Management shall provide assistance to the aggrieved individual, if such aggrieved individual so chooses, to file a complaint with the IC of the respondent's employer or under the IPC or any other law for the time being in force, as may be appropriate.

**I. Protection to Complainant**

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 and/or produces any forged or misleading document) will be subject to applicable disciplinary action.



**J. Appeal**

Any person aggrieved by the recommendation of IC may prefer an appeal under the relevant provisions of the Act and Rules.

**K. Review**

The Policy shall be reviewed by the Head of Human Resources Department annually or in compliance with the amendment made to the applicable Act or enactment of any other Act, Rules and Regulations made thereunder.

**L. Version Control**

Version	Change Description	Date
1.0	Original Policy	Since Inception
2.0	Definition of 'Employer' & Change in Internal Committee	25/09/2023

**Sharad Aggarwal**

**Chief Executive Officer**

Policy No. – GPI/HRPOLICY – 001

Dated – 25/09/2023



**'Annexure-I'**

**Details of the Head and members of the Internal Committee**  
**For Godfrey Phillips India Limited**

1	Ms. Sakshi Anand	CHRO	Presiding Officer / Chair Person
2	Ms. Beenu Agarwal	GM - Finance	Member
3	Mr. Chandra Shekhar Sharma	DGM – Legal	Member
4	Ms. Archana Bhasin	AGM – IBD	Member
5	Ms. Sudha Vohra	Ex Executive Director & Trustee ASTHA	External Member