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No. 11013/2/2014 Estt (A.III)
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
(Department of Personnel and Training)

18/12/14

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North Block, New Delhi,
Dated the 27th November 2014

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Alignment of Service Rules with the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act 2013.

The undersigned is directed to say that the 'Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013' { SHWW (PPR) Act } has been promulgated on 22nd April 2013. Further to the Act, the 'Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Rules, 2013' were notified on 9.12.2013. The Act and the Rules framed thereunder provide a redressal mechanism for handling cases of sexual harassment at workplace. The Act and Rules are available at the website of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (wcd.nic.in) under Legislation/Acts.

2. The CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 and CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965 have been amended vide Notifications of even number published as G.S.R. 823(E) and G.S.R.822(E) in the Gazette of India – Extraordinary dated 19-11-2014. These are available on this Department's website www.persmin.gov.in

3. So far as Central Government employees are concerned, provisions already exist in the CCS (Conduct) Rules 1964 defining sexual harassment. Further, the proviso to Rule 14(2) of the CCS (CCA) Rules 1965 provides that the complaints committee established in each Ministry or Department or office enquiring into such complaints shall be deemed to be the inquiring authority appointed by the disciplinary authority and the committee shall hold the inquiry so far as practicable in accordance with the procedure laid down in those rules. Similar provisions exist in the relevant service rules of the Central Government servants not governed by CCS (Conduct) Rules / CCS (CCA) Rules.

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4. Sexual harassment as defined rule 3-C of CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964 in has been amended vide Notification of even number dated 19-11-2014 (copy enclosed). The amended rule is as follows:

"Rule 3C - Prohibition of sexual harassment of working women

- (1) No Government servant shall indulge in any act of sexual harassment of any woman at any work place.
- (2) Every Government servant who is incharge of a work place shall take appropriate steps to prevent sexual harassment to any woman at such work place.

Explanation- 1 For the purpose of this rule,

(a) "sexual harassment" includes any one or more of the following acts or behaviour, (whether directly or by implication), namely:--

- (i) physical contact and advances; or
- (ii) demand or request for sexual favours; or
- (iii) sexually coloured remarks; or
- (iv) showing any pornography; or
- (v) any other unwelcome physical, verbal, non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature.

(b) 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 employment; or
- (ii) implied or explicit threat of detrimental treatment in employment; or
- (iii) implied or explicit threat about her present or future employment status; or
- (iv) interference 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.

(c) "workplace" includes, -

- (i) any department, organisation, undertaking, establishment, enterprise, institution, office, branch or unit which is established, owned, controlled or wholly or substantially financed by funds provided directly or indirectly by the Central Government;