

FACULTY OF LAW, JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA

(CENTRAL UNIVERSITY)

PRESENTS

**A NATIONAL CONCLAVE ON RECENT AMENDMENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN CORPORATE
LAW & CODIFICATION OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT AT WORKPLACE : INDUSTRY INSTITUTE
INTERACTION**

“Good corporate governance is about 'intellectual honesty' and not just sticking to rules and regulations, capital flowed towards companies that practiced this type of good governance.”

- Mervyn King.

The Companies Act, 1956 was enacted with a view to consolidate and amend the law relating to companies and certain other associations. Since its inception, the Act has been amended on various occasions to keep pace with the changing business and economic scenario, emergence of professionalism and spread of portfolio awareness etc. In the early 1990s, a need was felt to harmonise the Companies Act with the developments taking place the world over to put in place a homogenous regulatory framework for the growth of Indian Corporate sector, and this was reflected in the Companies Bill, 1993. However, in August 1996, a working Group was constituted which submitted its report in 1997. On the basis of this report the Companies Bill, 1997 was introduced in the Parliament which was referred to the Standing Committee. In the mean time, with a view to tailor the Companies Act to cope up with the changing corporate environment, the Government amended the Act in the year 1996, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002 and give effect to various provisions of the Bill of 1997, besides introduction of new provisions.

It was further amended in 2011 and the Act has now been replaced by The Companies Act, 2013 after receiving the Assent of the President of India on Thursday, 29th August 2013. The Companies Act 2013, is divided into 29 chapters containing 470 clauses as against 658 sections in the Companies Act, 1956. The Central Government appointed Thursday, 12th September 2013 as the date on which the Companies Act, 2013 came into force.

The new law has been passed and is considered as trend changer in Indian Corporate Law. It has been re-written extensively with several new provisions for investor protection, better corporate

governance and corporate social responsibility etc. It defines a number of new terms that have come into vogue in recent times.

The Act provides for Class Action Suit, which is the key weapon for individual share holders to take collective action against errant companies. Better disclosure requirements in fiscal statements and disclosures of interests of directors etc. It has also streamlined procedures relating to disclosure of transactions with parties related to directors, promoters etc.

The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 ("Sexual Harassment Act") has been made effective on April 23, 2013 by way of publication in the Gazette of India.

The statute has been enacted almost 16 years after the Supreme Court of India, in its landmark judgment in Vishaka and others v. State of Rajasthan ("**Vishaka Judgement**"), laid down guidelines making it mandatory for every employer to provide a mechanism to redress grievances pertaining to workplace sexual harassment and enforce the right to gender equality of working women ("**Guidelines**"). Codification of the requirements is a much-awaited development and is a significant step towards creating awareness on the issue of workplace sexual harassment and ensuring women a safe and healthy work environment.

The Sexual Harassment Act has been enacted with the objective of providing women protection against sexual harassment at the workplace and for the prevention and redressal of complaints of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment is considered as a violation of the fundamental right of a woman to equality as guaranteed under Articles 14 and 15 of the Constitution of India ("**Constitution**") and her right to life and to live with dignity as per Article 21 of the Constitution. It has also been considered as a violation of a right to practice or to carry out any occupation, trade or business under Article 19(1)(g) of the Constitution, which includes a right to a safe environment free from harassment.

Considering that India has a diverse set of religions, cultures, castes, languages, etc. the government also needs to start focusing on providing protection for some of the other forms of harassment, which is fairly common in several of the developed countries. We hope that unlike some of the other laws, the Sexual Harassment Act is implemented well, which in itself would go a long way in protecting the employees' interests and well-being in India.

CALL FOR PAPERS

THEME

Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia is pleased to declare the following as the theme for the Paper Presentation during the *National Conclave cum Seminar on Recent Amendments and Developments in Corporate Law and Sexual Harassment at workplace :-*

- 1. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)**
- 2. Mergers and Acquisitions.**
- 3. Class Action Suits.**
- 4. Insiders Trading.**
- 5. Sexual Harassment at Workplace.**

**All of the above topics must be in the context of the Indian Scenario.*

CALL FOR PAPER

We cordially invite the Students and Research Scholars to submit their Research Papers on the abovementioned themes to be covered in different Technical Sessions during the National Conclave cum Seminar.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

ABSTRACT The abstract should not exceed 300 words and must be accompanied by cover page stating the following:-

- Sub-theme
- Title of the Paper
- Name of the author(s)
- Name of College/ Institution/ Occupation
- E-mail address
- Postal address and
- Contact Number

The abstract must be sent to nationalseminarjmi@gmail.com by 01st April 2014.

FORMAT FOR THE PAPER

1. All the papers must be typed and reproduced on a standard A4 paper. The font and size of the text must be the same and must be in Times New Roman, 12 point. Text of the paper must have 1.5 line spacing.
2. The Footnotes shall be in Times New Roman, 10 Point with 1.0 line spacing.
3. All the text must be justified.
4. All the pages must have margin of 1 inch on all sides, excluding page numbers.
5. All the citation must be in accordance with the Harvard Blue Book Style, 18th Edition.
6. All submissions must be the author's original and unpublished work. Plagiarized submissions will be disqualified.

REGISTRATION

Registrations are permitted individually or in a co-authorship of two. In case of paper being authored by more than one individual the name of the authors and the order of appearance must be specified. The registration form can be downloaded from the website

REGISTRATION DETAILS

- For paper presenters, registration will be done only after the approval of abstracts by sending a DD in favor of 'Registrar, Jamia Millia Islamia,' payable at New Delhi.
- The Registration fee will be Rs. 2000 for Students/Research Scholars.
- Soft Copy of Registration Form, along with the DD should reach the organisers by 08th April 2014.
- Hard Copy of Registration Form, along with the DD should reach the organisers by 14th April 2014.
- The Registration Form along with DD should reach at the following address:

Dean, Faculty of Law,
Jamia Millia Islamia,
Jamia Nagar, New Delhi.
Pin: 110025

METHOD OF SUBMISSION OF PAPER

All submissions of the abstract along with the full paper have to be electronically mailed with the subject column as 'Submission – abstract/full paper' as the case may be and bearing the name (s) of the author(s) as the file name, only at the following e-mail address: nationalseminarjmi@gmail.com within the stipulated time given below.

AWARDS

- Their shall be the '**Best Paper Presentation**' Award in each session, which will carry cash prize of Rs.5000/-. A Certificate and a trophy will also be given for the same. (Their shall be three sessions in total)
- Their shall be a Certificate and a trophy for the '**Best Interjector**' which would be awarded for each session.
- Their shall be Participation Certificate/ Souvenirs with published abstract/ Folders given to each participant.
- Their shall be publication of the accepted papers which would be subject to the discretion of the Organizers.
- The selected abstracts will be published in the souvenir.

IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of Abstract by E-mail (nationalseminarjmi@gmail.com)	01st April, 2014
Confirmation of Acceptance	04th April, 2014
Submission of Soft Copy of Demand Draft & Registration Form	08th April, 2014
Submission of Hard Copy of Registration Form & Demand Draft	14th April, 2014
Submission of Soft Copy of Full Paper	18th April, 2014
National Conclave	20th April, 2014

ACCOMODATION

Accommodation for Outstation Participants will be arranged by the University. Notification regarding accommodation shall be emailed to the participants post registration.

All conference participants will be responsible for making their own travel arrangements.

P.S. : Accommodation will not be provided to the students from Universities located in Delhi/ NCR,

For further details or queries, please **contact** us at nationalseminarjmi@gmail.com or contact:

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