

Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar

PRESS RELEASE

SUB- Rejoinder for misdirected and delayed reporting of alleged complaint of Harassment.

Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar strongly condemns the content of news report of Harassment of a women student by a Professor of the institute. The matter is wrongly reported by a section of media without knowing the facts. This press rejoinder is being provided to state the facts.

The facts of the matter are as follows:

1. A female Ph. D student who was admitted in the Institute during July 2011, working under a Professor of the Institute since then, had made a complaint on 6th Oct. 2016 alleging Harassment by her supervisor after completing almost 5 years tenure under him with published research. The complaint was immediately referred to the Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) to enquire. ICC after a through inquiry submitted its report on 27.01.2017, where they did not find any substance in the complaint and cleared the supervisor from all allegations.
2. The report of the ICC was also shared with both the Complainant and Respondent as per the guidelines of Sexual Harassment Act (At Workplace)- 2013. After that She made a complaints to all statutory Offices/Ministry, State and Central Women Commission over the last past 6 months. The Institute sent replies to all the offices on their enquiry of the matter. Some offices also asked for the ICC report and the same was shared with them too. For instance upon receipt of the inquiry from the State and Central Women Commission the ICC report was sent to them. The Complainant further kept on writing to all functionaries of the Institute including the Senate members.
3. The matter was reported to the Board of Governors of the Institute.

There is nothing pending with the Institute as far as this issue is concerned and it has complied to all statutory requirement holistically.

The Institute is very transparent in its approach and procedures. Actions are taken by following rules and regulations strictly by the Institute. An unbiased and robust process are in place. The Institute is coming up very fast and trying to place itself among the top Institutes of Global class.

It is needless to mention that reporting without knowing the facts may be damaging the public perception about the Institute. Such misleading reporting by a section can only help some designs of the small fraction of disgruntled people with wrong motives.

We hope for upholding of values.