

Brigadier sexually harassed me: Major

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JAIPUR: A single bench of Rajasthan High Court has issued notice to the defence secretary in connection with a case of sexual harassment filed by a woman army officer of Major rank. The woman officer was allegedly harassed by a Brigadier rank officer. The high court has sought replies from the general officer commanding-in-chief, headquarters, south-western command, chief of staff, headquarters, south-western command and presiding officer/chairperson, Internal Complaints Committee on Sexual Harassment.

The bench of Justice Ashok Kumar issued the notices following the petition filed by the Major through her counsels Sameer Jain and Mahi Yadav. "The petitioner stated that during her tenure of first posting, the behaviour of a Brigadier was indecent, unwarranted and qualified to be an action oriented towards sexual harassment," Yadav told TOI. The petitioner has prayed before the high court that an independent committee be formed as per provisions of the Sexual Harassment Act, 2013, and the accused Brigadier be punished. "We have requested the high court to direct the respondents to look into the matter and reconstitute an independent and impartial committee in accordance with the mandate under section 4 of the Sexual Harassment Act. Also, directions be issued to set aside and quash an order dated 31.7.2018 passed by the Internal Complaints Committee

whereby the complaint against sexual harassment has been termed as vague,” said Yadav, the petitioner’s counsel.
