Part 1 - Lead Organizer

Salutation

Ms.

Contact Person

Radhika Jhalani

Email

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Mobile Number for Messaging

+919650661708

Organization / Affiliation (Please state "Individual" if appropriate)

SFLC.in

Designation

Legal Counsel

Gender

Female

Economy of Residence

India

Primary Stakeholder Group

Civil Society

Part 2 - Session Proposal

Primary Theme

Building Trust, Resilience, Safety & Security (TRUSS)

Primary Sub Theme

Online Gender Based Violence (OGBV)

Secondary Theme (if any)

Trust, Security, Stability, Sustainability

Session Title

Online Harrasement as a tool for exclusion

Session Format

Panel Discussion

Description of Session Formats **Birds of a Feather (BoF)** – An informal discussion session designed to connect the participants of shared topic of interests without a pre-planned agenda. **Panel** - Presentation and/or sharing of viewpoints by speakers on a particular topic. The number of speakers on the panel shall not be more than 4 to allow sufficient time for interaction with the attendees. **Roundtable** - Interactive dialogue involving all participants with designated moderators and not more than 2 speakers.

Specific Issues of Discussion

targeted online harassment of individuals belonging to minority communities results in squeezing them out of the digital space. This harassment takes multiple forms like sending threatening messages, sexual abuse, doxxing etc. Events like Bulli Bai App and Sulli Deals App which "auctioned" women belonging to the Muslim community not only violate their privacy, and objectifies but also attempt to silence them and push them out of digital spaces. It aims to harass prominent individuals who represent the narratives of these individuals. Such harassment is an extension of harassment women have to face in the real world when they make an attempt to claim these spaces. The session aims to find solutions to online harassment faced by individuals belonging to minority communities, looking at the intersectionality of this harassment. Participants will also get an opportunity to interact with panelists and other participants and draw from their experiences. The panel will also look at the legal framework, prevention measures adopted by online platforms and governments, and their existing gap. Finally, spaces of resilience and resistance as a response to this targeted harassment will be explored as a larger discussion on solutions where participants will also put forth solutions that can be adopted

Describe the Relevance of Your Session to Theme

In the past few years, Online Harassment has been identified as a major cause for curbing freedom of expression in the digital space and making it inaccessible. This harassment takes multiple forms like sending threatening messages, verbal abuse, sexual abuse, doxxing etc. More often than not the harassment is targeted at women and women belonging to marginalised communities. These are also aimed at prominent individuals who represent and express the concerns and narratives of this community. The result of such harassment is exclusion of some the most vulnerable sections of the society from the digital space. SFLC.IN has written a report on Online Harassment which can be accessed here: https://sflc.in/report-online-harassment-form-censorship. We also have a Free Speech Tracker which records instances of Free Speech violations by state actors. This helps us understand the broader issues revolving around freedom of speech and expression in the digital space.

Methodology / Agenda

The session will engage with the participants and stakeholders to understand the issues identified. The session aims to draw from the experiences of the participants, the instances witnessed by them and come to an understanding of the role gender identity plays in the cases of online gender based harassment. The session envisages participation from the attendees to establish the link between harassment and contraction of online speech. It will be an interactive session with more dialogical interaction.

Please provide 3 subject matter tags that best describe your session.

#SafeSpaces #OGBV #Freespeech

*Please specify gender e.g. agender, cis woman, cis man, female, gender-fluid, gender-neutral, male, trans woman, trans man, etc.

Moderators & Speakers Info (Please complete where possible)

	Moderator (Primary)	Moderator (Backup)	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4
Name	Rattanmeek Kaur		Bishakha Dutta	Sairee Chehal	Mishi Choudhary	Geeta Seshu
Email	rattan@sflc.in		bishakha@pointofview.org	Sairee@sheroes.in	mishi@sflc.in	geetaseshu@gmail.com

	Moderator (Primary)	Moderator (Backup)	Speaker 1	Speaker 2	Speaker 3	Speaker 4
Organization	SFLC.in		POV	Sheroes	SFLC.in	Journalist
Designation	Fellow		Co-Founder	Founder	Founder	Independant Journalist
Gender	Female		Female	Female	Female	Female
Economy of Residence / Country	India		India	India	India	India
Stakeholder Group	Civil Society	Civil Society	Private Sector	Civil Society	Civil Society	Press / Media
Status of Confirmation	Confirmed	Confirmed	Confirmed	Confirmed	Confirmed	Confirmed

Please explain the rationale for choosing each of the above contributors to the session.

Radhika is a lawyer and has been working on these issues for the last 3 years. Bishakha is the Co-founder of Point of View who have been running a helpline called Tech Sakhi to help battle these cases. Ellen Kusuma is part of Civil Society in Indonesia and has helped fighting against OGBV.