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THE TIMES OF INDIA

Sexually harassed' Dalit seeks justice

TNN, Jun 1, 2010, 04:34am IST

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JAIPUR: A Dalit women is forced to run from pillar to post seeking justice against a government doctor for allegedly sexually harassing her at a hospital in Alwar. Ramila Devi (name changed), a resident of Alwar and a cleaner at Rajiv Gandhi Hospital, was reportedly called by the principal medical officer, Dr Pardeep Gutpa to his cabin. He then reportedly tried to sexually abuse and harass her in the presence of a supervisor, Mahaveer Singh, on April 10, 2010.

"I ran away from the room, when he held my hand intending to harass me. He abused and threatened me with dire consequences, if I discussed this incident with anyone," said Devi. She went to the police but in vain. "The police closed the case," said Devi. She alleged that a senior police officer and two senior politicians are helping the accused.

To protest, she went on a hunger-strike but nobody came to her rescue. The hunger-strike lasted for nine days when the she was called to Jaipur by social activist Kavita Srivastava, head of Public Union for Civil Liberties (PUCL). PUCL took her to chief minister Ashok Gehlot who assured them of a CID inquiry.

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