

Sexual Assault



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related to sexual assault

After Shaziya endured considerable distress, the police finally lodged an FIR under **Sections 354(c)[1], 452[2], and 506[3] of the IPC** on 18th February 2018, at Bazaarkhala Police Station alleging Kamal of various criminal acts. Kamal was arrested on the same day. However, he was released on bail after a few months and began to threaten Shaziya's life.

AAI came to know about Shaziya's case when the news about her case was published in the newspaper. This was around the time when Kamal was out on bail and had resorted to threatening Shazia with her life. AAI team conducted a fact-finding investigation into the incident. The AAI team visited Shaziya, introduced themselves and the organisation, and Shaziya formally applied to AAI for legal assistance. The AAI team prepared Shaziya to make a statement for her second FIR and facilitated the submission of her statement before the magistrate.

Furthermore, through consistent follow-up by the AAI caseworker, a chargesheet was filed in court under Sections 354(c), 452, 506, **376[4], and 328[5]** of the Indian Penal Code on 28th August 2018. Subsequently, charges have been framed against the accused under Sections 354(c), 452, 506, 376, and 328 of the Indian Penal Code.

At present, the trial is in the process of examining the prosecution witnesses, and the AAI caseworker is closely monitoring the proceedings in court while preparing the witnesses for their statements. The opposing party has created numerous obstructions and hurdles at every stage of the court proceedings as the accused Kamal was not appearing in the court, with the sole objective of delaying the proceedings and mentally harassing Shaziya. The Counsel for the opposition also resorted to delaying proceedings by seeking unnecessary adjournments. AAI has always raised objections to these demands for adjournments and pleaded before the court to issue a non-bailable warrant against the accused.

Currently, the case is in its trial stage and the final judgement is still awaited.

[1] Voyeurism

[2] House trespass after preparation for hurt, assault, or wrongful restraint.

[3] Punishment for Criminal Intimidation

[4] Punishment for Rape

[5] Causing hurt by means of poison, etc., with intent to commit an offence