

Former Haryana top cop faces probe in eight-year-old molestation case

Ahlawat was inspector general of police when the case was filed

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Yamunanagar: Police in Haryana have constituted a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to probe the molestation case registered against former inspector general of police M.S. Ahlawat, eight years after a woman lawyer first made her complaint.

According to the police, Ahlawat was booked on Tuesday following a 2002 complaint of molestation and intimidation of Harvinder Kaur, who lives in this town. She had alleged in her police complaint that she had been sexually harassed by Ahlawat in 2002. He was then superintendent of police of Yamunanagar district, about 100km from the state capital Chandigarh.

"We have constituted a SIT, consisting of senior police officials, to probe the allegations made by the woman against Ahlawat. The SIT will submit its inquiry report at the earliest and accordingly we will take further action," district police chief Sibash Kabiraj said here yesterday.

Harvinder said in her complaint that Ahlawat had tried to harass her when she had gone to meet him in connection with one of her court cases in May 2002.

At that time, an inquiry was conducted by a senior official of the Haryana police but he recommended another departmental inquiry against Ahlawat.

In a similar incident of molestation involving a Haryana cop, former director general of police S.P.S. Rathore was convicted of molesting teenager Ruchika Girhotra in 1990.

Rathore was awarded 18 months' rigorous imprisonment and is currently lodged in Burail jail in Chandigarh.