

Wipro engineer had joined harassed husbands club

SHILPA P

Bangalore: Wipro software engineer Gaurav Nigam, facing a law suit filed by his wife, Tripti, in Kanpur under the Domestic Violence Act,

had become a member of an association supporting harassed husbands, Asha Kiran, and was seeking counselling over his wife's alleged harassment to him and his parents, **Vijay Times** has learnt.

According to Asha Kiran president Saraswathi B N, Nigam had begun consulting the association over email since April this year when Nigam's parents were arrested following a complaint filed by Tripti for alleged dowry harassment. They spent three days behind bars.

Nigam confirmed that he had been taking counselling from Asha Kiran regularly online since then.

Since September 24, he had physically visited the association to take counselling as and when he was in the City, he said. Later, he was referred to Save India Family, another organisation dealing with harassed husbands among other issues.

Nigam while denying that there was any dating allowance provided by Wipro, told **Vijay Times** over phone from New Delhi that the marital discord between him and Tripti had



Gaurav Nigam with his wife Tripti and their son Pulkit.

'No allowance'

"No Dating Allowance was paid and my wife Tripti Nigam's claims are far from truth. She had beaten me a lot of times when I did not yield to her demands which included transfer of a house and car to her name," he said. He also said there was no basis for dragging in the name of Wipro chief Azim Premji into the case.

The Kanpur Magistrate court has issued summons against Premji and Wipro HR Head Pratik Kumar and they have been asked to appear in the court on November 29. A Wipro spokesman, too, denied the prevalence of 'dating allowance' for employees and said, "We would like to categorically state that we do not have a dating allowance in any form and cannot elaborate on this alleged issue." with UNI

begun soon after their wedding in December 2002.

"She argued over petty matters and used to end up threatening to file a case against me," he said.

"I was forced to transfer documents to her name saying that it was funded by her father. She forced me to buy her a car in her name, which she now says was funded by her mother," he said. The estranged couple have a son, Pulkit, born in Feb 2004.

He said a year later they had a big quarrel after which she called out all the neighbours and alleged that he and his parents were trying to kill her.

Tripti also reportedly locked Nigam and his parents out of their house and burnt some official documents concerning them.

The entire night Nigam and his parents were made to sit outside till she called their relatives for help.

Even when he had to leave for US on a project in March 2005, she refused to accompany him. Turn to P 11