

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR GENERAL PUBLIC REGARDING HOSTING/ RECOGNITION OF ODR INSTITUTIONS

The Department has been receiving representations from various institutions offering services related to online dispute resolution (ODR) mechanisms, seeking inclusion of their name in the list of institutions purportedly recognised by the Government. In this regard, they refer to the list of institutions attached with this Department's letter dated 18.09.2020.

2. Further, the Department has received several RTI application *inter-alia* seeking information related to criteria for recognition of such institutions by Government and list of institutions recognized by the Government.

3. It is hereby clarified that at present, there is no procedure in place in the Department of Legal Affairs for recognizing hosting or grading institutions offering ODR services. It is further clarified that the list of institutions referred in the letter dated 18.09.2020, are also **not** recognized by the Department of Legal Affairs and no institution is entitled to make any such statement of recognition.

4. Therefore, institutions are directed to desist from making claims of such recognition from the Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, including use of the logo of the Ministry of Law & Justice, on websites and in correspondences, forthwith and with immediate effect

**ADR Cell
Department of Legal Affairs
Ministry of Law and Justice
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