

F. No. J-18/1/2016-JUDICIAL
Government of India
Ministry of Law & Justice
Department of Legal Affairs
Judicial Section

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated 6th September 2016

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Instructions have been issued from time to time by this Ministry with regard to handling of court cases by the Law Officers as well as the Panel Counsel.

2. Recently this Ministry issued an OM of even number dated 19.04.2016 regarding allocation of cases to the panel counsel before the various High Courts wherein it was reiterated that wherever there is a Branch Secretariat of this Ministry i.e. Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai & Bengaluru, cases are to be allocated to the Panel Counsel by the In-charge Branch Secretariat of the Ministry. However, in respect of important cases, the In-charge of the Branch Secretariats are advised to consult the Additional Solicitor General for proper defence of the cases.

3. It was also stated that wherever there is no Branch Secretariat, it is the Additional Solicitor General of India, who will be over all In-charge of the litigation and is required to allocate cases to the Government Counsel ensuring that there is proper & fair distribution of cases. He is also required to maintain records of the cases distributed and forward a status statement to the Main Secretariat to enable compilation of statistics in this regard.

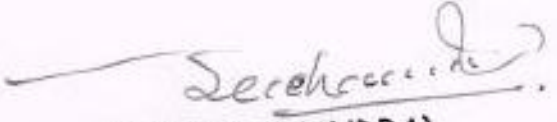
4. In continuation of the above mentioned OM, It is also clarified that the Additional Solicitors General will be the over all In-charge of the litigation & allocate the cases amongst the Panel Counsel for the High Court Bench only where he is sitting. For rest of the High Courts and Benches, concerned Assistant Solicitors General/In-charge will allocate cases amongst Panel Counsel of that Bench of the High Court.

.....continue on page 2

5. While allocating the cases equal distribution in a fair & transparent manner be also ensured.

6. A monthly report regarding distribution/allocation of cases amongst the Panel Counsel highlighting the important/high financial stake in the cases, may be sent in the first week of the following month.

7. This should be strictly adhered to.


(SURESH CHANDRA)
LAW SECRETARY

To,

1. The In-charge Central Agency Section.
2. The In-charge Litigation (High Court) Section, CAT (PB) New Delhi, Lower Court Section.
3. The In-charge, Branch Secretariats Bengaluru, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai.
4. The Additional Solicitors General in High Court of Rajasthan at Jaipur, Allahabad, Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh, Patna & Addl. SG Southern Zone.
5. The Assistant Solicitors General of All High Courts other than High Court of Rajasthan at Jaipur, Allahabad, Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh, Patna.