F. No. J-16/1/2017-JUDICIAL
Government of India
Ministry of Law & Justice
Department of Legal Affairs
Judicial Section

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi, Dated 25.01.2017

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Clarification regarding handling of work of allocation of cases amongst panel counsel for a CAT, Bench where Sr. Central Govt. Standing Counsel is not available.

The undersigned is directed to refer this Department's OM No. 26(I)/99-Judl. dated 24.09.1999 in respect of terms & conditions governing the engagement of panel counsel for various High Courts which are also applicable to panel counsel for various CAT Benches in the country except at Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai & Bengaluru.

- Some instances have come to notice of this Department that in case the Sr. Central Govt. Standing Counsel of a particular CAT, Bench is not available due to some compelling reasons for instances due to health problem or death, the difficulty arises that who will allocate cases amongst the panel counsel for that CAT, Bench.
- Now, it is clarified that in such eventualities as stated in para 2 above, the Additional Solicitors General or the Assistant Solicitors General i. e. the Incharge Litigation in the High Court of the State in which the concerned CAT, Bench is situated, will nominate a suitable senior counsel from the panel for that CAT, Bench, under intimation to this Department, for allocation of cases amongst the other panel counsel, until a fresh order for engagement of another Sr. Central Govt. Standing Counsel is issued by this Department.

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

(R. K. Srivastava)
Deputy Legal Adviser

Copy to:

- PS to MLJ/PS to MSLJ/PS to Law Secretary/PS to all Addl. Secretaries/PS to all JS & LA.
- The Additional Solicitors General of High Courts of Rajasthan at Jaipur, Allahabad, Patna, Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh.
- 3. All the Assistant Solicitors General in various High Courts & their Benches across the country.
- All the Sr. Central Govt. Standing Counsel in various Benches of Central Administrative Tribunals in the country.
- 5. NIC Cell for uploading this OM on official website of this Department.
- Guard file with 3 spare copies.
- 7. Office copy.