

F. No. J-12017/4/2025-Judicial
Government of India
Ministry of Law & Justice
Department of Legal Affairs
(Judicial Section)

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated the 23rd September, 2025

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Non-appearance of panel counsel on behalf of Union of India before Courts even after receiving the notices – regarding.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the observation of the Hon'ble Allahabad High Court (PB) at Prayagraj vide Order dated 15.07.2025 (copy enclosed) in WP (C) No. 22398 of 2025 – 'Shakeel Ahmed Vs. The Ministry of External Affairs, South Block and another', the relevant portion of which is reiterated below:

"1. Office of Additional Solicitor General of India, has accepted notice in the instant case, but, none is present on behalf of the respondents.

2. Let the instant order be communicated to the Ministry of Law, Union of India, as often we find that despite notice having been received, no one remains present in the court to provide assistance."

2. The negligence on part of panel counsel as per above observation is not only the violation of terms & conditions of this Department but also compromising the interests of Union of India before courts.

3. In this regard, Central Agency Section, all the four Branch Secretariats, Litigation Sections of this Department and designated litigation in-charges i.e. ASGIs, DSGIs, Sr. CGSCs and SGCs concerned are directed to strictly ensure the presence of panel counsel engaged in each and every case on all dates without fail. In case of violation, the name of defaulter panel counsel should also be informed to this Department for appropriate action.

4. This is issued with the approval of Hon'ble Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Law & Justice.

Encls: As above.

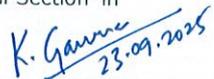

(M. C. Prusty)
Senior Government Advocate

To,

1. The Incharge, Central Agency Section, Supreme Court, New Delhi.
2. The Incharge, Branch Secretariat at Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai and Bengaluru.
3. The Incharge, Litigation (High Court / CAT / Lower Court) Sections at New Delhi.
4. The Additional Solicitors General for India (as per list);
5. The Deputy Solicitors General for India (as per list);
6. The Senior Central Government Standing Counsel (as per list);
7. The Standing Government Standing Counsel (as per list).

Copy (through email) to:

1. The Registrar General of the Supreme Court of India, all the High Courts and the Principal Benches of CAT, AFT, NGT etc.
2. All the Ministries / Departments as per standard list.
3. PS to Hon'ble MoS (I/C) L&J.
4. PSO to Law Secretary / All Additional Secretaries and Joint Secretaries & Legal Advisers in the main Secretariat of DLA.
5. Ld. Attorney General for India / Ld. Solicitor General for India.
6. LIMBS team of Department of Legal Affairs.
7. To upload on website of this Department i.e. www.legalaffairs.gov.in under tab 'Judicial Section' in the link 'Circulars pertaining to litigation' for information of all concerned.
8. Hindi Section for providing Hindi version of this OM.
9. Office / spare copies.


(Kumar Gaurva)
Section Office (Judicial)
Tel: 011-23384945
Email: judicial-dla@nic.in

Court No. - 21

Case :- WRIT - C No. - 22398 of 2025

Petitioner :- Shakeel Ahmad

Respondent :- The Ministry Of External Affairs South Block And
Anothers

Counsel for Petitioner :- Mohammad Arif Siddiqui

Counsel for Respondent :- A.S.G.I., Vineet Singh Parmar

Hon'ble Manoj Kumar Gupta, J.

Hon'ble Ram Manohar Narayan Mishra, J.

1. Office of Additional Solicitor General of India, has accepted notice in the instant case, but none is present on behalf of the respondents.
2. Let the instant order be communicated to the Ministry of Law, Union of India, as often we find that despite notice having been received, no one remains present in the Court to provide assistance.
3. Registrar Compliance shall ensure communication of the instant order.
4. Put up as fresh on 24th July, 2025.
5. Name of Sri Vineet Singh Parmar, shall be shown as counsel for the petitioner and not as counsel for the respondent.

Order Date :- 15.7.2025

Ashish/-

R.M.N. Mishra, J.

Manoj Kumar Gupta, J.

(R.M.N. Mishra, J.)

(Manoj Kumar Gupta, J.)

TRUE COPY

16/7/25
Assistant Registrar
Judicial Deptt. High Court
Allahabad

SANU
16-7-25

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD