

M-75075/279/2020-ESTT-IV
Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation
Central Water Commission

03rd Floor(S), Sewa Bhawan
R. K. Puram, New Delhi-110066
Dated the 23rd September, 2020

Subject: Nodal Officer for coordinating matters being handled by Ld. AG/SG and other Law Officers - reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a letter A-42017/8/2020-E-IV Section-MOWR from DoWR, RD & GR, Ministry of Jal Shakti dated 14.07.2020 and a self explanatory D.O Letter No. 358763/LS/2020 dated 22.06.2020 received from Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs on the subject cited above for information and strict compliance.

2. Further with the approval of Competent Authority, Joint Secretary (Admn.) DoWR, RD&GR has been nominated as Nodal Officer on behalf of DoWR, RD&GR for coordinating matters being handled by Ld. AG/SG and other Law Officers.

Enclosures: As above

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by
R.K.BALAMURUGAN
Date: 2020.09.24 12:56:21 IST

(R. K. Balamurugan)
Under Secretary E-IV
Tel No: 011 29583302
Email: estt4@nic.in

To

1. Head of all organizations under the Department
2. All Sections/Wings/Divisions of the Department

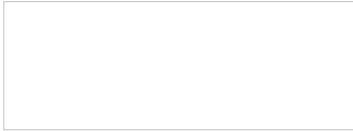
From: "E-IV Section, MoWR,RD&GR" <soe4-mowr@gov.in>

To: "mowr-orgnheads" <mowr-orgnheads@lsmgr.nic.in>, "mowr-wingheads" <mowr-wingheads@lsmgr.nic.in>, "mowr-divisionheads" <mowr-divisionheads@lsmgr.nic.in>, "mowr-branchheads" <mowr-branchheads@lsmgr.nic.in>, "mowr-sections" <mowr-sections@lsmgr.nic.in>

Sent: Tuesday, July 14, 2020 12:21:41 PM

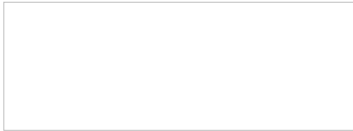
Subject: [Mowr-orgnheads] Nodal Officer for coordinating matters being handled by Ld. AG/SG and other Law Officers - reg.

Establishment - IV Section,
MoWR,RD&GR



Mowr-orgnheads mailing list -- mowr-orgnheads@lsmgr.nic.in

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ImmediateA-42017/8/2020-E-IV Section-MOWR

Government of India
Ministry of Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources,
River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation

Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg,
New Delhi, dated the 10 July, 2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Nodal Officer for coordinating matters being handled by Ld. AG/ SG and other Law Officers – reg.

The undersigned is directed to forward herewith a copy of self explanatory DO letter No. 358763/LS/2020 dated 22.06.2020 received from Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs. It is requested to strictly comply with the instructions contained in the D.O. letter.

2. Further, with the approval of Competent Authority, Joint Secretary (Admn.), DoWR, RD&GR has been nominated as Nodal Officer on behalf of DoWR, RD&GR for coordinating matters being handled by Ld. AG/ SG and other Law Officers.

Encl. As above

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by SHALINI
JUNEJA
Date: 2020.07.10 15:13:48
IST

(Shalini Juneja)
Under Secretary to the Government of India
PH : 23711946

To ,

1. Heads of all Organisations under the DoWR, RD&GR.
2. All Wing/Division/ Branch heads and Sections of DoWR, RD & GR.

Copy for information to:-

1. PPS to Secretary (WR, RD&GR).
2. Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
3. PPS to AS (WR, RD&GR)
4. PPS to JS(Admn.), DoWR, RD&GR.



D.O.358763/LS/2020

June 22, 2020

AS
Dear Secretary,

As you are aware the Ld. Attorney General of India, Ld. Solicitor General of India and other Additional Solicitor Generals appointed by the Govt. have the onerous responsibility *inter alia* of representing the Union of India in the various cases before the Supreme Court of India and other High Courts. Ld. AG, being the highest Law Officer of the country is discharging a constitutional role. In discharge of functions, Law Officers require prompt and able assistance from the various Ministries/Departments of the Government of India so that they can appropriately place the stand of the Govt. before the court. **However, it has come to notice that in some of the urgent cases, comments, information or inputs on the stand of Union of India sought by Ld. AG, have not been forthcoming within the stipulated period. Ld. Attorney General in this regard has observed vide his separate letter that the Supreme Court of India expects the Govt. to act promptly. Further in the absence of the same, the Law Officers representing the Union of India are placed in an embarrassing position when they have to tell the court that they have not yet received instructions from the Government.**

It may be impressed upon that any lackadaisical approach in management of court cases displayed by the Ministries/ Departments of the Govt. of India not only gives rise to the possibility of passing of adverse orders by the courts against the government but also results in avoidable embarrassment to all concerned including the Law Officers representing the respective case. Presently, many Public Interest Litigations (PILs) and other writ petitions are being filed seeking intervention of the Courts arising out of the Covid-19 pandemic and the situation calls for quick response from the concerned departments to ensure proper assistance to the courts. **For aforesaid purpose, Ld. AG has desired that some system be put in place by which it is ensured that whenever the court desires, replies or affidavits, the Govt. is able to respond within the stipulated time. In aforesaid context the outer date by which the inputs are required to be given by the concerned Departments/Ministries also needs to be strictly adhered to.**

In aforesaid background, Secretaries to the Govt. of India are requested to ensure that prompt action is taken and response is forwarded to Ld. AG/Ld. SG or the concerned Law Officers in the concerned cases wherein they are representing the Union of India and the timelines are strictly followed. Also officers at the level of Additional Secretary / Joint Secretary in the concerned Ministries/Departments may be nominated as nodal officers for ensuring prompt action. Further all such important cases need to be brought to the notice of the concerned Secretary to ensure proper monitoring and progress of the cases. The nodal

639275(1)/2020/Secretary Office officers should also remain in touch with the Central Agency Section (CAS) as well as the concerned Law Officer, for a proper follow up of the concerned cases. Further, wherever required or felt necessary, the Law Officers be briefed well before the date of hearing indicating the stand of Union of India in the given case. It also needs to be ensured that these cases should be entered and regularly monitored on the LIMBS web platform maintained by the Department of Legal Affairs.

I am therefore to request you to take requisite action, issue necessary instructions and place a monitoring mechanism in your Ministry/Department to ensure that ready assistance is made available to Law Officers in the cases dealt by them *inter alia* to safeguard the interest of Union of India. Further the name of concerned nodal officers of your Ministry/Department be intimated to Department of Legal Affairs and the Law Officers.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,



(Anoop Kumar Mendiratta)

To,

All Secretaries to the Government of India

Copy for information to:-

1. Ld. Attorney General of India, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
2. Cabinet Secretary, Cabinet Sectt., New Delhi.
3. Ld. Solicitor General of India, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
4. All Additional Solicitors General of India.
5. Additional Secretary and Incharge, Central Agency Section, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
6. PS to Hon'ble Minister for Law & Justice