

DEPARTMENT OF LAW, JUSTICE & LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
GOVT. OF NCT OF DELHI, 8TH LEVEL, C-WING,
DELHI SECRETARIAT, NEW DELHI

F.5(263)/Lit/15/903-04

Dated: 13/02/17

To

All Pr. Secretaries/Secretaries/HODs
Government of NCT of Delhi.

Sub: Timely issuance of BTFs and payment of professional fee bills of panel counsel in Hon'ble High Court of Delhi.

Sir / Madam,

A meeting was held on 24.12.2016 with Panel Lawyers(Civil) in Delhi High Court in which the Ld. Counsel apprised about the following issues.

- i) That the administrative departments are not providing BTFs to the concerned counsels in time resulting that departments are not properly represented before the Hon'ble Courts.
- ii) That the counsels are not briefed well in time by the administrative departments regarding their cases.
- iii) That the Fee bills are not processed in time by the departments. Even when bills are cleared, some claims are restricted, the details of which are not made available to them.

The above mentioned reasons adversely affect the litigation of the government and this offsets the enthusiasm of the panel counsel to pursue the case.

To resolve these grievances, Principal Secretaries / Secretaries / Heads of Departments are requested to ensure the following for proper conduct of the cases of their departments.

- i) Check the online e-Litigation module daily to see whether any new BTF has been issued. If any new BTF has been issued, the department, through its nodal officer / parity officer has to contact the counsel and provide necessary briefing / instructions immediately.

- ii) In case any court notice is received, status regarding issuance of BTF may be checked and if BTF is not issued, request for the same maybe submitted online to this Department. In case of old matters, requests for change of BTF may be sent through concerned case file.
- iii) As directed by Hon'ble High Court in WP (Crl.) 1549/2009, the payment of professional fee bills has to be made within a period of two months from submission of the same. The departments are requested to abide by the time frame and also that discrepancy if any in the bill may be settled in communication with the concerned counsel.

This issues with the approval of Secretary (Law, Justice & LA).

Yours faithfully,


(Pawan Singh Rajawat)

Additional Secretary (Law, Justice & LA)

F.5(263)/Lit/15/903-04

Dated: 13/02/17

Copy to :

Senior Standing Counsel(Civil), Government of NCT of Delhi, 422, Lawyers Chamber, Delhi High Court, New Delhi-110003 with the request that as soon as the case is marked by your office to the empanelled counsel, he may be directed to contact the concerned administrative department for comments/briefing so that the administrative department also becomes aware about the impending litigation and assist the counsel to avoid any adverse orders.


(Pawan Singh Rajawat)

Additional Secretary (Law, Justice & LA)