Government of Jammu and Kashmir Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (Judicial Administration Section) Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar

Subject:- Circular instructions for engagement of Standing Counsels in Government Departments, Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

Circular No:- 06 -JK(LD) of 2021.

Dated:- 24 - 06 - 2021.

It has been observed that some Government Departments, Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are appointing Standing Counsels on their own and Advocates, who have not been engaged by Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, are appearing in their cases, which is in violation of standing instructions on the subject. This has been viewed seriously by the authorities.

A centralized mechanism for engagement/appearance of Standing Counsels for all the Government Departments, Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies would befit co-ordination and accountability and also improve the quality of representation before various Courts in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

All the Government Departments, Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir shall be represented only by Counsels engaged by Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs (Sr. Additional Advocates General, Additional Advocates General, Deputy Advocates General, Government Advocates and Standing Counsels).

It is accordingly impressed upon all Government Departments, Corporations, Public Sector Undertakings and Autonomous Bodies to abstain from appointing Standing Counsels on their own and in case of any difficulty, a requisition may be made to Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs for engagement of counsels for their cases pending before various forums, and the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs in consultation with the Learned Advocate General, shall provide the services of Counsels (Sr. Additional Advocates General, Additional Advocates General, Deputy Advocates General, Government

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File No.LAW-Jud/53/2021-10-Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs

Advocates and Standing Counsels) engaged by the Department of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs.

By Order of the Competent Authority.

(Ashish Gupta)

Dated:-24 -06-2021.

Additional Secretary to Government

No:- Law-Jud/53/2021-10.

Copy to the:-

- 1. Ld. Advocate General, J&K, Srinagar.
- 2. All the Administrative Secretaries.
- 3. All HODs.
- 4. All MDs/GMs of Corporations/PSUs/Autonomous Bodies.
- 5. Managing Director, Jammu and Kashmir Housing Board, Srinagar. This is with reference to his letter No. HB/7268 dated 05-03-2021.
- 6. Concerned file.