No.15011/36/2022-JUS(AU)/e6889 Government of India Ministry of Law and Justice Department of Justice

> Jaisalmer House, 26 Man Singh Road, New Delhi, dated 13th March, 2023

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Monthly Summary for the Cabinet for the month of February, 2023-reg.

The undersigned is directed to circulate herewith a copy of the Monthly Summary of the Department of Justice for the month of February, 2023.

2. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

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(M S P Dara) Under Secretary(Coord.)

Encl: As above

To

- 1. All the Members of the Council of Ministers
- 2. Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, Sansad Marg, New Delhi.

Copy to:

The Joint Secretary [Shri Sandeep Sarkar], Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.

Copy also forwarded for information to:

- 1. Chairman, Union Public Service Commission, Dholpur House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi.
- 2. Secretary to the President of India, Rasthtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
- 3. Secretary to the Vice-President of India, Maulana Azad Road, New Delhi.
- 4. Secretaries to the Govt. of India.
- 5. PS to Minister of Law & Justice, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- PS to Minister of State for Law & Justice, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi.

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Subject: Monthly Summary for the month of February, 2023 in respect of Department of Justice

The following are the important activities of the Department of Justice for the month of February, 2023.

1. Post-Budget Webinar:

(a) Union Budget (2023-24) Speech (Para 70) mentions "For efficient administration of justice, Phase III of eCourts Project will be launched with an outlay of Rs.7000 crore".

A 'Post Budget Webinar' was held on Tuesday, February 28, 2023 under the theme "Unleashing the Potential (Priorities of Budget - Guiding 'Saptarishis') - Ease of Living using Technology" which was led by the MeitY, with DPIIT as the co-lead. It was inaugurated by Hon'ble Prime Minister. An exclusive Break-out Session was conducted during the Webinar on eCourts with a title "Ease of accessing justice- eCourts". It was attended by 353 stakeholders including expert panelists and eminent speakers. Justice A Muhamed Mustaque, Judge Kerala High Court was the eminent speaker for the event. There were 5 panelists from different domains who presented their views on topics related to eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase III. A holistic Action Plan for implementation was devised post incorporation of suggestions of stakeholders.

(b) Union Budget (2023-24) Speech (Para 42) mentions "For poor persons who are in prisons and unable to afford the penalty or the bail amount, required financial support will be provided."

A "Post Budget Webinar" was held on Monday, February, 27, 2023 under the theme "Reaching the Last Mile (Priorities of Budget - Guiding 'Saptarishis')" which was led by MoRD with DoSJE and MoTA as co-lead. It was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Prime Minister. An exclusive Break-out Session was conducted during the Webinar on "Support for Poor Prisoners" with DoSJE as lead and DOJ and MHA as co-lead. The Break-out

Session comprised of 5 sub-themes on which 2 sub-themes namely "Role of UTRCs in Supporting Poor Prisoners" and "Relevance of Penalty and Surety for Bail/Release in respect of Poor Prisoners" were anchored by Department of Justice and other 2 sub-themes were anchored by MHA and 1 by DoSJE. Expert speakers were identified for the sub-themes and participation of stakeholders were ensured. In the Break-out Session 1197 stakeholders participated. Based on the suggestions of stakeholders an Action Plan with timelines jointly prepared by DoSJE (lead), DOJ (co-lead) and MHA (colead).

2. eCourts Mission Mode Project Phase-II:

NJDG: Litigants can access case status information in respect of over 22.09 crore cases and more than 20.43 crore orders / judgments pertaining to the computerized courts on National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG) as on 02nd February, 2023.

3. Nyaya Bandhu (Pro-Bono Legal Services):

- (a) During the month, 137 new Pro Bono advocates registered through Nyaya Bandhu mobile application/web portal. A total of 5954 Lawyers (M- 5053, F-899, Transgender-02) have registered under Nyaya Bandhu portal.
- (b) During the month, 33 new advocates enrolled at High Courts, taking the total to 1247 Pro Bono Lawyers at 25 High Courts so far.

4. Pan India Legal Literacy & Legal Awareness Programme:

- (a) First Annual Review Meeting of Implementing Agencies on the Pan India Legal Literacy and Legal Awareness Programme was organised by the Department of Justice from 18/02/2023 to 19/02/2023 at Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh. Project deliverables of ten Implementing Agencies were reviewed, need based suggestions provided and deliberations took place with Tele-Law State coordinators regarding possibilities of ground level convergence. 52 participants attended the Annual Review Meeting including representatives from Implementing Agencies & Tele Law State Coordinators.
- (b) Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society (CECOEDECON), Jaipur, Rajasthan organised 10 Panchayat level sensitization meetings, 10 Dhani

meetings and 3 Mass Legal Awareness Programmes at Karauli district of Rajasthan.

- (c) Legal Awareness Programmes Against Child Sexual Abuse for high school students at Brighter Academy, New Checkon, Imphal West on 2nd February 2023 and at Little Master English Higher at Samurou, Imphal West on 5th February 2023 was organised as training & sensitization programmes by Jawaharlal Nehru Institute of Medical Science (JNIMS), Manipur. Another legal literacy and awareness programme was organized for women participants from Civil Society organisations on 3rd February, 2023 at Kuki Community Hall, Phaipijang, Langol, Imphal West.
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh State Legal Service Authority conducted a Legal Literacy cum Training Programme for Gaon Burahs on 25th February, 2023 under the project "Synergy between Customary Practices of the Traditional Village Council System & Formal Laws of India", at Circuit House Conference Hall, Khonsa, Dist. Tirap.

5. National Lok Adalat:

Over 175 lakh pre-litigation cases and 30 lakh pending cases were disposed at the National Lok Adalat on 11th February, 2023 organised in 36 SLSAs and UTs under the aegis of National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).