

GOVT. OF ASSAM

STATE LITIGATION POLICY
ASSAM, 2012.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

ASSAM STATE LITIGATION POLICY, 2012

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GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT :::: JUDICIAL BRANCH

NOTIFICATION

Dated Dispur, the 21st September, 2012

No.JDJ.308/2010/11 : In pursuance to the National Litigation Policy adopted by the Government of India for strengthening the judiciary towards reducing pendency and delays, the State of Assam also hereby adopt the Assam State Litigation Policy, 2012, as follows:

INTRODUCTION

Whereas at the National Consultation for Strengthening the Judiciary towards Reducing Pendency and Delays held on the 24th and 25th October, 2009 the Union Minister for Law and Justice, presented resolutions which were adopted by the entire conference unanimously.

And wherein the said resolution acknowledged the initiative undertaken by the Government of India to frame a National Litigation Policy with a view to ensure conduct of responsible litigation by the Central Government and urged every State Government to evolve similar policies.

And whereas the 13th Finance Commission, Government of India also recommended for formulation of such State Litigation Policy. In fact, release of 13th Finance Commission grant for the subsequent years has been made subject to framing of such a Litigation Policy.

And whereas the Hon'ble Supreme Court in its order dated 30-10-2009 in SLP (C) No. 29852 of 2009, on increase of frivolous and unjust litigation by governments and statutory authorities, has observed as follows :

"4. It is a matter of concern that such frivolous and unjust litigation by governments and statutory authorities are on the increase. Statutory Authorities exist to discharge statutory functions in public interest. They should be responsible litigants. They cannot raise frivolous and unjust objections, nor act in a callous and highhanded manner. They can not behave like some private litigants with profiteering motives. Nor can they resort to unjust enrichment. They are expected to show remorse or regret when their officers act negligently or in an overbearing manner. When glaring wrong acts by their officers is brought to their notice, for which there is no explanation or excuse, the least that is expected is restitution / restoration to the extent possible with appropriate compensation. Their harsh attitude in regard to genuine grievances of the public and their indulgence in unwarranted litigation requires to be corrected.

The reluctance to take decisions, or tendency to challenge all orders against them, is not the policy of the governments or statutory authorities, but is attributable to some officers who are responsible for taking decisions and / or officers in charge of litigation. Their reluctance arises from an instinctive tendency to protect themselves against any future accusations of wrong decision making, or worse, of improper motives for any decision making. Unless their insecurity and fear is addressed, officers will continue to pass on the responsibility of decision making to courts and Tribunals. The Central Government is now attempting to deal with this issue by formulating realistic and practical norms for defending cases filed against the government and for filing appeals and revisions against adverse decisions, thereby, eliminating unnecessary litigation. But, it is not sufficient if the Central Government alone undertakes such an exercise. The State Governments and the statutory authorities, who have more litigations than the Central Government, should also make genuine efforts to eliminate unnecessary litigation. Vexatious and unnecessary litigation have been clogging the wheels of justice, for too long making it difficult for courts and Tribunals to provide easy and speedy access to justice to bona fide and needy litigants."

And in pursuance thereof, the State Litigation Policy for the State of Assam has been framed as follows:

THE VISION / MISSION

The State Litigation Policy is based on the recognition that the State Government and its various agencies are the predominant litigants in different Courts and Tribunals in the country.

The Government being the single largest litigant, a large numbers of Court cases involving the Government and its various instrumentalities pending in different Courts and Tribunals significantly add to the burden of arrears of such judicial agencies.

The basic aim of the policy is to transform the Government and its agencies / instrumentalities from a compulsive litigant to a responsible and efficient litigant. The purpose underlying this policy is also to reduce Government litigation in courts so that valuable court time would be spent in resolving other pending cases so as to achieve the goal in the National Legal Mission to reduce average pendency time from 15 years to 3 years.

The State Litigation Policy includes steps for :

- i. Reviewing the pending cases and wherever necessary, withdrawing cases identified as frivolous and vexatious;
- ii. Formulating norms for defending cases as well as for filing appeals / court cases etc;
- iii. Setting up of Empowered Committees to eliminate unnecessary litigation;
- iv. Changing the approach that **"The petitioner is always wrong and must be resisted in every way"**;
- v. Elimination of the tendency viz, **"Let the courts decide every case"**

Its aim is to transform the Government into an efficient and responsible litigant.

"EFFICIENT LITIGANT" MEANS

- Focusing on the core issues involved in the litigation and addressing them squarely.
- Managing and conducting litigation in a cohesive, coordinated and time-bound manner.
- Ensuring that good cases are won and bad cases are not needlessly persevered with.
- A litigant who is represented by competent and sensitive legal persons: competent in their skills and sensitive to the facts that Government is not an ordinary litigant and that a litigation does not have to be won at any cost.

"RESPONSIBLE LITIGANT" MEANS

- That litigation will not be resorted to for the sake of litigating.
- That false pleas and technical points will not be taken and shall be discouraged.
- Ensuring that the correct facts and all relevant documents will be placed before the court.
- That nothing will be suppressed from the court and there will be no attempt to mislead any court or Tribunal.

I. THE STAKEHOLDERS

- A) In ensuring the success of this policy, all stake holders viz. the Heads of various Departments, Law Officers, Government Counsel, and individual officers all connected with the concerned litigation will have to play their part. The success of this policy will depend on its strict implementation.

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"Head of Department" means the administrative person ultimately responsible for the working of the Department or Agency, as the case may be.

- B) Nodal Officers will be appointed by the Heads of Department. The appointment of Nodal Officers must be done carefully. The Nodal Officer has a crucial and important role to play in the overall and specific implementation of this Policy, including but not limited to the references made hereinafter. Every Department and the various instrumentalities of Government must be mindful of the responsibility to appoint proper Nodal Officers preferably from amongst those who have legal background and expertise. They must be in a position to pro-actively manage litigation. Whilst making such appointments, care must be taken to see that there is continuity in the incumbents holding office. Frequent changes in persons holding the position must be avoided. Nodal Officers must also be subjected to training so that they are in a position to understand what is expected of them under the State Litigation Policy.
- C) The State Government will also examine the need for appointment of Law Officers / Law Assistants for different departments to ensure efficient litigation of the court cases involving the Government.
- D) Accountability is the touch-stone of this Policy. Accountability will be at various levels; at the level of officers in charge of litigation, those responsible for defending cases, all the lawyers concerned and Nodal Officers. As part of accountability, there must be critical appreciation on the conduct of cases. Good cases which have been lost must be reviewed and subjected to detailed scrutiny to ascertain responsibility. Upon ascertainment of responsibility, suitable action will have to be taken. Complacency must be eliminated and replaced by commitment.

E) In respect of Section of 80 C.P.C. Notice, the concerned Government Department / public servant is to keep in mind the observation of the Hon'ble Supreme Court rendered in the case of **Bihari Choudhury vs State of Bihar (AIR 1984 SC 1043)**

"When we examine the scheme of the Section it becomes obvious that the Section has been enacted as a measure of public policy with the object of ensuring that before a suit is instituted against the Government or a public officer, the Government or the officer concerned is afforded an opportunity to scrutinise the claim in respect of which the suit is proposed to be filed and if it be found to be a just claim, to take immediate action and thereby avoid unnecessary litigation and save public time and money by settling the claim without driving the person, who has issued the notice, to institute the suit involving considerable expenditure and delay. The Government, unlike private parties, is expected to consider the matter covered by the notice in a most objective manner, after obtaining such legal advice as they may think fit, and take a decision in public interest within the period of two months allowed by the Section as to whether the claim is just and reasonable and the contemplated suit should, therefore, be avoided by speedy negotiations and settlement or whether the claim should be resisted by fighting out the suit if and when it is instituted. There is clearly a public purpose underlying the mandatory provision contained in the Section insisting on the issuance of a notice setting out the particulars of the proposed suit and giving two months time to Government or a public officer before a suit can be instituted against them. The object of the Section is the advancement of justice and the securing of public good by avoidance of unnecessary litigation."

F) There will be Empowered Committees to monitor the implementation of this Policy and accountability. The Nodal Officers and the Heads of Department will ensure that all relevant data is sent to the Empowered Committees.

G) The State Level Empowered Committee shall comprise of the following :

- 1. Chief Secretary - Chairman
- 2. Advocate General, Assam - Special invitee
- 3. L.R. & Secretary, Judicial Department - Member Secretary
- 4. Secretary, Finance Department - Member
- 5. Secretary, Personnel Department - Member
- 6. Secretary, Home Department - Member
- 7. Senior Government Advocate, Gauhati High Court - Member

[And such other members as may be nominated by the Chief Secretary.]

The Empowered Committee will be at liberty to invite any Heads of Government Departments or the concerned officers of various instrumentalities of Government for discussion to monitor the implementation of the State Litigation Policy. The State Level Empowered Committee will normally meet once in three months to review the implementation of the State Litigation Policy as well as the status of the pending cases.

H) The empowered committee at the District Level in each district shall comprise of the following :

- 1. Deputy Commissioner - Chairman
- 2. Superintendent of Police - Member
- 3. Government Pleader - Member
- 4. Public Prosecutor - Member
- 5. A.D.C. in charge of Magistracy - Member Secretary

[And such other members as may be nominated by the Deputy Commissioner concerned from amongst Heads of Office representing various departments.]

The District Empowered Committees shall submit quarterly reports to the State Empowered Committee.

- I) It shall be the responsibility of the Empowered Committees, to receive and deal with suggestions and complaints including from litigants and Government Departments and take appropriate measures in connection therewith.
- J) Timely settlement of the dues payable by Government arising out of Court cases reflects good and responsive governance. It also saves amount due for the interest component and drop in litigation like Execution Cases and Contempt Cases. Keeping these parameters in view, the Government will explore the possibility of formation of a dedicated or composite fund to cater the need of timely payment of the decretal amount, compensation amount etc., awarded against the Government by different Courts and Tribunals, so as to avoid the delay in payment of such amounts due to the existing procedural snags.

II. GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION

- A) Training programs, seminars, workshops and refresher courses for Government advocates must be encouraged. There must be continuing legal education for Government lawyers and Government Officers with particular emphasis on identifying and improving areas of specialization. Law Schools and State Judicial Academy will be associated in preparing special courses for training of Government lawyers and Prosecutors with particular emphasis on identifying and improving areas of specialization. Most importantly, there must be an effort to cultivate and instill values required for effective Government representation.

- B) Government Advocates must play a meaningful role in Government litigations. A system of motivation has to be worked out for Government advocates under which initiative and hard work will be recognized and extraordinary work will be rewarded. This could be in the form of letter of appreciation having persuasive value or extra payment.
- C) Panels of Government Advocates will be drawn up of willing, energetic and competent lawyers to develop special skills in drafting / pleadings on behalf of Government. Such Panels shall be flexible. More and more advocates must be encouraged to get on to such Panels by demonstrating keenness, knowledge and interest.
- D) Screening Committees for constitution of Panels of Government Advocates will be introduced at every level to assess the skill and capabilities of people who are desirous of being included in the Government Panels.

The Screening Committee for constitution of Panels of Government Advocates shall comprise of :

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. The Chief Secretary | - Chairman |
| 2. Advocate General, Assam | - Member |
| 3. L. R. & Secretary, Judicial | - Member Secretary |
| 4. Principal Secretary,
Finance Department | - Member |
| 5. Principal Secretary,
Home & Political Department | - Member |
| 6. Principal Secretary,
Personnel Department | - Member |

- E) Nodal Officers will be responsible for active case management. This will involve constant monitoring of cases particularly to examine whether cases have gone "off track" or have been unnecessarily delayed.

- F) Incomplete briefs / instructions are frequently given to Government Counsel by the concerned departments. This must be discontinued. It will be the duty of the concerned departmental officers to monitor that incomplete briefs and instructions are not given. It is the responsibility of the Nodal Officer concerned, to ensure that proper records of the cases are kept and that copies retained by the Department are complete and tally with what has been filed in Court.

- G) Whenever more than one Department is involved in a particular Court case, the Affidavit / Para Wise Comments etc. shall be filed by each Department only after prior consultation with the other concerned Departments to ensure that divergent views are not expressed before the Hon'ble Court. In such Cases, one Department shall be designated as the Nodal Department by the Chief Secretary to co-ordinate the matter in liaison with other Departments.

- H) There should be equitable distribution of briefs so that there will be broad based representation of Government. Senior Government Advocate and Public Prosecutor of the High Court will be associated with regard to distribution of briefs in the High Court.

- I) Government lawyers are expected to discharge their obligations with a sense of responsibility towards the Court as well as to Government. If concessions are made on issues of fact or law, and it is found that such concessions were not justified, the matter will be reported to the Empowered Committee and remedial action would follow.

- J) While Government cannot pay fees which private litigants are in a position to pay, the fees payable to Government lawyers will be suitably revised to make it remunerative. Optimum utilisation of available resources and elimination of wastage will itself provide for adequate resources for revision of fees. It should be ensured that the fees stipulated as per the Schedule of Fees should be paid within a reasonable time.

III. ADJOURNMENTS

- A) Accepting that frequent adjournments are resorted to by Government lawyers, unnecessary and frequent adjournments will be frowned upon and infractions dealt with seriously.
- B) In fresh litigations where the Government is a Defendant or a Respondent in the first instance, a reasonable adjournment may be applied for, for obtaining instructions. However, it must be ensured that such instructions are made available and communicated well in advance before the next date of hearing. If instructions are not forthcoming, the matter must be reported to the Nodal officer and if necessary to the Head of the Department.
- C) In Appellate Courts, if the paper books are complete, then adjournments must not be sought in routine course. The matter must be dealt with at the first hearing itself. In such cases, adjournments should be applied for only if a specific query from the Court is required to be answered and for this, instructions have to be obtained.
- D) One of the functions of the Nodal Officers will be to coordinate the conduct of litigation. It will also be their responsibility to monitor the progress of litigation, particularly to identify cases in which repeated adjournments are taken. It will be the responsibility of

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the Nodal Officer to report cases of repeated and unjustified adjournments to the Head of Department and it shall be open to him to call for reasons for the adjournment.

- E) It will be the responsibility of the concerned Government Advocate in charge of the case to ensure that the records of the case reflect reasons for adjournment, if there are repeated adjournments. Serious note will be taken of cases of negligence or default and the matter will be dealt with appropriately by referring such cases to the Empowered Committee. If the advocates are at fault, action against them may entail removal of their names from Government Panels.
- F) Cases in which costs are awarded against the Government as a condition of grant of adjournment will be viewed very seriously. In all such cases the Head of Department must give a report to the Empowered Committee of the reasons why such costs were awarded.
- G) The names of the persons responsible for the default entailing the imposition of costs will be identified. Suitable action must be taken against them.

IV. PLEADINGS / COUNTERS

- A) Suits or other proceedings initiated by or on behalf of Government have to be drafted with precision and clarity. There should be no repetition either in narration of facts or in the grounds.
- B) Appeals will be drafted with particular attention to the synopsis and list of dates which will carefully crystallize the facts in dispute and the issues involved. Slipshod and loose drafting will be taken serious note of. Defaulting advocates may be removed from the Panels.

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- C) Care must be taken to include all necessary and relevant documents in the appeal paper book. If it is found that any such documents are not annexed and this entails an adjournment or if the court adversely comments on this, the matter will be enquired into by the Nodal Officer and reported to the Head of Department for suitable action.
 - D) It is noticed that sometimes Government documentation in court is untidy, haphazard and incomplete, full of typing errors and blanks. Special attention shall be paid by all concerned to ensure that all filing / documentation in the Court are in proper format and free from the above defects.

V. FILING OF APPEALS

- A) Generally, appeals will not be filed against ex-parte ad-interim orders. In such cases, attempt must be made first to have the order vacated. If the order is not vacated and the continuation of such order causes prejudice, then only Appeal must be preferred.
- B) Appeals must be filed intra court in the first instance. Direct appeals to the Supreme Court must not be resorted to except in extraordinary cases.
- C) Given that Tribunals are meant to remove the loads from Courts, challenge to orders of Tribunals should be an exception and not a matter of routine.
- D) In Service matters, no appeal will be filed in cases where
 - (i) the matter pertains to an individual grievance without any major repercussion;
 - (ii) the matter pertains to a case of pension or retirement benefits without involving any principle and without setting any precedent or financial implications.

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- E) Further, proceedings will not be filed in service matters merely because the order of the Administrative Tribunal affects a number of employees. Appeals will not be filed to espouse the cause of one section of employees against another.
 - F) Proceedings will be filed challenging orders of Administrative Tribunals only if
 - I. There is error apparent on the face of record or facts and the finding has been recorded against the Government.
 - II. The judgment of the Tribunal is contrary to a service rule or its interpretation by a High Court or the Supreme Court.
 - III. The Judgment will have impact on the working of the administration in terms of morale of the service; or
 - IV. If the judgment will have recurring implications upon other cadres; or
 - V. if the judgment involves huge financial claims being made.
 - G) Appeals in Revenue matters will not be filed :
 - I. If the stakes are not high and are less than that amount to be fixed by the Revenue Authorities ;
 - II. If the matter is covered by a series of judgments of the Tribunal or of the High Courts which have held the field and which have not been challenged in the Supreme Court ;
 - III. Where the assessee has acted in accordance with long standing industry practice ;
 - IV. Merely because of change of opinion on the part of jurisdictional officers.

- H) Appeals will not be filed in the Supreme Court unless:
 - a) The case involves a question of law ;
 - b) If it is a question of fact, the conclusion of the fact is so perverse that an honest judicial opinion could not have arrived at that conclusion ;
 - c) Where public finances are adversely affected ;
 - d) Where there is substantial interference with public justice;
 - e) Where there is a question of law arising under the Constitution ;
 - f) Where the High Court has exceeded its jurisdiction ;
 - g) Where the High Court has struck down a statutory provision as ultra vires ;
 - h) Where the interpretation of the High Court is plainly erroneous;
 - I) In each case, there will be a proper certification of the need to file an appeal. Such certification will contain brief but cogent reasons in support. At the same time, reasons will also be recorded as to why it was not considered fit or proper to file an appeal.

VI. LIMITATION : DELAYED APPEALS

- A) It is recognized that good cases are being lost because appeals are filed beyond the period of limitation and without any proper explanation for the delay or without a proper application for condonation of delay. It is recognized that such delays are not always bonafide particularly in cases where high revenue stakes are involved.

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- B) Each Head of Department will be required to call for details of cases filed on behalf of the Department and to maintain a record of cases which have been dismissed on the ground of delay. The Nodal Officers must submit a report in every individual case to the Head of Department explaining all the reasons for such delay and indentifying the persons / causes responsible. Every such case will be investigated and if it is found that the delay was not bonafide, appropriate action must be taken. Action will be such that it operates as a deterrent for unsatisfactory work and malpractices in the conduct of Government Litigation. For this purpose, obtaining of the data and fixing of responsibility will play a vital role. Data must be obtained on a regular basis annually, bi-monthly or quarterly.
- C) Applications for condonation of delay are presently drafted in routine terms without application of mind. This practice must immediately stop. It is responsibility of the drafting counsel to carefully draft an application for condonation of delay, identifying the areas of delay and identifying the causes with particularity. Drafting advocates who fail to adhere to this may be suspended or removed from the Panel.
- D) Every attempt must be made to reduce delays in filling appeals / applications. It shall be responsibility of each Head of Department to work out an appropriate system for elimination of delays and ensure its implementation.
- E) Belated appeals filed beyond the period of limitation cannot be approached merely from the point of view that courts have different approaches towards condonation of delay. Since some courts liberally grant condonation of delay, a general apathy seems to have taken over. The tendency on the part of Government counsel to expect leniency towards Government for condonation of delay must be discouraged. The question of limitation and delay must be approached on the premise that every court will be strict with regard to condonation of delay.

**VII. ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION /
ARBITRATION**

- A) More and more Government departments and PSUs are resorting to arbitration particularly in matters of contracts. Careful drafting of commercial contracts, including arbitration agreements must be given utmost priority. It is recognized that it has a major role to play in this behalf.
- B) The resort to arbitration as an alternative dispute resolution mechanism must be encouraged at every level, but this entails the responsibility that such arbitration will be cost effective, efficacious, expeditious, and conducted with high rectitude. In most cases arbitration has become a mirror of court litigation. This must be stopped.
- C) It is recognized that the conduct of arbitration at present leaves a lot to be desired. Arbitral proceedings are needlessly dragged on for various reasons. One of them is by repeatedly seeking adjournments. This practice must be deplored and stopped.
- D) The Head of Department will call for the data of pending arbitration proceedings. Copies of the record of proceedings must be obtained to find out why arbitrations are delayed and ascertain who is responsible for adjournments. Advocates found to be conducting arbitrations lethargically and inefficiently must not only be removed from the conduct of such cases but also not to be engaged in future arbitrations. It shall be the responsibility of the Head of Department to call for regular meetings to assess the status of pending arbitration cases.
- E) Lack of precision in drafting arbitration agreements is a major cause of delay in arbitration proceedings. This leads to dispute about appointment of arbitrators and concerning the matters to be referred for arbitration which in turn results in prolonged litigation even before the start of arbitration. Therefore, special care must be

taken whilst drafting an arbitration agreement. It must correctly and clearly reflect the intention of the parties particularly if certain items are required to be left to the decision of named persons such as engineers are not meant to be referred to arbitration.

- F) Arbitration agreements are loosely and carelessly drafted when it comes to appointment of arbitrators. Arbitration agreements must reflect a well defined procedure for appointment of arbitrators. Sole arbitrator may be preferred over a Panel of three Arbitrators. In technical matters, reference may be made to trained technical persons instead of retired judicial persons.
- G) It is also found that certain persons are "preferred" as arbitrators by certain departments or corporations. The arbitrator must be chosen solely on the basis of knowledge, skill and integrity and not for extraneous reasons. It must be ascertained whether the arbitrator will be in a position to devote time for expeditious disposal of the reference.
- H) It is found that if an arbitration award goes against Government, it is almost invariably challenged by way of objections filed in the arbitration. Very often, these objections lack merit and the grounds do not fall within the purview of the scope of challenge before the courts.
- I) Routine challenge to arbitration awards must be discouraged. A clear formulation of the reasons to challenge an arbitration award must precede the decision to file proceedings to challenge such Awards.

VIII. SPECIALISED LITIGATION

- A) **Proceedings seeking judicial review including in the matter of award of contracts or tenders** : Such Matters should be defended keeping in mind Constitutional imperatives and good governance. If the proceedings are founded on an allegation of the breach of natural justice and it is found that there is substance in

the allegations, the case shall not be proceeded with and the order may be set aside to provide for a proper hearing in the matter. Cases where projects may be held up have to be defended vigorously keeping in mind public interest. They must be dealt with and disposed off as expeditiously as possible.

- B) **Cases involving vires, or statutes or rules and regulations** : In all such cases, proper affidavits should be filed explaining the rationale between the statute or regulation and also making appropriate averments with regard to legislative competence.

IX. PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION

Public Interest Litigation must be approached in a balanced manner. On the one hand, PILs should not be taken as matters of convenience to let the courts do what Government finds inconvenient. It is recognized that the increase in PILs stems from a perception that there is governmental inaction. This perception must be changed.

It must be recognized that several PILs are filed for collateral reasons including publicity and at the instance of third parties. Such litigation must be exposed as being not bonafide. PILs challenging public contracts must be seriously defended. If interim orders are passed stopping such projects, then appropriate conditions must be insisted upon for the Petitioners to pay compensation if the PIL is ultimately rejected.

X. PUBLIC SECTOR UNDERTAKING LITIGATIONS

Litigation between Public Sector Undertakings inter se between Government Public Sector Undertakings is causing great concern. Every effort must be made to prevent litigation. Before initiating such litigation, the matter must be placed before the highest authority in the

public sector such as the CMD or MD. It will be his responsibility to endeavour to see whether the litigation can be avoided. If litigation cannot be avoided, then alternative dispute resolution methods like mediation must be considered. Section 89 of the Code of Civil Procedure must be resorted to extensively.

XI. REVIEW OF PENDING CASES

All pending cases involving Government will be reviewed. This due diligence process shall involve drawing upon statistics of all pending matters which shall be provided for by all Government departments including Government Public Sector Undertakings. The Office of the Advocate General, Senior Government Advocate shall also be responsible for reviewing all pending cases and filtering frivolous and vexatious matters from the meritorious ones. Steps will be taken to identify the cases which can be withdrawn. These include cases which are covered by decisions of courts on similar matters and cases which are found without merit. This must be done in a time bound fashion.

(Dilip Kumar Mahanta)
L.R. & Secretary to the Government of Assam
Judicial Department

Memo No.JDJ.308/2010/11-A Dated Dispur, the 21st September, 2012

Copy of this Notification is forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Registrar General, Gauhati High Court, Guwahati.
2. Sri Atul Kaushik, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice (Department of Justice), Government of India, Shastri Bhawan, A-Wing, Dr. Rajendra Prasad Road, New Delhi-110001.
3. The Commissioner & Secretary to the Chief Minister, Assam.
4. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Law Minister, Assam, Dispur.
5. The S.O. to the Chief Secretary, Assam, Dispur.
6. The Secretary to the Government of Assam, Home & Political Department.
7. The Director of Printing & Stationary, Government Press, Bamunimaldam, Gwahati-21, for publication of the above notification in the Assam Gazette.

(D. K. Mahanta)
L.R. & Secretary to the Government of Assam
Judicial Department