

File No. N – 17/145/2014 - NM (Vol. III)
Government of India
Ministry of Law and Justice
(Department of Justice)

Jaisalmer House, 26-Mansingh Road,
New Delhi - 110 011.
Dated: 28.4.2017.

Subject: Minutes of meeting held with respondents to World Bank report on ease of doing business on 18.04.2017 in Jaisalmer House to discuss reforms pertaining to 'Enforcing Contracts'.

A meeting was held on 18th April, 17 with respondents of World Bank Report on Ease of Doing Business under the chairmanship of Shri G. R. Raghavender, Joint Secretary, Department of Justice which was attended by officers of Department of Justice, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, respondents (law firms) and World Bank. The minutes of the meeting are circulated to all concerned for information and record.


(C. K. Reejonja)

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Enclosures: As above.

1. Shri Naveen Gupta, Additional Secretary, Delhi State Legal Services Authority.
2. Sh. Kaviraj Singh, Secretary General, Indian National Bar Association.
3. Shri S. Ramaswamy, Chairperson, GC Section, Indian National Bar Association.
4. Shri Suman Doval, Indian National Bar Association.
5. Shri B.S. Saluja, ICADR, New Delhi.
6. Ms. Sunita K. Sredharan, CEO, SKS Law Associates, Delhi.
7. Shri Saurabh Chaturvedi, Associate, Lex Counsel, Law Offices.
8. Shri Nikhil Sahni (Partner), Saikrishna & Associates.
9. Shri Nishant Anurag, CLARUS Law Associates.
10. Ms. Ronjini Ray, CLARUS Law Associates.
11. Shri Punit D. Tyagi, Ex. Partner, Lakshmi Kumara Sridharan & Co.
12. Ms. Payal Lamba, Lex Favios.
13. Shri Niraj Kumar, Partner, DSK Legal.
14. Shri Amitabh Narender, NDBA.
15. Shri Vinai Kumar Singh, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.
16. Ms. Parineet Kaur, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.
17. Ms. Sonam Gupta, Partner, ARTHE Law.
18. Shri Kaushik Moitra, Partner, ARTHE Law.
19. Ms. Vandana Sehgal, Partner, JNA Law.
20. Bar Council of Delhi, Siri Fort Institutional Area, Khel Gaon Marg, New Delhi.
21. Delhi High Court Bar Association, Delhi High Court, Sher Shah Road, Near India Gate, New Delhi.
22. Delhi Bar Association, Tis Hazari Courts, Delhi.
23. Sahdara Bar Association, Karkardooma, Delhi.
24. Rohini Court Bar Association, Rohini Court Complex Rohini, Delhi.
25. Saket Bar Association, Saket Court Complex, New Delhi.
26. Dwarka Court Bar Association, Dwarka Court Complex, New Delhi.
27. The Indian Law Institute, Opp. Supreme Court of India, Bhagwan Das Road, New Delhi.
28. National Legal Services Authority, Jam Nagar House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi.
29. Delhi Judicial Academy, Integrated Complex for Delhi Judicial Academy & National Law University, Dwarka, New Delhi.
30. All other respondents.

Copy to:

- (i) Shri Yashwant Anand Goswami, Member (Project Manager), eCommittee of Supreme Court of India, New Delhi.
- (ii) Ms. Veena Kothavale, Additional Legal Counsel, Legislative Department, Shashtri Bhavan, New Delhi.
- (iii) Dr. K.S. Jayachandran, Deputy Secretary, Department of Justice.
- (iv) Shri Dhawal Piplani, Manager, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion
- (v) Ms. Ishita Sinha, Project Manager, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.
- (vi) Shri Sandeep Sharma, Consultant, Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
- (vii) Shri Anuj Chaudhary, World Bank.
- (viii) Shri Ashwin Madhusudanan, Manager, KPMG (Consultant to DIPP).

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD WITH OLD AND PROPOSED RESPONDENTS FOR WORLD BANK REPORT ON EASE OF DOING BUSINESS HELD ON 18.04.2017 IN JAISALMER HOUSE TO DISCUSS QUESTIONNAIRE PERTAINING TO 'ENFORCING CONTRACTS'.

A meeting was held on 18th April, 2017 with old and new/proposed respondents for the World Bank Report survey on Ease of Doing Business under the chairmanship of Shri G. R. Raghavender, Joint Secretary, Department of Justice. A list of the participants is attached at **Annexure**.

Shri Raghavender, JS welcomed the participants and explained the purpose of convening this meeting. He informed that law firms and companies in Delhi and Mumbai are filling questionnaires of the World Bank during their surveys conducted every year to rank India for their Doing Business Report, based on which the ranking of the country is decided. The meeting has therefore been called to sensitize such law firms and companies who have been respondents/contributors in the past and to those new law firms and companies who wish to become respondents/contributors for 2018 report, to make them aware about the developments and the reforms and initiatives undertaken recently on the basis of which DoJ has prepared its response to the questionnaire of the World Bank to enable the invitees to understand these reforms and suitably report in their response the World Bank.

Shri Raghavender, JS made a presentation of the response of the Government prepared to the Questionnaire for the information of all the participants. He gave details of each sector covered in the Questionnaire. Each sector/reform was discussed in detail with the participants with reference to District and Subordinate Courts of Delhi. Following were the highlights of the meeting:

- (i) The case study assumptions and methodology of the World Bank were explained.
- (ii) The reforms undertaken since June, 2016 and the reforms expected by June, 2017 were informed which have been reported in Section 3 of the questionnaire.
- (iii) The participants were aware of Court automation through efilling, epayment, electronic process service, publication of judgment. They accepted that if email is given they receive messages.
- (iv) The Commercial Courts Act were known to all. It was explained that efforts are being made to amend the Act for removing proviso in section 3 for original jurisdiction of High Courts and removing/reducing value of commercial dispute.
- (v) Availability of Pre-trial attachment was accepted.
- (vi) It was agreed that assigning of cases to Judges are being done manually and that there is no gender disparity.
- (vii) It was universally accepted that there provisions in CPC for time standards for adjournments, judgements, but not being followed.
- (viii) It was explained that three out of four reports can be generated for performance measurement mechanisms and that web links to these reports are made available on the website of DoJ.
- (ix) Similarly, electronic case management tools available for judges and lawyers were explained to the participants and shown that the links to these are also made available on the website of DoJ.
- (x) Regarding, pre-trial conference the view point of Department of Legal Affairs was explained that Section 89 and Orders of X, XI, XII of CPC can be used.
- (xi) Participants were aware of ADR mechanism, voluntary mediation and conciliation and the financial incentives therefore.

The participants were requested to get themselves registered on the website of the World Bank as Contributors and share their email ID with Department of Justice to enable the Department to facilitate sending Questionnaire to each to enable them to file their response and contribute to improving the ranking of the country in Ease of Doing Business.

Meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairperson.

List of participants of Meeting with respondents (law firms) to improve India's ranking in World Bank Ease of Doing Business Report, 2018 held on 18.04.2017 in Conference Hall, Jaisalmer House, New Delhi

1. Shri G.R. Raghavendra, Joint Secretary, Department of Justice, Chairperson.
2. Ms. Veena Kothavale, Additional Legal Counsel, Legislative Department, Shashtri Bhavan, New Delhi.
3. Shri C.K. Reejonina, Deputy Secretary, Department of Justice
4. Dr. K.S. Jayachandran, Deputy Secretary, Department of Justice
5. Shri Z.A. Khan, Under Secretary, Department of Justice
6. Ms. Pallavi Bedi, Project Manager, JDLR Team, Department of Justice
7. Shri Naveen Gupta, Additional Secretary, Delhi State Legal Services Authority.
8. Sh. Kaviraj Singh, Secretary General, Indian National Bar Association.
9. Shri B.S. Saluja, ICADR, New Delhi.
10. Shri Sandeep Sharma, Consultant, Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.
11. Shri Amitabh Narender, New Delhi Bar Association.
12. Shri Vinai Kumar Singh, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.
13. Ms. Parineet Kaur, Indian Society of International Law, New Delhi.
14. Shri Ashwin Madhusudanan, Manager, KPMG (Consultant to DIPP).
15. Shri Anuj Chaudhary, World Bank.
16. Ms. Sunita K. Sredharan, CEO, SKS Law Associates, Delhi.
17. Shri Saurabh Chaturvedi, Associate, Lex Counsel, Law Offices.
18. Shri Nikhil Sahni (Partner), Saikrishna & Associates.
19. Shri Nishant Anurag, CLARUS Law Associates.
20. Ms. Ronjini Ray, CLARUS Law Associates.
21. Shri Punit D. Tyagi, Ex. Partner, Lakshmi Kumara Sridharan & Co.
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24. Ms. Sonam Gupta, Partner, ARTHE Law.
25. Shri Kaushik Moitra, Partner, ARTHE Law.
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