

Supdt (Legal)
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**By Speed post / Fax
 Most Immediate**

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 20 DEC 2017
 Office of The Chief Commissioner
 Central Goods & Service Tax Zone,
 Chandigarh

F. No.278A/52/2017-Legal
 Government of India
 Ministry of Finance
 Department of Revenue
 Central Board of Excise & Customs
 (Legal Cell)

*DFA for
 Comm. Shimla H.
 20/12*

5th Floor, C Wing, Hudco Vishala Building,
 Bhikaji Cama Place, R. K. Puram,
 New Delhi-20.12.2017

केन्द्रीय आल एच सेवा कर क्षेत्र,
 चण्डीगढ़
 To,
 1. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Tax, Bangalore
 2. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Tax, Kolkata
 3. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Tax, Lucknow
 4. The Principal Chief Commissioner of Central Tax, Chandigarh
 5. The Director General, DGGSTI, New Delhi
 6. The Web Master, Dte. General of Systems, New Delhi with the request
 for uploading this letter on the CBEC website urgently.

Sub: Constitution of a panel of Senior/Junior Standing Counsels against existing slots for handling CBEC cases - Calling for fresh recommendations- reg.

Sir/Madam

Kind attention is invited to Board's order F. No. 278A/21/2015-Legal dated 9.6.2016 (copy available on CBEC website), wherein a panel of 251 Senior/Junior Standing Counsels had been drawn for a period of three years w.e.f 9.6.2016 to 8.6.2019 for handling CBEC cases of Indirect taxation before the various High Courts and other fora. In this regard attention is also invited to Board's further order F. No. 278A/21/2015-Legal dated 18.6.2016 read with Note dated 22.6.2016 (copy available on CBEC website), wherein, with the approval of Competent Authority, the order in r/o 111 Counsels, who were on the panel as on 14.10.2014 and who were included in the order dated 9.6.2016 was rescinded/cancelled. Further, an exercise was initiated vide Board letter dated 24.06.2016 for filling up of existing slots/vacant posts. Accordingly, a panel of 120 Sr./Jr. Standing Counsels has been constituted vide Board order dated 05.10.2017. It has, however, been noticed that as on date there are no Sr. & Jr. Standing Counsels for Karnataka High Court (Gulbarga Bench), Sikkim High Court (Gangtok Bench), Ahmedabad Zonal Unit (Gujarat High Court) and Chennai Zonal Unit (Madras High Court). No Sr. Standing Counsels has been appointed for Guwahati High Court (Kohima, Itanagar & Aizwal Benches) and Himachal Pradesh High Court (Shimla Bench). It has also been noticed that there is no Jr. Standing Counsel appointed for Karnataka High Court (Dharwad Bench), Uttarakhand High Court (Pr. Bench at Nainital), Bangalore Zonal Unit (Karnataka & Kerala High Court), Ludhiana Zonal Unit (Punjab & Haryana High Court and Kolkata Zonal Unit (Calcutta High Court).

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2. It is, therefore, decided with the approval of the Competent Authority to draw a fresh panel for following High Courts/ Benches.

(Field Formations)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Sr. and Jr. Standing Counsels | 1 | Sikkim High Court (Gangtok Bench) |
| | 2 | Karnataka High Court (Gulbarga Bench) |
| Sr. Standing Counsels | 1 | Guwahati High Court (Kohima Bench) |
| | 2 | Guwahati High Court (Itanagar Bench) |
| | 3 | Guwahati High Court (Aizwal Bench) |
| | 4 | Himachal Pradesh High Court (Shimla Bench) |
| Jr. Standing Counsels | 1 | Karnataka High Court (Dharwad Bench) |
| | 2 | Uttarakhand High Court (Principal Bench at Nainital) |

(DGDR)

| | | |
|-------------------------------|---|--|
| Sr. and Jr. Standing Counsels | 1 | Ahmedabad Zonal Unit (Gujarat High Court) |
| | 2 | Chennai Zonal Unit (Madras High Court) |
| Jr. Standing Counsels | 1 | Bangalore Zonal Unit (Karnataka & Kerala High Court) |
| | 2 | Ludhiana Zonal Unit (Punjab & Haryana High Court) |
| | 3 | Kolkata Zonal Unit (Calcutta High Court) |

3. The concerned Pr. Chief Commissioners/Chief Commissioners should immediately analyse the position w.r.t such counsels and work out the number of such Counsels required for a particular High Court and other fora. Eligibility and other terms and conditions will be as contained in Board's D.O F. No. 278A/43/2007- Legal dated 5.12.2007 and F. No. 278A/50/2011-Legal dated 14.9.2012. In case of unavailability of Members of the Committee of Chief Commissioners because of some reasons, then Review Committee of Chief Commissioners set up under the Central Excise/Customs/Finance Act shall act as the Committee of Chief Commissioners for this purpose.

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3. The criteria for selection of the fresh panel will be as under:-
 - a) The Committee should interview all the applicants.
 - b) The Committee should note the communication skills of the applicant.
 - c) The Committee should make overall assessment of the applicant keeping the performance as the key criteria.
 - d) The Committee should discreetly examine applicant's reputation/standing.
4. I am, therefore, directed to request you to immediately advertise the requirement of Sr./Jr. Standing Counsels for your jurisdiction in the Newspapers, State Bar Council concerned and Bar Associations. The work of publishing advertisement should be completed by **31.12.2017** and a copy of the advertisement should be uploaded on CBEC website timely. The recommendations after receipts of applications, scrutiny, interview etc. must reach Board latest by **31.01.2018**.
5. Clarification, if any, in this regard can be sought from the undersigned, who can be consulted on 011-26195406 and also at karoo.yadav@nic.in.

Yours faithfully,


(Y.S. Karoo)

Under Secretary to the Government of India
Tel: 011-26195406