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भारत सरकार विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय न्याय विभाग जैसलमेर हाउस, 26, मानसिंह रोड, नई दिल्ली-110011

जसलमेर हाउस, 26, मानासह राड, नई दिल्लागाणा GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE Jaisalmer House, 26, Mansingh Road, New Delhi-110011

D.O. No. A2J/Probono /08/17

Dated: 30-05-2017

Dear Shri Singh,

Kindly refer to my letter dated 08.05.2017 wherein it was requested to give wide publicity among practicing lawyers in your High Court and subordinate courts to participate in Department of Justice's pro-bono legal service scheme.

Hon'ble Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi while inaugurating digital filing system of the Supreme Court at Vigyan Bhawan on 10-05-2017 appealed to the legal fraternity to come forward and take up more cases of poor and under privileged under pro-bono legal service and register themselves in Department of Justice's website (http://www.doj.gov.in).

Since its launch, the initiative has seen encouraging response from lawyers across the country. It is very heartening to know that most of the lawyers enrolled / registered have already started their pro-bono services voluntarily.

I would, therefore, request you to kindly upload my appeal in the website of your High Court requesting eligible advocates to register in http://www.doj.gov.in. All the litigants under Section 12 of the Legal Service Authority Act, 1987 are also requested to register in large number for free competent legal aid.

I would be grateful for your prompt action on the matter.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

(S.C. Barmma)

Shri Dinesh Kumar Singh, Registrar General, Allahabad High Court Allahabad Uttar Pradesh.

NOTICE

<u>'Pro Bono Legal Services' Initiative</u> <u>Department of Justice, Ministry of Law & Justice</u> <u>8 May 2017</u>

The Department of Justice has launched a web based platform for 'Pro Bono Legal Services', available at its website http://doj.gov.in/

This initiative, launched on 20 April 2017, by the Hon'ble Minister for Law & Justice, Shri. Ravi Shankar Prasad, is aimed at institutionalizing pro bono legal services in India. Through this online portal, practicing advocates can volunteer themselves for pro bono legal services for the underprivileged litigants who are unable to afford it (as defined under Section 12 of the Legal Services Act, 1987). Registrations can be done at http://doi.gov.in/

The database of registered lawyers will be utilized by the Department of Justice to create a liaison between those entitled to legal services under The Legal Services Authority Act, 1987 and a qualified lawyer providing pro bono services having expertise or interest in the related matter.

The government has also proposed to include and recognize pro bono legal assistance provided by lawyers as a yardstick to be considered for appointment to appropriate positions.

Please note, Pro bono services are by definition voluntary and no honorarium or financial assistance shall be provided to the lawyers.