H-11017/16/2024-JUDICIAL Government of India Ministry of Law & Justice Department of Legal Affairs Judicial Section

439-A, Shastri Bhawan, N.D. Dated the 19.11.2024

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Rajya Sabha Provisionally Admitted Question (Starred Dy. No. 1629)-req.

Please refer to Rajya Sabha Provisionally Admitted Question (Starred Dy. No. 1629) regarding "Selection of lawyers and expenditure threron". The question read as follows:-

- (a) What is the total expenditure by central government departments on legal over the past five years, specifically for private lawyers, law firms and senior counsels?
- (b) Which departments have incurred the highest legal costs and what factors contributed to these expenditures?
- (c) Is there an upward trend in legal spending? If so, what are the underlying reasons for this increase?
- (d) What selection process does the government follow for hiring external lawyers and law firms? Are there specific criteria to ensure fairness, competence, and value for money?
- 2. As regards, it is requested to provide inputs, along with supplementary questions, by 22.11.2024 (by 12 noon) (along with ms-word copy) at email judicial-dla@nic.in.

Dy. Legal Advisor

E Mail: judicial-dla@nic.in

Ph. No.-23384945

To,

All the Secretaries of Departments/Ministries of Govt. of India