OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Regulating parameters for exercise of discretionary powers enjoyed by Ministers at the Centre.

Attention is invited to this Department’s O.M. of even number dated 16th April, 2012 (copy enclosed) on the above subject, by which all Ministries/Departments were requested to carry out an exercise for putting in place regulatory parameters for exercise of discretionary powers of Ministers and putting them in public domain so as to minimise arbitrariness in exercise of such powers.

2.(i) Wherever such guidelines have already been framed by the concerned Ministry/Department, a copy of the guidelines may be sent to this Department within 15 days.

(ii) All Ministries/Departments which are yet to prepare appropriate guidelines in this regard are requested to do so within three months from the date of issue of this Office Memorandum.

(iii) A confirmation to the effect that necessary exercise in this regard has been carried out and necessary guidelines have been framed and put in public domain may be sent to this Department within the said period.

(iv) In case there is delay in finalisation of appropriate guidelines in this regard, the reasons for the delay may be indicated to this Department.

(V.M. Rathnam)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel. No. 23094637

1. All Ministries/Departments of Government of India as per standard list.
2. Prime Minister’s Office, South Block, New Delhi.
3. NIC, DoP&T for uploading on the website of the Department.
Subject: Regulating parameters for exercise of discretionary powers enjoyed by Ministers at the Centre

The Government had constituted a Group of Ministers (GoM), on 6th January, 2011 with the approval of the Prime Minister to consider measures that can be taken by the Government to tackle corruption. One of the terms of reference (ToR) of the GoM was to consider and advise on "Relinquishing discretionary powers enjoyed by Ministers at the Centre".

2. The GoM reviewed information received from all Ministries/Departments as regards the discretionary powers enjoyed by the respective Ministries and, on the basis of the review has recommended that all Ministries/Departments may carry out an exercise for putting in place regulating parameters for exercise of discretionary powers and putting them in public domain so as to minimize arbitrariness in exercise of such powers.

3. The above recommendations of the GoM have been accepted by the Government and accordingly all Ministries are advised to put in place regulating parameters for exercise of discretionary powers, wherever such guidelines do not exist, and place them in public domain.

(N. Raghav)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Tel No.011-23094542

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