

**PRESS RELEASE**

The first Meeting of the Litigation Advisory and Oversight Committee to help the Government in High Risk Litigation was held on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the Secretariat in Chennai.

Based on the announcement made in Budget Speech 2021-22, the Government constituted the Litigation Advisory and Oversight Committee for guidance regarding High Risk Litigation with the following members;-

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Committee members</b>
1.	Justice. K. Kannan, Retired Judge of Punjab and Haryana High Court and Former Chairman, Railways Claims Tribunal
2.	Advocate Joseph Prabhakar, Expert in Indirect Taxation
3.	Advocate K. Ravi, Expert in Direct Taxation
4.	Advocate V. Lakshminarayanan, Expert in Civil Litigation
5.	Additional Chief Secretary to Government Finance Department.
6.	Secretary to Government, Legal Affairs.

The function of the said committee, among others is to suggest strategies to reduce financial risk to the exchequer due to litigation, to consider and advice multiple approaches and line of arguments to be adopted before judicial forums, to assess the possibility of success in a particular case and advise the government on the possibilities of

compromise, modification of position, to suggest measures to Government to reduce the financial risk from high risk cases and to monitor compliance in order to avoid excess cost like penal interest for delay.

The Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Human Resources Management Dr. Palanivel Thiaga Rajan in his opening remarks reiterated the importance of close monitoring of cases involving huge financial risk to the Government by using technology and the need to build a robust database of high risk cases.

All the members of the Litigation Advisory and Oversight Committee participated in the meeting.

**Issued By: - DIPR, Secretariat, Chennai - 9.**

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