

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- **Abolition of Affidavits-Introducing Self Certifications.**

In continuation to this department Office Memorandum of even number dated: 31 January, 2015 on the subject cited above vide which it was clarified that submission of affidavits (on Stamp Paper and attested by Magistrates/notaries) by applicants for various purposes serves no purpose whatsoever because every affidavit to be procured by any citizen subjects to great cost in terms of energy and efforts besides money the cost of which may vary from 20 to 200 rupees for each affidavit and which seems to serve no purpose whatsoever. Most of this in fact appears redundant and still is being insisted upon by lower level functionaries either due to ignorance of Law or simply continued as a practice adopted in the past.

2. It is further re-iterated that Government has decided to do away with affidavits in government functioning and introduce self certification of document. All Agencies/department/organizations in the Government are directed to immediately dispense with the practice of obtaining affidavits from the public except in those cases where Act/Rule specifically provide for furnishing of an Affidavit. Any official asking for an Affidavit in the normal transactions of government business, unless affidavit is required under a statutory provision, may invite appropriate action for defiance/violation of government directions. Instead only a self certified declaration on plain paper will be obtained from such applicant.

3. The orders shall not be applicable to Courts or to other bodies discharging functions of judicial or quasi judicial nature e.g. Consumer Commission, Administrative Tribunal, Lokayukta etc.

4. An apprehension that may arise in this matter is "**what if any person give a false or incorrect declation/**". In this regard reference is invited to Section 199 and 200 of the Indian Penal Code which is sufficient to allay such apprehensions, which has already been conveyed vide this department orders mentioned as above (abstract enclosed)

5. The decision of the Government may please be brought to the notice of all the officers/officials concerned for strict compliance.

By Order

Dr. Purnima Chauhan
Secretary (AR) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Phone No. 0177-2621715

No. Per(AR) A(4) 3/2013-Part-I

Dated: Shimla-171002, the 11 June, 2019

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(Rajesh Sharma)

Deputy Secretary (AR) to the
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