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**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM**  
**JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT :: JUDICIAL BARNCH**

No. JDJ75/2014/124

Dated Dispur, the 30th Aug, 2017

From : Shri S.K. Sharma,  
L.R. & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Judicial Department

To : The Addl. Chief Secretary  
Industries & Commerce Department  
Government of Assam

Sub. : Ease of Doing Business in Assam – BRAP Reform Recommendations  
no. 58, 59 & 60 – Time Standards to be followed for Key Court events in case  
of Commercial Disputes.

Sir,

In inviting a reference to the minutes of the Review Meeting on EoDB dated 27-07-2017 (Point No. 6), I am directed to say that as recommended by DIPP, Govt. of India vide recommendation no. 58, 59 & 60 of BRAP 2017, time standards are to be defined and adhered to, for key court events. The recommendations also require that a limit be fixed on the maximum number of adjournments that can be granted in commercial dispute cases and to limit such adjournments to unforeseen circumstances only.

By virtue of the amendments under Order 17 Rule 1 of Code of Civil Procedure (CPC), 1908, the following time limits for key court events have been defined in case of Commercial Disputes.

Stage	Timeline
Service of the Writ of Summons	Not beyond 30 days from institution of the suit.
Filling of written statements	Within 30 days from service of summons upto a maximum of 120 days.
Inspection of documents	Within 30 days from filling of written statement.
Admission or Denial	Within 15 days from inspection completion or as the Court may direct.
Case Management Hearing	Within 4 weeks from affidavit of Admission and Denial.
Completion of Trial (including recording of evidence, cross-examination and oral arguments)	Not beyond 6 months from the date of first case management hearing.
Pronouncement of Judgement	Within 90 days of conclusion of arguments.

It is also mandated in the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC) that the total number of adjournments in any case shall not exceed 3 (three) and such adjournments are to be granted only in case of unforeseen circumstances.

These time standards and limit on adjournments are to be adhered to by all designated Commercial Courts in the State of Assam.

Yours faithfully,

*20.8.17*  
L.R. & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Judicial Department

*O/any.*