



**INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH
KRISHI BHAWAN, NEW DELHI-110 001
Room No.509, Phone No.011-23046533**

F.No.GAC-21-20/2026-CDN

Dated 02.09.2026

ENDORSEMENT

Sub: Section 34(3) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 – reg.

Sir,

With reference to the request of Law Division of ICAR to endorse recommendations and guidelines issued by Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law & Justice, Government of India, New Delhi in connection with Mitigating Disputes involving Government/Government Entities issued vide D.O.No.A-60011/46/2019-Admn.III dated 09/06/2026.

The matter has been examined in the ICAR and with the approval of Competent Authority, the undersigned is directed to upload the above mentioned OM on ICAR website www.icar.gov.in and e-office among the all constituent Unit of ICAR including Institutes NRCs/ PDs/ATARIs etc. working under the purview of ICAR for information, guidance and compliance. If any query raised in this matter, it may be sought from concerned Division/SMD of ICAR.

Encl: As above


(Rakesh Kumar)
Under Secretary (CDN)

Distribution:

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डॉ. राजीव मणि, भा.वि.से.
Dr. RAJIV MANI, ILS
सचिव
SECRETARY



भारत सरकार
विधि और न्याय मंत्रालय
विधि कार्य विभाग
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE
DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS
Dated the 9th June, 2026

DO. No.A-60011/46/2019-Admn.III

Dear Secretary

Kind attention is invited to DO letter No. A-60011/46/2029-ADMN-III dated 07.08.2025 regarding timely submission of references seeking advice from this Department for filing of applications under Section 34 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 and adherence to the limitation period prescribed under the said Act for filing of such applications.

2. As you may be aware, Section 34(3) of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 stipulates that an application to set aside an arbitral award must be filed within three months from the date of receipt of the award. The court may condone a delay of up to 30 days beyond this period on sufficient cause being shown; however, no condonation beyond this 30-day extension is permissible. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has, in several judgments, reiterated that the limitation period under Section 34(3) is three months with an additional 30-day extension at the court's discretion, beyond which no further condonation is permitted.

3. It is, therefore, requested that references seeking advice from this Department regarding filing of applications under Section 34 against arbitral awards be submitted promptly, preferably within 30 days from the date of receipt of the award. It may further be ensured that any such application challenging an arbitral award is filed strictly within the prescribed limitation period under Section 34(3) of the Act, to avoid the risk of dismissal on the ground of limitation.

4. In this connection, attention is also invited to the recent National Conference of Union Secretaries and Law Officers on "Efficient and Effective Management of Government Litigation" held on 28 February 2026 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi to discuss and deliberate on the Directive for the Efficient and Effective Management of Litigation by Government of India dated 4th April, 2025. The Conference, *inter-alia* highlighted the importance of the provisions of the aforesaid Directive with respect to ensuring adherence to limitation periods for filing of appeals/challenges and that arbitral awards be challenged only in cases of substantial merit.

5. I therefore urge you to bring the aforesaid Directives to the notice of the concerned officials in your Department and its subordinate offices and organisations to ensure compliance with the prescribed limitation period under Section 34 of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, in cases where a challenge to an arbitral award, is to be preferred.

with warm regards,

Secy (D) - A, 10/6/26
AS (D)

Yours sincerely,

RMani

(Dr. Rajiv Mani)

To

The Secretaries of all the Ministries/Departments,
Govt. of India.

[Secy-goi] DO letter from Dr. Rajiv Mani, Law Secretary

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Tue, 09 Jun 2026 3:54:20 PM +0530

To "secy-goi"<secy-goi@ismgr.nic.in>

Cc "AJAY ARORA"<ajay.arora69@gov.in>,"Avnit Singh Arora"<avnit.singh@gov.in>

Respected Sir/Madam,

Please find enclosed DO letter from Dr. Rajiv Mani, Law Secretary for necessary compliance.

Best Regards

Office of Law Secretary
Department of Legal Affairs
Ministry of Law and Justice
Room No.24069-71, Kartavya Bhawan - 2,
4th Floor, New Delhi
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1 Attachment(s)

Litigation DO.pdf

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