The law department consists of following Sections (Branch) and work conducted in each section (branch) is as stated below:-

Judicial Branch-I:- Law Department is administrative department in respect of all matters relating to establishment of High Court and sub-ordinate courts. General Administration Department in the Government is administrative department regarding the judges of Hon'ble High Court. This Branch deals with all matters relating to conditions of service of the officers and employees engaged in administration of justice. Pension matters of the Judicial Officers are also dealt with by this branch. Various works relating to creation of posts of Judicial Officers and employees in sub-ordinate courts, appointment, promotion, deputation, suspension, retirement, extension in service re-appointment, pay fixation and gratuity are performed by this branch.

Judicial Branch-II:- 1. This section deals with appointment of Law Officers, cases relating to appointment of Notaries, renewal of Notary license, expansion of working area of a Notary etc., appointment of Panel Lawyers, appointment of Government Pleader/Additional Government Pleader and Public Prosecutor/Additional Public Prosecutor according to section 24 of the Code of Criminal Procedure and provisions contained in rule 15 to 30 of the Law Department Manual. Various Acts and Rules made thereunder are governed by this section. Grant of Marriage license under the Indian Christian Marriage Act, 1872.

2. The State Arbitration Tribunal, constituted under the Chhattisgarh Madhyastham Adhikaran Adhiniyam, 1983 and State Legal Services Authority comes under the administrative control of this branch, matters relating to allocation of budget/establishment/administration of State Legal Services Authority and Arbitration Tribunal are looked into by this branch.

<u>Drafting Section</u>:- 1. Examination and vetting of Bills and Ordinances is done by this section. Bills reserved for the assent of the Hon'ble President of India, correspondence with the Central Government and draft Bills prepared and sent by the Central Government to the State Government for views/comments are also looked into by this section.

2. As soon as a Bill is passed by the State Legislative Assembly, it is forwarded to the Law Department. The drafting section send the Bill, as passed by the State Assembly, to the concerned department for obtaining the necessary assent of His Excellency the Governor on the said Bill. After obtaining the assent of the Governor the Bill is registered and numbered as an Act in the register maintained by this section thereafter the Act is sent to the Regional Printing Press for publication of the Act in the Official Gazette.

<u>Vetting Section</u>:- The main function of this section relates to delegated /sub-ordinate legislation. Service Rules made by different Government Departments under Article 309 of the Constitution and rules made under the provisions of any Act, bye-laws, regulations, notifications and orders issued by the different departments are vetted by this section.

<u>Translation Section</u>:- This Section performs the work relating to translation (vetting) of draft from english to hindi. English draft of Acts/Ordinances/Rules/Regulations/Orders/Bye-laws/Notifications etc. is vetted by the drafting section after approval of duly vetted english draft a copy of the same is sent to the translation section for translating the draft in hindi.

<u>Opinion Section</u>:- This section advises any department of the Government on any legal issue/point whenever it is required. A reference to the Law Department for legal opinion on any specific legal point may be made by any department of the Government. Procedure for making reference, matters on which advise may be sought is prescribed in Part II of the Law Department Manual.

<u>Petition Branch</u>:- This branch performs the work relating to grant of permission for filing Writ Petitions in the High Court, Special Leave Petitions in the Supreme Court. Whenever any proposal for filing writ petition/special leave petition comes to this section then the matter is examined by this section and if it is found necessary/it is opined that petition/special leave petition should be filed then matter is sent back to the administrative department with the opinion/permission and defence order is issued in this regard. The same procedure is followed in the contempt/ caveat matters.

<u>Criminal Section</u>:- 1. All work related to criminal cases and appeals instituted/filed on behalf of/and against the Government of Chhattisgarh in the criminal courts of the State and outside the State/High Court and Supreme Court.

- 2. Contempt cases arising out of the said cases.
- 3. Work relating to withdrawal of criminal cases.
- 4. Permission to file appeal in the Hon'ble High Court, Bilaspur against orders/judgments passed/delivered by the Criminal Courts in the State.
- 5. Issue of defence orders in criminal appeal and special leave petitions submitted before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

## **Prosecution Branch:-** This branch deals with the following matters-

- 1. Mercy Petition (दया याचिका) presented by a prisoner (convicted) under section 432 of Criminal Procedure Code and Article 161 of the Constitution.
- 2. Sanction of prosecution in the cases presented by Anti Corruption Bureau and State Economic Offence Investigation Bureau.
- 3. Sanction of prosecution under various special Acts. For this work, proposal is submitted through Home Department or any other administrative department authorized for this purpose.

<u>Civil Branch</u>:- This Branch deals with the issue of defence order in cases pending before the Hon'ble High Court of Chhattisgarh, Bilaspur (case of first appeal, second appeal, civil appeal), Chhattisgarh Arbitration Tribunal, Raipur, Board of Revenue, Bilaspur (Circuit Court, Raipur), all district and labour courts of the State and State Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum.

Cases relating to grant of permission/opinion to file writ petition in the Hon'ble High Court/special leave petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the orders/awards passed by District Court, Labour Court, Board of Revenue and State Industrial Court and issue of defence order.

<u>Budget Section</u>:- Budget Estimates, Revised Estimates and Final Estimates of expenditures. Demands for Grant, Annual Reports. Co-ordination in respect of Appropriation, Accounts for grants relating to High Court, State Legal Services Authority and Arbitration Tribunal is done by this section.

Statutory audit and Internal audit and inspection of accounts. Scrutiny of all proposals for Creation of new posts and continuance of existing posts is also done by this section.

<u>Library Section</u>:- Performs the work relating to re-publication of Central Acts and Ordinances and Rules.

**Establishment Section**:- This section keeps and maintain records relating to service of all officers and employees of the department, set-up of the posts, sanctioned and all work relating to establishment of the department.

<u>Account Section</u>:- 1. Performs the work relating to payment of salary and allowances of all officers and employees of the Law Department and employees posted in Public Prosecutor Office.

2. Reimbursement of medical bills, TA bills and other bills of officers and employees.