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भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

21, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area, Near Bal Bhawan, New Delhi - 110002

Press Release Dated 22.05.2020

Bar Council of India has developed four (4) video conferencing/virtual hearing rooms alongwith well equipped systems/Wi-Fi for the convenience of Advocates of Supreme Court and Delhi High Court. Nothing will be charged from the Advocates for this facility, which is going to start from 26th May, 2020 (Tuesday).

- 1. The Advocates will be required to book their time-slots, at least 36 hours in advance by sending request email to bcividconf@gmail.com. The reservation will be granted on "First Come First Serve Basis". The system/s will work from 10.00 AM to 02.00 PM Daily (From Monday to Friday), except on National/Court Holidays.
- 2. Computer friendly staff will also be available to help the Advocates for facilitating the work of conferencing/filing.
- Not more than 2 Advocates/Persons will be allowed to enter the premises of Bar Council of India for a particular case, ideally, however, if both sides come for the Video Conferencing in one case, the then total number of persons should not exceed four
- 4. Only those Advocates/their clerks, who possess e-passes, to be issued by the Office of Bar Council of India, which would be emailed to their respective emails, from which the request for booking such facility was generated, (duly signed by the Secretary or an authorized officer) for the particular Day and Time, would be permitted to enter the premises of the Bar Council of India.
- 5. Learned and respected Advocates would be requested to maintain the norms of Social Distancing and wear N95 Masks and keep alcohol based hand sanitizers with them.
- 6. Shoes will not be permitted in Video-Conferencing Rooms.
- 7. The facilities for e-filings will also be available for needy Advocates/A.O.R's after a week.

This decision has been taken by our Hon'ble Chairman, Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court. He has taken this decision on the request of several Advocates who are facing acute difficulties in doing their cases during the present scenario.

The sole object behind this decision is to help the common Advocates, who have no Chambers and/or system or necessary expertise available with them.

It may also be noted that the Bar Council of India is also in the process of developing a well-equipped Arbitration and Mediation Centre, which, hopefully should be functional within the next 5-6 weeks.

(Srimanto Sen)

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Secretary

Bar Council of India