

BOMBAY BAR ASSOCIATION

Room No. 57, 3rd Floor, High Court Building, Dr. M. Kane Marg, Mumbai 400032

6th March, 2021

To,

Mr. A.A Kumbhakoni, Senior Advocate

The Ld. Advocate General, State of Maharashtra.

Subject: Request for vaccination

Dear Sir,

Despite these difficult times, the Hon'ble Bombay High Court has been functioning tirelessly in its pursuit of providing justice to the masses. Even during the pandemic, the Hon'ble Judges, the Court Staff and the members of the Bar have worked relentlessly.

From November, the Bombay High Court has operated physically. As the physical functioning of the Bombay High Court has resumed, a high density of people visit the Court on a daily basis, which exposes the Judges, Advocates and the Judicial Staff at a great risk of contracting the 'Covid-19 'virus. With a surge in the number of Covid-19 cases in Mumbai, it has become even more important to provide protection to all the stakeholders that actively participate in the functioning of the Bombay High Court. Administration of Justice is an essential constitutional function and the stakeholders involved in this process who expose themselves to the risk of the pandemic are clearly frontline workers along with others who are helping in the functioning of the various other agencies of the Government.

By an Order dated 03.03.21, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court found favour in the plea of the Bar Council of Delhi that the Judges, Court Staff, Lawyers and other persons associated with the judicial functioning should be declared as frontline workers and receive vaccination on a priority basis, without any restrictions regarding their age or physical conditions. A copy of the order is annexed herewith for ready reference.

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In light of the above circumstances, it is humbly requested that the State of Maharashtra may also consider and declare/treat the Judges, the High Court staff and advocates practising in the Hon'ble Bombay High Court as front-line workers so as to include them in the inoculation /vaccination drive on priority basis. We also request that a vaccination centre may be set up in the High Court.

Sir, as the leader of our Bar, we sincerely and humbly request you to use your good offices and take up this cause of the Bar with the Maharashtra Government. We are sure that your intervention will lead to a positive outcome in this regard.

Yours sincerely,

Nitin Thakker

President Bombay Bar Association

1. Mr. Justice Dipankar Datta, Hon'ble Chief Justice, Bombay High Court

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