Ref. No. 1781/2021 408

Dated 57/5/2021

PRESS RELEASE

Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Punjab & Haryana High Court Bar Association, Chandigarh was held today i.e. 07.05.2021 at 1:00 PM in the office of worthy President Sh. G. B. S. Dhillon through hybrid mode. The Executive Committee is extremely concerned about non-listing of matters of urgent nature especially Habeas Corpus Petitions, Anticipatory Bails, Regular Bails, Suspension of Sentence, Stay matters and other matters involving violation of fundamental rights. The Hon'ble High Court is the custodian of Constitution and protector of fundamental rights, it cannot shut its doors for the justice seekers. Under the garb of the CORONA pandemic earlier decision was taken to allow filing only through Mentioning process which means a citizen cannot approach the Hon'ble court without passing an arbitrary process of mentioning. The said filing procedure was modified once its unconstitutionality was pointed to the Hon'ble Court vide Resolution dated 30.04.2021. However, while allowing the free filing, all the cases were to be listed only after clearing an mentioning hurdle. More than 300 written complaints and numerous oral complaints have been received in the Office of the Executive Committee regarding wrongful rejection of mentioning and use of pick and choose policy in allowing limited cases. The Bench strength has been reduced from 46 to 11 which means the court has reduced its working even on virtual mode resulting into further backlog of cases as Punjab & Haryana High Court is already having second highest pendency throughout the country. Apart from delaying the justice, the justice is being also denied through this arbitrary mentioning process and pick and choose policy. The Hon'ble Chief Justice has not co-operated with the Bar and have also taken least interest in the problems faced by the general public of States of Punjab, Haryana and Union Territory of Chandigarh. Despite

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PUNJAB & HARYANA HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION (REGD.)

PUNJAB & HARYANA HIGH COURT, SECTOR-1, CHANDIGARH-160001 (INDIA)

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Dated <u>07/5/202</u> \

various requests and offer of viable solutions, the Hon'ble Chief Justice has remained adamant and have done little for the growth of the Institution, Legal Fraternity and general public of both the States and Union Territory of Chandigarh.

The Executive Committee of Punjab & Haryana High Court Bar Association, Chandigarh has decided to revive the General House Resolution dated 01.02.2021 to demand the transfer of Hon ble Chief Justice of Punjab & Haryana High Court to some other High Court and till then his court would be boycotted by all the Hon'ble Members of the Punjab & Haryana High Court Bar Association, Chandigarh.

It has been further decided that any Hon'ble member who would violate the call shall be liable for disciplinary action which can lead to dis-membership from the Bar Association and would also attract penalty to be deposited in the High Court Lawyers Welfare Fund. If any non-member appears in the court of Hon'ble The Chief Justice through Video Conference from 10.05.2021, the Bar Association would request the Bar Council concerned to take disciplinary action against that advocate.

G. B. S. DHILLON President

President Pb. & Haryana High Court Bar Association,

Chandigarh

CHANCHAL K. SINGLA

Honorary Secretary

Hony, Secretary Pb. & Haryana High Court Bar Association. Chandigarh

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