

SUPREME COURT BAR ASSOCIATION (Regd.)

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA, TILAK MARG, NEW DELHI-110001 (INDIA)

Dr. Adish C. Aggarwala (Sr.) President

Mr. Sukumar Pattjoshi (Sr.) Vice-President

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SCBA/Registry/31/2023

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Dated: 02.08.2023

The Secretary General Supreme Court of India New Delhi

Sub: Issues pertaining to the Registry related to Mentioning, E-Filing and Listing.

Respected Sir,

I am writing this letter in furtherance to our with regard to the following issues discussed by the SCBA Executive Committee with you.

1. <u>Mentioning of Miscellaneous Fresh Matters before</u> Hon'ble Chief Justice of India:

Earlier Miscellaneous Fresh Matters for urgent listing were mentioned before Hon'ble Chief Justice of India immediately upon receipt of the Diary Number in the said case. Now, as per the new Circular dated 28th June 2023 of the Supreme Court of India, the mentioning in Miscellaneous Fresh Matters is permitted only after completion of the verification process by the Registry. As you are aware, there is no fixed timeline for completing the verification process. There is a considerable delay in verification process of a large number of matters. Due to this, the process of urgent mentioning of Miscellaneous Fresh Matters is getting delayed which is causing great inconvenience to the litigants and member of the Bar. It also delays the listing of the matters.

Therefore, we request you to kindly permit mentioning of all matters upon assigning of the Diary Number or, in the alternative, after registration of the matter i.e. upon receiving the Special Leave Petition Number.

2. Mentioning of after notice and regular matters before concerned Benches of Hon'ble Judges of Supreme Court:

As per past practice, oral mentioning of after notice and regular matters pending before a concerned Bench was permitted directly before the concerned Bench. The procedure has now been changed by Circular dated 28th June 2023 and at present



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a matter pending before a particular Bench, can be mentioned only uponsubmitting submission of mentioning proforma alongwith letter of urgency before the Mentioning Officer.

Therefore, we request you to kindly permit oral mentioning of all after notice and regular matters pending before a particular Bench without prior submission of mentioning proforma alongwith letter of urgency.

3. Issues pertaining to new E-Filing Portal:

There are several issues faced by the bar members in operating the E-Filing Portal. Main issues are:

- i. Defects not reflecting in the e-filing portal even though the defects are marked by the dealing assistance. Due to this the 'cure defects' option is not activated and defects cannot be cured in timely manner.
- ii. After defects are cured by a concerned AOR, there is considerable delay in the time taken by a dealing assistance to verify the same and upload any further defects. Hence curing / re-curing of defects re-notified is difficult unless one chases the dealing assistant in person.
- iii. There is no option for payment of deficit court fees. Further; physical payment of the deficit court fee is not reflected in the system in timely manner. This delays curing of defect process as well as the registration and verification process.
- iv. Unable to locate documents filed through new e-filing portal.

It is also noticed that dealing assistants themselves are not fully trained to operate the new e-filing portal therefore resolution of issues is further delayed. Further, on daily basis there are new technical glitches in the new portal which should be rectified immediately for smooth functioning of the e-filing portal.

We request you to kindly resolve the issues pertaining to e-filing portal and also circulate a walk-through video and a standard operating procedure which can explain the working of the e-filing portal in a simple manner for the benefit of the Bar.



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4. Delay in listing of matters:

The Supreme Court website does not give a proper indication on when a particular matter is going to be listed. Often the tentative date reflecting on the website keeps changing and Advocates have to chase the listing branch on daily basis for listing of their matters which should have been listed in a routine and systematic manner. We request you to kindly look into the adhoc pattern of listing and organize the same at the earliest to reduce difficulties faced by the litigants and members of the Bar.

We request you to kindly process these requests on an urgent basis.

Yours sincerely,

Hony. Secretary 9810224587