



SUPREME COURT BAR ASSOCIATION (REGD.)

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

Mr. Vikas Singh (Sr.)
President

Mr. Pradeep Kumar Rai (Sr.)
Vice-President

Mr. Rahul Kaushik
Hony. Secretary

Mr. Rohit Pandey
Joint Secretary

Ms. Yugandhara Pawar Jha
Treasurer

Mr. Reepak Kansal
Joint Treasurer

SENIOR EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Ms. Rachana Srivastava (Sr.)

Ms. Sonia Mathur (Sr.)

Mr. Brijender Chahar (Sr.)

Mr. Dinesh Kr. Goswami (Sr.)

Mr. Vikas Pahwa (Sr.)

Mr. Ranji Thomas (Sr.)

EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

Ms. Seema Patnaha

Mr. Kumar Gaurav

Mr. Mukesh Kumar Singh

Mr. Vikas Gupta

Ms. Anjali Chauhan

Mr. Upendra Mishra

Ms. Nandani Gupta

Mr. Satbir Singh Pillania

Ms. Sangeeta Singh

15.03.2023

Dear Members,

We have had an emergency Executive Committee Meeting today with regard to the Special General Body Meeting proposed to be on 16th March, 2023. The Executive Committee has had the following deliberation upon the issue in detail and has decided as under:

The Secretary, SCBA was in receipt of a requisition dated 02.03.2023:

- Signed by 235 members for calling urgent General Body Meeting of SCBA;
- Signed by 184 members calling for General Body Meeting to show solidarity with the SCBA President on the issue of allotment of land for lawyers' chambers.

The said requisition reads as under:

"02.03.2023

Shri. Rahul Kaushik
Hony. Secretary
Supreme Court Bar Association

By now, all of us are aware of the mentioning made by the President, SCBA alongwith the Executive Committee in Court Room No. 1 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India with regard to urgent and immediate listing of the petition seeking a direction to the Ministry of Urban Development to convert the entire land measuring 1.33 acres that was allotted to the Supreme Court into chambers blocks for lawyers. The President, SCBA submitted before the Hon'ble CJI that "The matter has been listed 6 times and not taken up and mentioned 3 times. The Appu Ghar land came to the Supreme Court on a petition by the SCBA and the bar was given only one block with reluctance and now the land on which 40% was to be used for chamber construction was to begin during CJI Ramanna's tenure and got deferred because we wanted the entire land to be for chambers and our petition is pending and not being taken up for hearing."

For more than 20 years members are waiting for the Chamber. The President, SCBA a man with strong conviction and commitment towards the cause of betterment of the Bar, has consistently raised this issue, but the matter does not get listed or if listed, does not get heard. Despite our President and the Executive Committee standing tall for the cause, few of the members of the Bar by not supporting and instead taking a contrary stand have brought disgrace to the unity of the advocates' community.



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Thus, we, the Members of the Supreme Court Bar Association, hereby strongly condemn the statements made by Shri. Kapil Sibal, Senior Advocate and Shri. Neeraj Kishan Kaul, Senior Advocate, for trying to dilute the efforts of the Executive Committee headed by the President.

The actions of the aforesaid members should be highly condemned and an unconditional apology ought to be tendered by both the members along with strict actions be taken against them in order to protect the larger interests of the bar and ensuring that no such instances by any other members against the larger interests of the bar are taken on any future occasions.

We the Members of SCBA hereby call upon you to call an urgent General Body Meeting of the SCBA to take necessary action against the abovementioned 2 Senior Advocates for acting against the interests of the members of SCBA.

*Members,
SCBA"*

The requisition was submitted alongwith the list of SCBA members with their signatures and membership number. The said details were duly verified by the staff of SCBA and only then meeting of the Executive Committee was called on 6th March 2023 wherein it was decided that the following resolutions be put up for consideration before the Special General Body Meeting to be held on Thursday, 16th March, 2023 at 4:00 pm in the Supreme Court Lawns, New Delhi:-

RESOLUTION

- "Members of the Bar expressing complete solidarity with the stand taken by the President SCBA in the Court of Hon'ble Chief Justice of India with regard to the Chambers construction issue in the newly allotted land;*
- Issue appropriate Show Cause Notice to the concerned members as mentioned in the resolution demanding their explanation; and*
- Any mentioning done by a member of the Bar to belittle the stand taken by the SCBA in the judicial proceeding should be highly condemned and in future strict action be taken against such member."*



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Vide SCBA circular dated 07.03.2023 bearing number SCBA/GBM.38/2023, the members of SCBA were informed about the above decision taken by the Executive Committee, SCBA calling for Special General Body Meeting to be held on Thursday, 16th March, 2023 at 4:00 pm in the Supreme Court Lawns in view of the above requisition.

The SCBA is now in receipt of an email dated 14th March, 2023 seeking withdrawal of proposed Resolutions 'B' and 'C' of SCBA Circular dated 07.03.2023. The said email addressed to the Secretary, SCBA has names of a few Senior Advocates with some other names, without any relevant details as to their SCBA membership number, mobile number, signature etc.

The undersigned is in receipt of letter dated 14th March 2023 written by Shri. K.K. Venugopal, Sr. Advocate and former Attorney General for India referring to some letter addressed to the SCBA seeking withdrawal of proposed Resolutions 'B' and 'C' of SCBA Circular dated 07.03.2023. It is stated in the letter that Shri. KK Venugopal instead of signing the said letter, requested the undersigned to withdraw Resolution 'B' and 'C' in order to avoid creation of factions in the Bar.

The Hon'ble Chief Justice of India has acceded to the request made by the undersigned alongwith the Executive Committee on 2nd March 2023 and has constituted a Special Bench comprising Hon'ble the Chief Justice of India, Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Justice P.S. Narasimha to hear the Writ Petition filed by SCBA pertaining to allocation of land for construction of lawyers' chamber on 17th March 2023 as item 301 at 10:30 am. In view thereof, Resolution 'A' stands fulfilled and thus the Executive Committee of SCBA has decided to call-of the Special General Body Meeting which was to be held on Thursday, 16th March, 2023 at 4:00 pm in the Supreme Court Lawns with regard to Resolution 'A'.

The Executive Committee of SCBA has no personal agenda against anyone and is only concerned with the stand of the Bar not being diluted before the Judges. The Executive Committee of SCBA was duty bound to call for a General Body Meeting when a requisition in that regard was received by the Secretary, SCBA duly signed by 150 members of SCBA.



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As per Rules, no member individually or collectively has a right to ask for withdrawal of a particular resolution but, the only right that a member has, whether individually or collectively is to vote for/against the resolution at the time of the General Body Meeting.

The Executive Committee of SCBA keeping in view the letter of Shri K.K. Venugopal addressed to the undersigned and in the larger interest of the Bar, has authorized the undersigned to write a letter to the Bar regarding the decision of the Executive Committee to recall the Notice for the General Body Meeting. The Executive Committee of SCBA, however, expects that any member of the Bar may refrain from making any statement contrary to the larger interest of the Bar, diluting the stand taken by the elected representatives of the Bar i.e., the Executive Committee of SCBA.

I, on behalf of the Executive Committee of SCBA request the Members, SCBA to not precipitate the issue further of calling for a General Body Meeting for Resolution 'B' and 'C'.


VIKAS SINGH