



SUPREME COURT ADVOCATES—ON-RECORD ASSOCIATION

GE-81A & GE32, Ground Floor Main Building, East Wing, Supreme Court of India, New Delhi-110001

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Mr. Kaustubh Shukla
Joint Secretary
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Mr. Aljo K. Joseph
Treasurer
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Ms. Reena Pandey
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Dr. Meenakshi Kalra
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Ms. Pragya Parijat Singh
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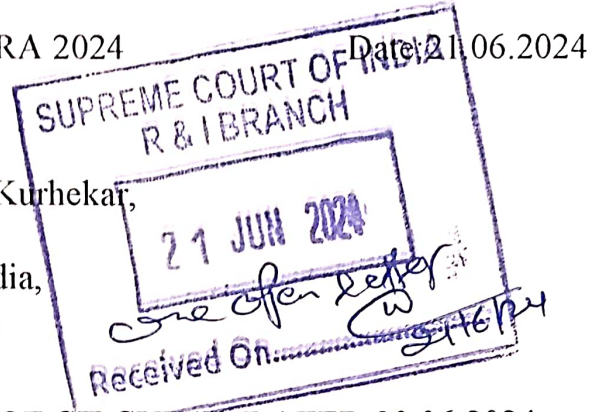
Mr. Aditya Giri
9818674037

Mr. A. Selvin Raja
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Ref. No. 033/ SCAORA 2024

To,

Shri Atul Madhukar Kurhekar,
Secretary General,
Supreme Court of India,
New Delhi – 110 001



SUB: RECALL OF CIRCULAR DATED 20.06.2024

Respected Sir,

Several specific concerns were earlier raised by the Executive Committee of the SCAORA, including the sporadic listing of matters before the Hon'ble Supreme Court during the ensuing Summer Vacations, 2024. In response, certain emergent directions were solicited from your end to the Registry, to ensure that while the matters are taken up by the respective Benches in the Summer Vacation, no member of the Bar faces any inconvenience as well, and the listing of matters and their adjudication is streamlined for all concerned, and which were duly addressed as well.

However, a Notice dated 20.06.2024 has now been issued in continuation of the Notice dated 11.06.2024. This new notice directs all service matters and labour matters that have been verified till 20.06.2024 and are ready to be listed before the Vacation Benches w.e.f. 25.06.2024, in addition to fresh Bail Matters and the Transfer Petitions. This has led to a significant increase in the number of cases to be heard during the Summer Vacations, contrary to the initial understanding that only urgent matters would be listed.

It is brought to your notice that during the Summer Vacations, only matters in the Urgent Category, upon registration/verification of cases, were to be listed as per the



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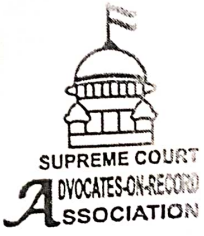
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Circular dated 17.05.2024, which has been a matter of practice over the years.

Accordingly, the members of the bar have made arrangements to travel outside Delhi to their respective Hometowns, and even their Junior Colleagues/Registered Clerks are travelling currently and therefore, they are not in a position to appear either physically/virtually for the matters which have now been published in the list along with the Circular dated 20.06.2024. This sudden change has caused significant disruption and inconvenience to the legal community.

While the members recognise that some matters are urgent and that right to livelihood (raised in service/labour matters) of litigants are affected, it is equally important that the cases are represented to the best of the abilities of the respective advocates. This can only be done when the members of the Bar have the necessary files, research, and more importantly the ability to appear and argue before the Hon'ble Court. In a lot of high-stake matters, where the litigants specifically desire that their cases be represented through a Senior Advocate, many of whom cannot be briefed currently, will also render the whole purpose of the captioned Circular otiose. Instead of facilitating speedy justice, the hopes of many litigants will be thwarted on account of the non-availability of the concerned Advocates on Record/Senior Advocates, potentially leading to unjust outcomes, before the highest Court in the Country.

Such changes in the middle of the Summer Vacations have created a situation of extreme distress to all the members of the legal community, who are now grappling with uncertainty as to how best to represent their clients. Therefore, emergent steps are urgently requested to be taken in this regard, to assuage the concerns of all the stakeholders.



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You are therefore, requested to place this issue before the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India immediately for appropriate directions to be issued in this regard.

In the interregnum, the Advocates-on-Record may be allowed to send adjournment requests in the matters listed vide Circular dated 20.06.2024 through email, and that the Hon'ble Judges are requested not to pass any adverse orders, in the absence of the concerned Advocates.

It shall further be in the best interest of the Members of the Bar, as well as the litigants, that the Circular dated 20.06.2024 be recalled at the earliest. The continued listing of only Urgent Matters, which are being moved by the concerned Advocates, will help in maintaining the integrity of the legal process.

Thanking you in anticipation.


NIKHIL JAIN
Hony. Secretary
SCAORA

Copy To:
1. Registrar (J-A)
2. Registrar (J-L)

