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Bar Council of Punjab & Haryana

LAW BHAWAN.

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Ref. No. 7569/2024

Dated. 19-01-2024

To

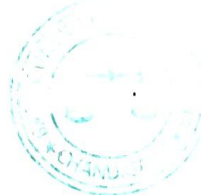
The Presidents/Secretaries of
All the Bar Associations in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh

Subject:- Regarding declaring 22.01.2024 as a non-working day on the auspicious occasion of inauguration of Shree Ram Mandir at Ayodhya.

Respected Sir/Ma'am,

The undersigned has come across a letter written to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India by Sh. Manan Kumar Mishra Ji, Hon'ble Chairman of the Bar Council of India on 17th of January, 2024, whereby it has been requested to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India to declare 22.01.2024 as holiday in Hon'ble Supreme Court of India and various High Courts, District Courts etc. on the auspicious occasion of Shree Ram Mandir Prati Pratishtha Ceremony at Ayodhya on 22.01.2024.

The Hon'ble Chairman of the Bar Council of India has stated in his letter dated 17.01.2024 written to the Hon'ble Chief Justice of India that "As you are aware, the inauguration of Shri Ram Mandir in Ayodhya is scheduled for 22nd January 2024. This event holds immense religious, historical and cultural significance for millions of people across the country, marking the realization of a long-awaited dream and the culmination of legal proceedings that have been pivotal in defining the nation's structure."



The undersigned has also received a request letter dated 18.12.2024 from the Vice President of Punjab and Haryana High Court Bar Association, Chandigarh and many representations have also been received from the various Bar Associations and Advocates throughout the States of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh to declare 22.01.2024 as holiday in the various courts as aforesaid, the Hon'ble Chairman BCI has already made the request to declare 22.01.2024 as holiday in the Hon'ble Courts of the country and I endorse his request for the same.

That keeping in view the inauguration of Shri Ram Temple in Ayodhya being a matter of great faith and the sentiments of the Legal fraternity, litigants and public at large and in light of religious, cultural, national and international importance of the history in making and this day being the red letter day in the history of the coming generations. The "Pran Pratishtha" ceremony is to be held on 22.01.2024 in Shri Ram Mandir, Ayodhya which is being celebrated by the entire country including the legal fraternity as a festival and many of the Advocates from the States of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh are likely to pay their visit to Ayodhya Dham to witness the historic moment. The entire festival is a week long affair culminating into installation of idol of Shri Ram Bhagwan. Keeping in view the same, already many state Governments including state of Haryana has declared a holiday in all the institutions, Govt. offices etc. to enable the people to celebrate the said festival. So much so even the Central Govt. has declared a half day holiday in all the Central Govt. institutions and many Tribunals following the same have already ordered for a holiday / half day holiday.

The undersigned after due deliberation amongst the members of Bar Council and with the majority view declare 22.01.2024 as non-working day by the Advocates in the States of Punjab, Haryana and Chandigarh and the Hon'ble Courts are requested to kindly co-operate in this regard.



I request all the Advocates practicing in High Court, District Courts, Sub Divisional Courts, Tribunal, Forums, quasi-judicial authorities, Income Tax and other Tax Tribunals etc. to adhere to this.

I am reiterating and fully endorsing the views of the Hon'ble Chairman, BCI Sh. Manan Kumar Mishra Ji that we as a Bar Council fully understand the importance of ensuring the continued functioning of the justice delivery system, but on this special day, this gesture would not only recognize the profound cultural significance of the Shri Ram Mandir inauguration but also demonstrate a harmonious blend of legal processes with the cultural ethos of our nation.

I cannot help but making a special mention about the efforts of Sh. Jasdev Singh Brar Ji, Vice President of High Court Bar Association. His endeavor in this regard shows that India is a secular nation and nobody can divide us on the grounds of religion. I also want to acknowledge the efforts of Sh. Jaivir Yadav, Sh. B.S. Rathore, Sh. CM Munjal, Sh. Harish Rai Dhanda, Sh. Ranvir Dhaka, Sh. Hargobinder Singh Gill, Sh. Minderjeet Yadav, Sh. Baljinder Sing Saini, Sh. Amit Rana, Sh. Parvesh Yadav, Sh. Lekh Raj Sharma, Sh. Karanjit Singh, Sh. Vijender Singh Ahlawat, Sh. Chetan Verma, Sh. Rajat Gautam, Sh. Harpreet Singh Multani, Sh. Suvir Sidhu and all other respected members of Bar Council who have come in one voice to congratulate the members of the Bar and the entire nation on this auspicious occasion.



Regards
(Ashok Singla)
Chairman

19.1.24