

NEW DELHI BAR ASSOCIATION

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEARS 2016-2018

Respected Seniors and Dear Members,

Greetings!

To begin, we pay our sincere homage to the beloved Souls -who have contributed enormously towards the welfare of the Bar and are no more with us. In the recent past two years, our Senior Members Sh. L.K. Upadhyay, Sh. R.N, Gujral, Sh. Moti Lal Jain, Sh. K.C. Saini, Sh. M.K. Gupta, Sh. G.S. Kanojia, Sh. Bal Kishan Sewak, Sh. Balendu Arun Jha, Sh. B.R. Handa & Sh. Arun Kumar Singh have left us. We are deeply saddened and wish the departed souls to rest in peace.

While we prepare this Report, with immense pleasure and a sense of satisfaction, we share with you that we have acted in the most *transparent*, *effective* and *vigilant* manner. We respect the trust that you have reposed upon us and have acted in such a manner that you would never feel let down. Always we considered these posts in the Executive as the "posts of responsibilities and care"; and since the day we resumed our office, we have endeavored to give our best. We have taken many bold and path breaking decisions; and it needs to be appreciated that while taking any decision, our intention was "the greatest good of greater numbers of our Members". Short term benefits to appease the members never been our consideration.

The biggest achievement for the present Executive Committee is the retention of our own 'Patiala House Complex' with us. It is a matter of pride for the Executive committee that due to relentless efforts, continuous persuasion, numerous representations & reminders and support of the Bar, a Full Court meeting was convened by the Hon'ble Acting Chief Justice of Delhi, and it resolved to retain the New Delhi District Courts at the Patiala House Court Complex. Since there is an emotional connect and historic significance attached to this complex, our objective and endeavors were to prevent the shifting of all the courts from Patiala House Complex to Rouse Avenue at any price. Moreover, in Rouse Avenue, there are only covered cubicles/cabins/work stations and no chambers; therefore, it is difficult for our Members to work from there. We are happy that we received your support throughout; and would like to both congratulate and thank you for the same.

The Building Maintenance and Construction Committee (BMCC) under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manmohan will soon convene a meeting of the civic agencies such as NDMC, DDA, CPWD, Chief City Planer/Architect along with the Ld. District & Sessions Judge and Police Authorities to discuss the redevelopment of Patiala House Courts. In this regard, suggestions are also invited from the members of the Bar for redevelopment and expansion of our library, recreation/indoor sports facilities, Bar Office and Chamber Blocks.

At this occasion, it is imperative to make you aware, how this huge task was executed by us. We roped in all the Bar Associations through Co-ordination Committee of all the District Court Bar Association of Delhi even the High Court Bar Association came in our support, and approached Sh. Manish Sisodia, Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of NCT of Delhi. We invited him for a programme and explained our difficulties that we will face, if our Courts are shifted from the Patiala House Complex. We submitted a memorandum to him and, consequently, he wrote on behalf of the Govt. of Delhi to the Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi points out the non viability in shifting the courts. In the letter, he suggested that the new Building at Rouse Avenue can be utilized for other purposes. That was the beginning in the right direction. For the first time, the Administrative Committee took a positive approach to consider the request of not shifting the New Delhi District Courts to Rouse Avenue. Thereafter, we invited Central Ministers, Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Court of Delhi, Members of Parliament and other eminent personalities in various programmes and put forth our views effectively before them.

We are thankful to Sh. Rajnath Singh, the Hon'ble Home Minister of India, Sh. Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Hon'ble Law Minister of India, Sh. Manish Sisodia, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Delhi, Sh. Vijender Gupta, the Leader of Opposition, Legislative Assembly, Govt. of Delhi for their help and effort to retain the New Delhi District Court here in the Patiala House Complex, We also thank Sh. Muktar Abbas Naqvi, the Hon'ble Minority Affair Minister, Sh. Vijay Goel, the Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Statistics & Programme Implementation, Sh. Bhupendra Yadav M.P. (Rajya Sabha) Sh. Ramesh Bidhuri, M.P., Sh. Rajcev Sukhla, M.P., Ms. Meenakshi Lekhi, M.P., Sh. Manoj Tiwari, M.P. & President Delhi Pradesh BJP. Sh. Rajendra Pal Gautam, the Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare, Govt. of Delhi of NCT of Delhi for their constant support and guidance. We are indebted and grateful to Hon'ble Mr. Justice Madan B. Lokur, Judge, Supreme Court, Hon'ble Ms. Justice Gita Mittal, the Acting Chief Justice, High Court of Delhi and all the Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Delhi, Hon'ble (Retd.) Mr. Justice Badar Durez Ahmed, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravindra S. Bhatt, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sanjiv Khanna, Hon'ble Mr. Justice G.S. Sistani, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Siddarth Mridul, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manmohan. Our Special thanks to Hon'ble Ms. Justice G. Rohini, former Chief Justice of Delhi whom we met often with Sh. Vijender Gupta, the Leader of Opposition, Delhi Legislative Assembly and representatives of Co-ordination Committee and got a positive response in considering our request.

We are also pleased to list our fulfilled tasks, as "Team NDBA" for the welfare and betterment of our Bar and our members.

We endeavoured to settle the litigations arising out of the improper chamber allotments after the recommendations of the Chamber Scrutiny Committee headed by Sh. M.K. Sharma. A Committee headed by Senior member Sh. J.R. Priyani was formed to resolve the disputes in an amicable way. Thus, many disputes were amicably solved for e.g. Sh. Ajeya Bhardwaj's Case.

- We noticed that not more than 600 chambers have been in active use and others are lying vacant and remained locked for many years. We decided that these vacant or locked chambers is serving no purpose. It should be given to those deserving and waiting for their chambers. We took possession of some Chambers/Seats -which were not in use continuously for many years and were remained locked. Even some of the allotees are no more members of the Bar. Our intention was to allot these Chamber/Seat to the deserving members in a transparent manner. So, for this noble cause, we invited applications in prescribed forms and directed them to be dropped in sealed boxes. The boxes were opened in front of the Committee Consisting of Senior Members Sh. Mohinder Saini, Sh. H.S. Pahwa, Sh. S.C. Puri, Sh. K.N. Bhargawan, Sh. Ajay Malviya and Sh. Manjit Kumar and the list were displayed in public.
- We have taken appropriate steps to initiate amendments in the Constitution of New Delhi Bar Association to cope up with the present scenario in the context of evolution of the "One Bar-One Vote-One Chamber" concept. Our intention from the very beginning was to ensure level playing fields. The final draft as approved by the Senior members Committee consisting of Sh. S.C. Puri, Sh. K. N. Bhargavan, Sh. L. K. Khatana and Sh. Akshay Anand was circulated on 31/03/2018 amongst all the members for their perusal and suggestions. We hope all the right thinking Members will approve it as it is for 'common good'.
- > We, for the first time, brought out the NDBA Diary/Planner- consequently for two years. i.e. 2017-2018, with more useful information, in an illustrious manner, which was appreciated by one and all.
- > We consider transparency as the greatest virtue; so, in a very transparent manner, the bank account statement of expenditure was published quarterly i.e. in every three months.
- We have enhanced our financial position by requesting / arranging costs to be deposited in the accounts of NDBA, National Relief fund, NDBA Library Fund and NDBA Members Welfare Fund. It needs to be appreciated that the idea of opening the NDBA National Relief fund was mooted by Sh. Amar Nath Ji, the then District & Sessions Judge at a function organized in memory of the martyrs of Pathankot terrorist attack. Sh. Amar Nath Ji, requested the Judicial Officers of Patiala House Courts for directing the litigants to deposit the costs in the NDBA National Relief fund, so that, the accumulated amount can be deposited in the Prime Minister's Relief Fund through NDBA. Consequently, a cheque for an amount of Rs.5,05,100/- was presented to Sh. Ravi Shankar Prasad Ji, Hon'ble Law Minister for depositing in the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. Alongside costs from various Courts have been deposited in the Advocate Welfare Fund and Library Fund.

- We have issued Security enabled I-cards for Members, staffs, typists and Vendors.
- > We have painted/white washed the New Lawyers Chamber Complex, in order to maintain clean and hygienic atmosphere. For the safety measure, iron fence has been erected on the first floor terrace.
- We have provided distinct uniform to employees of NDBA working in the Parking Area as Pariyavaran Sahayak and other office staffs.
- We have renovated the Central Hall with additional new Air conditioners, light, permanent over head projector, new furniture through CPWD and inaugurated the same by Hon'ble Ms. Justice Gita Mittal, Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court.
- > With our efforts, CPWD have installed new high LED-Street lights at different spots inside the Court Complex, in the chamber blocks, by lanes and at New Chamber Complex also.
- > With our efforts, the CCTV network has been expanded by the CPWD to cover most of the areas of the Court Complex including Chamber blocks.
- We have started, for the first time in the country, Coaching Classes for the aspirants of Judicial Exams with a nominal/low fee with efficient faculties. The first batch has been successfully completed.
- > We have organised Sh. Sambu Nath memorial indoor sports tournament and Sh. K.K. Sarcen Memorial Cricket Match between Bar & Bench.
- We have organized Diwali Fest, Swatantrata Parv, Samvidhan Diwas, Republic Day, Holi Milan, Iftar Party, Hariyali Teej, Dr. Ambedkar Jayanti, Felicitation functions etc., wherein the following eminent personalities have attended
 - ✓ Sh. Rajnath Singh, the Hon'ble Home Minister of India
 - ✓ Sh. Ravi Shankar Prasad, the Hon'ble law Minister of India
 - ✓ Sh. Muktar Abbas Naqvi, the Hon'ble Minority affair Minister
 - ✓ Sh. Vijay Goel, the Hon'ble Minster of State for sports & Youth affairs
 - ✓ Sh. Manish Sisodia, the Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Delhi
 - ✓ Sh. Bhupendra Yadav, the Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha)
 - ✓ Sh. Ramesh Bidhuri, the Member of Parliament
 - ✓ Sh. Rajeev Sukhla, the Member of Parliament
 - ✓ Ms. MeenakshiLekhi, the Member of Parliament

- ✓ Sh. Manoj Tiwari, the Member of Parliament & President of BJP (Delhi)
- ✓ Sh. Sanjay Jain, A.S.G.
- ✓ Ms. Pinky Anand, A.S.G.,
- ✓ Sh. R P Gautam, the Hon'ble Min. Social Welfare, Govt. of Delhi
- ✓ Hon'ble Ms. Justice Gita Mittal, Acting Chief Justice, Delhi High Court
- ✓ Hon'ble Mr. Justice S. Ravindra Bhat
- ✓ Hon'ble Mr. Justice Siddharth Mridul
- ✓ Hon'ble Mr. Justice Manmohan
- ✓ Hon'ble Mr. Justice I.S. Mehta
- ✓ Hon'ble Mr. Justice Navin Chawla
- Artists from Punjabi & Hindi academy
- We have installed New Metallic Archway shade on the pavements around the Court Rooms to protect lawyers and litigants from rain and sunshine.
- With our efforts, the drainage system inside the Court complex is fully revamped. Underground Sewer/Drainage system inside the Court Complex has been completely refitted with new pipeline and proper outlets.
- With our efforts, the dilapidated compound walls are being reconstructed and proper sheds/work stations will also be provided by the CPWD along the compound walls for the typists and others.
- We have streamlined the Typist pools with identical furniture, proper electrical fittings to enhance uniformity. The lights were provided by CPWD.
- ➤ The Court Building is decorated with serial lights on the occasion of Independence Day and Republic day. The Court Administration has built a new Flag Mast at the entrance in the Gate No.4 of Patiala House Courts to facilitate unfurling the National Flag inside the Court Complex

FINANCIAL POSITION:

The Executive Committee has improved the financial position of the Bar by collecting donations, increasing subscriptions and decreasing the expenditure. When the present Executive Committee took over the Charge on the 17th of May 2016, there was a net balance of Rs. 1,26,52,800.59 (One Crore Twenty Six Lakhs Fifty Two Thousand Eight Hundred Rupees and Fifty Nine paisa only) and as on 14th of May, 2018, the net balance has increased to Rs. 2,31,15,982.00 (Two Crore Thirty One Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Two Rupees only) including FDRs after discharging outstanding liabilities. The details are given in a tabular format, which is as follows:

Sl. No.	Accounts	As on 17/05/2016	As on 14/05/2018
1.	NDBA Members Welfare		
	Fund	42,977.00	64,005.00
2.	NDBA Main Account		86,95,911.00
		38,47,772.07	
3.	Chamber transfer Account		
		1,78,125.52	7,35,166.00
4.	NDBA A/c Insurance (New)	N/A	19,875.00
5.	NDBA A/c National Relief	N/A	9,32,758.00
	Fund (New)		•
6.	NDBA Library Fund	6,68,348.00	14,22,411.00
7.	NDBA Account	36, 142.00	39,020.00
	(Non Operative)	•	
8.	FDRs (Maturity value)	78,79,436.00	1.10,64,237.00
9.	Non Operative Accounts of	Information not	1,42,599.00
	NDBA	furnished	
	Total	1,26,52,800.59	2,31,15,982.00

NDBA MEMBERS ROLL

- We have corrected the members roll of NDBA, after so many years, by removing the names of members who have been elevated as Judicial Officers, Members who have passed away and those members who had long pending arrears in subscription dues, continuously for three years and above.
- > We have installed Biometric attendance system to improve the work efficiency and regularize attendance of the staff members in the office.
- ➤ We have organised Diabetes Health Camp in association with the NGO AVANI for the benefit of the Members. It was inaugurated by Sh. Amar Nath, Ld. District & Sessions Judge on 15/07/2016.
- > We have renovated V.P. Dhawan Bar Room at New Lawyer's Chamber Complex and furnished it with New ACs and New LED Television set.

DRINKING WATER

To provide pure drinking water, the R.O. systems have been thoroughly repaired and AMC has been given to companies for continuous monitoring and checking up of the flow of pure drinking water. Water taps have also been provided at many places. Existing water cooler have

TOILETS

The NDMC toilets have been repaired and renovated. The toilets at the Central Hall has been fully renovated with the help of the CPWD with modern amenities such as hand drier, shoc shiner, fan in every cubicle and separate toilets of Western and Indian style, with the provision of maintenance attendant, etc. The Toilets at New Chamber Complex and the toilet near SDM Gallery are proposed to be repaired and renovated in the same manner. Toilet for lady members near the SDM gallery has also been renovated.

ADDITIONAL NOTICE BOARDS

We believe in transparency and encourage free flow of information to the public. We have put up additional Notice Boards with locking facility in prominent places to display circulars and notices so that the messages/circulars can reach every member.

We, the members of the Executive committee, sincerely thank all the Hon'ble members for their kind co-operation to carry on our work. We hope that we have discharged our duties with earnest dedication and sincere efforts.

We apologize, if any inconvenience is caused to any learned Member/s by our words and deeds. We hope you will appreciate that we might have gone wrong somewhere intentionally but was motive was never *malafide*. Our commitment is *greatest good of greater number of Members*: and we assure that we will keep functioning in transparent, efficient and vigilant manner till the new Executive Committee is formed.

Thanking you!

(MRS.) SANTOSH MISHRA

PRESIDENT

ARESH KUMAR

TREASURER

\ NEERAJ HONY SECRETARY