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भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

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Press Release dated 01.03.2025

Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra Re-Elected as Chairman of the Bar Council of India for the 7th consecutive term

The elected representatives of India's nearly 27 lakh vibrant legal fraternity have once again reaffirmed their trust in the distinguished leadership of Manan Kumar Mishra, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of India and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha), by re-electing him unopposed as the Chairman of the Bar Council of India for a historic seventh consecutive term.

A statesman of remarkable influence and strategic vision, Shri Mishra's re-election demonstrates his unyielding devotion to the legal profession and his ability to unify advocates across the nation. Despite early speculations of a challenging contest, given his recent election as a Rajya Sabha MP from Bihar, his unparalleled stature, astute leadership, and deep rooted connection with the legal fraternity eliminated any viable contest, as contenders chose to step aside, acknowledging his leadership. His mandate remains unequivocal, reaffirming his stature as a stalwart of the Indian Bar.

Shri Mishra's legacy of electoral dominance remains unparalleled. Having secured an emphatic victory in the Bihar State Bar Council elections for the seventh consecutive time, he was re-elected unopposed as a member of the Bar Council of India from Bihar for the third successive term last year. With this milestone, he ascends to the Chairmanship of the Bar Council of India for the seventh consecutive time, a feat that speaks volumes of the trust and confidence reposed in him by the legal fraternity. Each term further cements his towering legacy as a leader committed to the betterment of advocates across the country.

Beyond the legal corridors, Shri Mishra commands immense respect among intellectuals and the general public alike, a recognition that led to his election to the Rajya Sabha. While some conjectured that his transition to parliamentary duties might weaken his stronghold over the legal fraternity, this decisive victory reflects his enduring influence and the broad respect he commands within the legal community. Despite shifting political tides and forces that have sought to challenge his ascent, Shri Mishra has consistently emerged stronger, his leadership reaffirmed time and again by those who recognize his enduring allegiance to the profession.

A defining milestone in his leadership was his decisive role in facilitating the withdrawal of the proposed amendment to the Advocates Act, a legislative initiative by the Central Government. His resolute advocacy, meticulous negotiations, and relentless perseverance in protecting the sanctity of the legal profession played a crucial role in safeguarding the interests of advocates nationwide. His strategic interventions continue to serve as a source of reassurance for lawyers nationwide.

Soon after the announcement of his re-election for a seventh term, Mr. Mishra expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the entire legal fraternity for their continued trust and support. He reaffirmed his unshakable resolve to serving the legal community and emphasized his dedication to the welfare of advocates.

He further stated that Advocates Amendment Bill would be introduced, ensuring provisions for the well-being of advocates while excluding any contentious elements. Stressing the paramount importance of an independent Bar, he asserted that its autonomy must never be compromised. At the same time, he emphasized the necessity of introducing welfare measures, structured training programs for young lawyers within the Advocates Act and Advocate protection Act, to strengthen and empower the legal profession.

Meanwhile, the race for the Vice Chairman position of the Bar Council of India remains underway, with Mr. S. Prabhakaran of Tamil Nadu & Puducherry and Mr. Ved Prakash Sharma of Delhi contesting for the post. The election for this crucial position is scheduled for tomorrow, and as per protocol, the executive committee members will be chosen under the leadership of the newly re-elected Chairman.

On May 17, an important national meeting of advocate representatives and members of the State Bar Councils is set to be convened in New Delhi. This high level assembly will deliberate on pressing issues concerning the legal profession, including advocate welfare, the long-anticipated Advocate Protection Act, and various policy matters shaping the future of the Bar. The discussions are expected to lead to progressive measures ensuring the protection and advancement of legal professionals nationwide.

Shri Manan Kumar Mishra's re-election is more than just a leadership renewal, it is a reaffirmation of the confidence and faith that the legal fraternity places in his vision, commitment, and extraordinary ability to represent the interests of advocates at the highest echelons of power. His tenure promises continued advocacy for the betterment of the profession, ensuring that the voices of legal practitioners resonate with strength and dignity across the country. Through every challenge and every opposition, his resilience and vision have propelled him forward, cementing his place as an enduring force in the legal landscape of India.

(Srimanto Sen)
Principal Secretary
Bar Council of India