



भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

21, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area, Near Bal Bhawan, New Delhi - 110002

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Bar Council of India enters into a Memorandum of Understanding with Bar Council of England and Wales & Law Society of England and Wales for an exchange programme of Lawyers and Law Students for mutual exchange of training & learning amongst each others jurisdiction.

Under the MoU, the Bar Council of India has been authorized to recommend some young Lawyers to the Law Society and to the Bar Council of England & Wales to provide opportunities of training and learning in International Law Firms, good Law Offices and in English Law Courts.

However, the Lawyers recommended by the Bar Council of India shall have no right to practice in UK in terms of the MOU. The purpose is to only facilitate an opportunity of learning and gaining experience in both jurisdictions.

In a similar manner, selected Law Students will be recommended by BCI for undergoing internships to the Bar bodies of U.K.

The MoU further provides for extending training facilities to the solicitors & Barristers of England and Wales. Such trainee Solicitors & Barristers shall not be allowed to practice in any form in India under the terms of the MOU and the 90 days programme shall only be confined to training and learning only.

Mr. Mishra has said that this MoU will go a long way in fostering the exchange of legal acumen skill, training, ideas between the legal fraternity of both countries and Indian Lawyers will be benefitted.

They will gain expertise in the field of International Arbitrations, and get opportunities to attend offices of reputed International Law Firms and Offices of renowned Solicitors and Barristers. B.C.I. will sponsor/recommend only selected meritorious, deserving Advocates who normally are unable to afford availing such avenues.

In a historic meeting held at London in the meeting Hall of Law Society of England and Wales this MoU was signed on 5th June, 2023, by the Chairman of Bar Council of India, the President of Bar Council of England and Wales as well as President of Law Society of England and Wales.

In the course of the meeting, the Chairman of BCI, Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra informed the delegates that the Regulations regarding entry of Foreign Lawyers in India needed certain crucial changes. The Vice-Chairman Mr. S. Prabakaran stated that BCI has received representations from Indian Law Firms and a section of the Indian Bar. The opinion of Foreign bodies will also be welcomed on this issue.

Mr. Mishra told the meeting that very soon the necessary changes will be made in the Regulations and the registration of Foreign Lawyers & Law Firms will start only thereafter.

The delegation of Bar Council of India included

Mr. S. Prabakaran, Vice-Chairman, Bar Council of India
Mr. Apurba Sharma, Chairman, Executive Committee, Bar Council of India
Mr. Ved Prakash Sharma, Co-Chairman, Bar Council of India
Mr. Suresh Chandra Shrimali, Co-Chairman, Bar Council of India
Mr. Pratap Mehta, Co-Chairman, Bar Council of India
Mr. Shreenath Tripathi, Co-Chairman, Bar Council of India
Mr. Jayant D. Jaibhave, Co-Chairman, Bar Council of India
Mr. A. Rami Reddy, Member, Bar Council of India
Mr. D. K. Sharma, Member, Bar Council of India
Mr. Dilip Patel, Member, Bar Council of India
Mr. Shailendra Dubey, Member, Bar Council of India
Mr. P. Vishnuvardhana Reddy, Member, Bar Council of India
Mr. Prashant Kumar Singh, Member, Bar Council of India
Mr. Partap Singh, Member, Bar Council of India
Dr. Amit Vaid, Member, Bar Council of India

All Members of B.C.I. and Mr. Srimanto Sen, Secretary, Bar Council of India, participated in the meeting and signing of MoU.

The MoU is towards facilitating a healthy mutual exchange of ideas, learning, training of the Legal fraternity of both jurisdictions.

It is made clear that the issue of practice of foreign/UK Lawyers in India and vice versa in UK in any form including International Commercial Arbitration, relating to laws of their respective countries, and in non-litigious areas are not governed or touched upon in the MoU and they remain to be governed by Bar Council of India Rules for Registration and Regulation of Foreign Lawyers and Foreign Law Firms in India, 2022 framed by BCI (which the BCI is proposing to revisit, with a view to address the issues raised by Law Firms & a few Lawyers of India & abroad).



(Srimanto Sen)
Secretary
Bar Council of India