BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI PRESS RELEASE DATED 20.03.2023

"The Bar Council of Delhi in its Urgent Meeting held on 20.03.2023 considered the Bar Council of India Notification dated 10.03.2023, (Bar Council of India Rules for Registration and Regulation of Foreign Lawyers and Foreign Law Firms in India, 2022).

The members expressed their anguish and apprehension about the real intention behind these rules, as these rules are very vague in as much as the press release dated 19.03.2023 issued by the Bar Council of India mentions that the entry of foreign lawyers would be on reciprocal basis only i.e. lawyers of only those countries would be permitted in India, where Indian lawyers are also permitted to practice.

In the Rule No.8, Chapter-IV of the notification, it is mentioned that "They shall be allowed to practice on transactional work/corporate work such as joint mergers and acquisitions, intellectual property matters, drafting of contracts and other related matters on reciprocal basis", which is very ambiguous, vague and as such as it is not clear that it will be precondition of allowing any foreign lawyer practicing in any country as mentioned in the rules, in India. Therefore, we have decided to form a Committee which will examine all the aspects of the rules, and if required, consult other lawyers and Presidents/Secretaries of Bar Associations/stake holders and will submit a report within fifteen days.

The Committee so formed shall be headed by Vice Chairman Shri Sanjeev Nasiar, and Members Shri O.P. Faizi, Shri K.C. Mittal, Shri Himal Akhtar, Shri R.S. Goswami, Shri Rakesh Sehrawat, Shri Ajayinder Sangwan and Shri Ajay Sondhi.