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Welcome address by Host Shri Suresh Shetty VP-

Forever News reporter

he Supreme Court has granted four more weeks to the state government to come up with its response on the contentious issue of imposition of ban on dance performance in bars.

"During the hearing on 7 July 2014, the Supreme Court has granted the state government four more weeks to come up with a response and also exempted the minister from appearing in person", said President Arvind Shetty at the seventh monthly meeting of the managing committee which was held on 21 July at Hotel Krishna Palace.

Shri Suresh Shetty VP-Zone-III and the host of 7th Managing Committee Meeting and welcomed all delegates to the meeting. He thanked the members, Sub Committee members for their support in executing his duties. President Shri Arvind Shetty then proceeded with the Agenda circulated in advance.

A landmark judgment has been delivered by the apex court against the state government's ban on dance performances sometime back as the state government violated the fundamental

AHAR seeks speedy execution of landmark judgment

right to livelihood of individuals and also discriminated amongst different class of people said AHAR President.

A contempt petition was subsequently filed in the Supreme Court as the Government failed to renew the licenses as directed by the court. The state government has come up with a Bill to completely ban dance performances in all categories of hotels and also made the provisions more stringent.

The above act on the part of the government will be detrimental to the entire Industry as it may be interpreted according to the whims and fancies of the law enforcement agency.

There were a host of other issues that were discussed during the meeting.

Minimum Wages

Minimum Wages Petition has been admitted for final hearing by the Nagpur High Court and will be heard as and when it comes

on the board. The interim relief is granted on the condition that members do not pay less than 70% of the revised Minimum Wages and reserve the balance during pendency and final disposal of the writ petition.

Service Tax

After the writ petition against the imposition of Service Tax in A/C restaurants was dismissed by Bombay High Court, the

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SAD DEMISE Shri Prithviraj Shetty



7th Nov. 1977 -31st July 2014

Shri Prithviraj Shetty, a Graduate joined AHAR as a Committee Member in 2007 and rose to become a VP of Zone-IV in 2011, he served three times as VP. He was also the Ward President of Youth Congress. He is married to Smt. Smitha P Shetty and have a Son Revan P Shetty. His Father Shri Sundar Shetty is the senior of member of AHAR and was the VP of Zone-V.

May His Soul Rest I Peace



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Shri Sunil Patil, VP - Zone VI receiving Best Performing VP of the Month Award from President Shri Arvind Shetty and Advisors in the presence of the Committee Members of Zone VI.

(Continued from page 1)

Association after taking the opinion of senior counsels and our Service Tax committee decided to file a Special Leave Petition against the Judgment in the Supreme Court in order to safeguard the interests of our members as the contentious issue of Double Taxation needed to be addressed which subsequently was substantiated in the Uttarakhand High Court Judgment. Notices have been issued to the various government departments in the state as well as the Centre as directed by the Supreme Court during the first hearing. During the second hearing on 7 July 2014 the departments have asked for more time to reply to the petitions and the same has been granted.

FSSAI

Our petition against certain clauses in the FSSAI is pending in the Bombay High Court. Similarly, Indian Drug Manufacturers' Association (IDMA) who worked closely with us on a petition against FSSAI have received a favorable judgment from the Bombay High Court. During a recent event to celebrate the above judgment, members of AHAR were duly recognized and applauded for their contribution towards the IDMA Petition and its success.

Excise Fee Hike

As the government is keen on resolving the Excise Fee Hike at the earliest, a committee under the chairmanship of Shri Amit Deshmukh, MOS, Excise is constituted to address the issue.

Meeting with the Sales Tax Commissioner

A meeting of AHAR members was held with the Sales Tax Commissioner Dr Nitin Kareer to apprise him about the Uttarakhand High Court judgment and requested him to provide us the same benefits. "He informed us that he is aware of the judgment and would consider the same provided there is no mention of Double Taxation in our Bombay High Court judgment as they are bound under their jurisdiction. He also requested AHAR to advise their

members to compute and pay their VAT Dues promptly", the official said.

"When we inquired about specific instances of Non-compliance, he informed us that their system is integrated with various other sources of revenue. We informed him that our Association does not advocate any violation on the part of our members",

Meeting with the Excise Commissioner

AHAR was invited for a meeting with the Excise Commissioner Dr Sanjay Mukherjee to discuss the simplifications of license conditions. He informed that he has already forwarded his recommendations to the Principal Secretary, Excise and advised us to pursue the matter with the ministry.

"We have requested him to urgently address our longstanding issues like Abolition of Drinking Permit, Eight Times License Fee for Transfer of FL III License, Separate Enclosure for Service of Liquor in a Permit Room. Additional License instead of the Requirement of a Daily Permission to serve Liquor in a Banquet area attached to a Licensed Premises".

MCGM matters

Food Hawkers

AHAR has decided to file a Writ Petition in Bombay High Court in consultation with various ex bureaucrats and advocates, against the illegal food hawkers since the implementation of the New Hawkers Policy is going to affect the legally run hoteliers. The petition is being prepared as even though cooking food on the street is banned by the Supreme Court, the same may be allowed on the Hawking Zone.

BMC Licence 394

AHAR has constituted a committee to study and file a report on abolishing MCGM License under Section 394 in lieu of the newly enacted FSSAI Act. FSSAI Act clearly specifies that all other acts governing Food Business Operators should be repealed during implementation of the New Act.

TRAI Order

Telecom Regulatory Authority

of India has notified that Hotels & Restaurants who do not charge their customers specifically for providing TV programs will not be Liable to pay any additional fee other than the ones paid to their respective cable operators.

This is will put to an end to cases of harassment meted out to our members by agencies like Novex, etc. Copies of the order will be available on the AHAR website. The Bombay High Court has also restrained Novex from collecting license fee for playing Music in a Restaurant on behalf of the Society.

Representation to Shri Gopal Shetty, MP

A delegation of AHAR called on Gopal Shetty, MP and presented him with various representation pertaining to FSSAI, Service Tax and suggestions on behalf of all hotel associations of Maharashtra. He has assured team AHAR that he will take up the matter with the concerned Ministers along with other MPs of the city.

Representation to Shri Rahul Shewale, MP

A delegation from AHAR met Rahul Shewale, MP and discussed with him various issues affecting the members due to legislation/laws in the Centre, State and local administration.

Best Performing VP of the month

The Hon. Gen. Secretary Shri Sukesh Shetty briefed the house about the parameters for selecting the Best Performing Vice President of the month. He read out the points earned by each Vice Presidents.

Shri Sunil Patil, VP, Zone-VI was honored with Best performing VP of the month of July 2014 for his excellent performance in all fields.

Advisor Shri S. M. Shetty, Shri A. B. Shetty and Shri Arvind Shetty, President honored him with Memento and floral bouquets.

Felicitation

Shri Suresh Shetty, Host VP Zone-III was felicitated with floral bouquets for the highest membership collection during the month.

Speech by advisors

Shri S. M. Shetty

The hard work of host VP Shri Suresh Shetty is worth appreciating. The selfless work of Shri K. K. Mahale is also appreciated. All the VPs are doing excellent work. He suggested meeting Adv. Mukul Rohtagi who was our counsel in Service Tax matters in Supreme Court and also has subsequently became the Attorney General of India. He said his help should be taken to address the Service Tax matters with the Present Government.

The following vendors exhibited their products through the stalls at the Venue.

1. Namoshree Ventures

Cooking Equipments
2. Omkar Developers R e a l

3. Kotak Mahindra Bank Banking Solutions

4. Ganesh Benzo Plast F o o d Preservation

All the Stall Participating Vendors made presentation of their products and offered exclusive discounts to AHAR



Free Health Checkup Camp for Hotel employees conducted on 17th July 2014 at Vineyard Restaurant & Bar, Ghatkopar under the stewardship of Shri Sunil Patil, VP Zone VI.

Regarding 394 license, it is better to move court as two licensing authorities cannot monitor the same license.

Shri A. B. Shetty

Congratulated the President for commencing the meeting in time. He also appreciated the good work of the host VP Shri Suresh Shetty and the service of Shri K. K. Mahale in hawkers matters is also appreciated.

Hon. Gen. Secretary

The Hon. Gen. Secretary Shri Sukesh Shetty invited the members to attend a post Budget analysis meeting at Bunts Sangha. He also added that in the recent MERC hearing, AHAR has demanded for more TATA sub stations in South Mumbai to facilitate the connection to members in South Mumbai.

Stall Support

members.

Condolence

The House paid its condolence to the following departed souls.

1. Shri Kiritbai – Mantra Residency -Borivili on 4.7.2014.

2. Smt. Shalini S Salian wife of Sudhir G Salian, Aura Veg. Rest, Borvili [W] on

3. Smt Jalaja M Shetty mother of Shri Ratnakar Shetty, Hotel Saanj Choola, Malad on 16.6.2014.

4. Shri Vittal N Shetty - Hotel Shiv Prasad-Chembur

The host VP Shri Suresh Shetty honoured his team for their support with flower bouquets.

Vote of Thanks

The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks by the Hon. Gen. Secretary





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