

For favour of publicity

21st August 2012

**PM misses the opportunity to change name of 'Bombay'
High Court to 'Mumbai' High Court - Ram Naik**

Mumbai, Tuesday : "Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh has missed the opportunity of changing the name of 'Bombay' High Court to 'Mumbai' High Court while addressing the concluding function of celebrations of 150 years of High Court on 18th August. If effective steps are not taken promptly, we will have to decide future course of action", warned Shri Ram Naik, Bharatiya Janata Party leader and former Petroleum Minister in a letter addressed to Prime Minister. Shri Naik gave this information to-day in Mumbai through a press statement.

While giving additional information about the demand to change the name of Bombay High Court to Mumbai High Court, Shri Ram Naik said, "The Government of India issued a notification to change the name from Bombay to Mumbai on 15th December 1995. Accordingly the Government of India and the Government of Maharashtra made necessary changes in their records. However the High Court continued the use of Bombay. When the attention of the Chief Justice was drawn to this notification and requested to change the name, the High Court communicated on 28th April 2006 stating that the change would have to be made with the initiative of the Parliament. Thereafter some M.P.s from Maharashtra raised this issue in the Parliament but without success. Noting that Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh was to address the concluding function of completion of 150 years of High Court, I requested the Prime Minister on 12th August to change the name as it would be the most appropriate announcement keeping in mind the pride and identity of Maharashtra including Mumbai. I had also met personally Chief Minister Shri Prithviraj Chavan and requested him to follow it up with the Prime Minister. In these circumstances, I protest against the Prime Minister for not making the announcement in his speech on 18th August".

"I request the Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh not to delay the change in name further on this sensitive issue and to amend the necessary act. Simultaneously names of Madras and Calcutta High Courts should also be changed respectively to Chennai and Kolkata High Courts. The Prime Minister who also addressed the I. I. T. students on 18th August should also change the name of I. I. T., Bombay to Mumbai. We anxiously await the positive response of the Prime Minister which will help us to decide the future course of action", stated Shri Ram Naik in his letter to the Prime Minister on 20th August.

(Office Secretary)