## <u>After 30 minutes without a lawyer in matters scheduled for regular hearings, the Supreme</u> <u>Court's vacation bench rises stating "no one is here"</u>

As there were no attorneys present in any of the cases, the Supreme Court's vacation bench was obliged to postpone all of the normal hearing proceedings before it and rise within 30 minutes.

It should be emphasised that within the first 30 minutes, the bench had already heard the new items ( Item numbers 1-10). The normal hearing matters (item numbers 101–105), all from 2014–2015, were the ones that couldn't be brought up since the attorneys weren't present.

No counsel was present before the bench in these issues, either physically or virtually, thus the bench was obliged to order that the identical list for ordinary matters be repeated tomorrow.

Justice Oka questioned the court staff after observing that no attorneys were physically present in the court for the normal hearing matters that *"Check on VC. Is anyone connected?"*.

Justice Sundresh said, "No one is here!"

"Repeat the same list tomorrow, no one is there today", the Bench concluded.

It should be recalled that, if both parties agree, the SC had informed the Vacation Benches in May that the Regular Ready hearing items will be heard by them from Monday through Friday.

It was made clear that, in accordance with the standards and regulations endorsed by the Chief Justice of India, only cases falling within the declared subject areas would be considered.

Additionally, it was made clear that any counsel or party-in-person who wants their case, which is pending and prepared for a regular hearing, to be heard during the summer break in 2022 must make sure it falls under one of the subject categories mentioned and get the agreement of all parties/advocates involved in the case.