

ITEM NO.31

COURT NO.1

SECTION X

**S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A**  
**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

Writ Petition(s)(Civil) No(s).564/2026

DISTRICT BAR ASSOCIATION, KATNI &amp; ANR.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA &amp; ORS.

Respondent(s)

FOR ADMISSION

IA No. 133370/2026 - EX-PARTE AD-INTERIM RELIEF

IA No. 133372/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

Date : 04-05-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) Mr. Siddharth R.Gupta, Adv.  
Mr. Mrigank Prabhakar, AOR  
Mr. Yogesh Soni, Adv.  
Mr. Shantanu Sharma, Adv.  
Mr. Uddaish Palya, Adv.  
Ms. Surbhi Saxena, Adv.  
Ms. Astha Singh, Adv.  
Mr. Aman Agarwal, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mr. Guru Krishna Kumar, Sr.Adv.  
Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.  
For Ram Sankar & Co., Adv.

Mr. Harsh Parashar, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following  
O R D E R

1. The District Bar Association, Katni and one of its members have approached this Court under Article 32 of the Constitution of India, seeking a direction for inclusion of the names of the advocates who are presently excluded from the electoral rolls for the upcoming M.P. State Bar Council Elections.

2. What emerges from the record, especially through communication dated 15.04.2026 (Annexure P-12), which is a letter addressed by petitioner no. 1-Association to the Election Officer,

State Bar Council, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh, is that that 235 members of the District Bar Association, Katni were initially deleted/excluded from the electoral rolls. After the Bar Association submitted its representation against the said exclusion, 183 names were re-included in the final electoral rolls published on 01.04.2026. However, 52 advocates still remain deprived of their inclusion in the voters' list.

3. Shri Gurukrishna Kumar, learned Senior Counsel representing the Bar Council of India, and Mr. Harsh Parashar, learned Counsel, who represents the Returning Officer of the State Bar Council, M.P. are present.

4. A xerox copy of a brief note dated 03.05.2026 has been handed over in the course of proceedings on behalf of Justice Sushil Kumar Palo, a former Judge of the Madhya Pradesh High Court, the Returning Officer, namely, respondent no. 3. According to the note, an advocate enrolled with the Bar Council of Madhya Pradesh is entitled to be included in the voters' list on fulfilling the following requirements:

*"1. He/she must have deposited the requisite Advocates Welfare Fund, as per the AWF Rules, 2001.*

*2. He/she has complied with the Certificate and Place of Practice Rule, 2015,*

*3. As provided in the same Rule he/she has furnished the "Declaration Form".*

*4. He/she has passed the All India Bar Examination (AIBE), as per the direction of the BCI memo No.BCI/15-16/STBC CIR No. 4/2013 dtd.12.4.2013."*

5. On a query being made, it is not disputed that individual reasons have not been assigned or indicated to the approximately 50 advocates, who are members of the petitioner no. 1-Association and who have now been excluded in the voters list.

6. Learned counsel representing the respondent no. 3 informs that the names of the advocates along with reason for their

exclusion in the voters list has been notified on the website of the State Bar Council. If that is so, we permit the excluded members of the petitioner no. 1-Association to take rectifying actions in regard to the marked objections within two days, i.e., on or before 07.05.2026. If the presently excluded members comply with the requirements and remove the deficiency assigned for exclusion, their claims shall be re-considered by the High Powered Election Committee, Jabalpur. Thereupon, the voters' list shall be revised through an addendum by 09.05.2026.

7. It goes without saying that those who are included in the revised voters' list shall be entitled to exercise their right to vote on the date of the election, i.e., 12.05.2026.

8. The Writ Petition stands disposed of in the above terms.

9. As a result, the pending interlocutory applications also stand disposed of.

(SATISH KUMAR YADAV)  
ADDITIONAL REGISTRAR

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)  
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR