



भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

21, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area, Near Bal Bhawan, New Delhi - 110002

BCI:D:8415/2025

Date: 24.11.2025

To,

The Secretary,
Karnataka State Bar Council,
Old Election Commission Building,
Dr Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bengaluru 560 001

Ref.: Letter dated 20.11.2025 bearing No.KSBC/2231/2025 of Ms. G. Padmavathi, I/c Secretary, Karnataka State Bar Council.

Sub.: Nomination of Mr Kamaraddi Venkaraddi Devaraddi as Chairman of Karnataka State Bar Council and clarification regarding continuation of Committees.

Ma'am,

This communication is issued with reference to the letter dated 20.11.2025 bearing number KSBC/2231/2025 sent by you, Ms. G. Padmavathi, I/c Secretary, Karnataka State Bar Council seeking clarification regarding the functioning of elected members in various Committees and in continuation of earlier communications of the Bar Council of India including the communication dated 20.02.2025 bearing No.BCI:D:1474/2025 and also in view of further information received concerning the present functioning of the Karnataka State Bar Council.

The Bar Council of India has reviewed the matter in exercise of its powers under Section 48B read with Sections 7(1)(g) and 7(1)(m) of the Advocates Act, 1961 and keeping in view the Bar Council of India Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Rules, 2015.

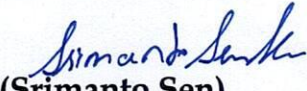
It has been brought to the notice of the Bar Council of India that presently all Committees and Sub-Committees of the Karnataka State Bar Council including the Enrolment Committee, Disciplinary Committees, Verification or Screening Committee, Welfare Committee, Finance Committee, Library Committee and other statutory or standing Committees were cancelled or kept in abeyance by Chairman, Mr. Mittalakod Shidlingappa Shekharappa which has resulted in the stoppage of statutory functions such as enrolment verification disciplinary work and other mandatory duties of the Bar Council. His nomination was intended to ensure proper functioning of the institution and completion of the verification process in accordance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Bar Council of India. He does not/did not possess any authority to suspend or dissolve Committees or to halt the day to day functioning of the Council. The Karnataka State Bar Council is a statutory body under Sections 3 and 6 of the Advocates Act and is required to discharge its functions without interruption.

The nomination of a Chairman by the Bar Council of India neither authorises cancellation of Committees nor allows suspension of statutory or administrative work. Such cancellation adversely affects the rights of advocates under Articles 14 and 19(1)(g) of the Constitution as well as the rights of litigants who depend on enrolled and regulated advocates. The functioning of the Bar and the justice delivery system cannot be obstructed in this manner.

In continuation of the earlier nomination of Mr. Mittalakod Shidlingappa Shekharappa and upon completion of his tenure, and in view of the prevailing situation, in exercise of powers under Section 48B of the Advocates Act 1961 read with Sections 7(1)(g) and 7(1)(m), as per direction of Hon'ble Chairman, Bar Council of India, Mr. Kamaraddi Venkaraddi Devaraddi is nominated as the Chairman of the Karnataka State Bar Council. The Chairman, Karnataka State Bar Council may re-constitute all Committees to discharge the statutory work of the Council including enrolment, verification, disciplinary proceedings, issuance of certificates of practice, welfare functions and administrative work shall resume immediately and continue without obstruction.

Attention is also drawn to the order dated 18.11.2026 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition No.1319 of 2025 title as M. Vardhan Vs. Union of India and Anr. The Karnataka State Bar Council is required to ensure that elections are completed on or before 15.03.2026 in accordance with the schedule directed by the Supreme Court. The Hon'ble Court has stated that verification is an ongoing process and thus it shall not come in the way of the election and election schedule as mandated by the Apex Court.

This communication shall remain subject to compliance with the above order and any subsequent orders that may be issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.


(Srimanto Sen)
Principal Secretary,
Bar Council of India