

**BEFORE THE HIGH-POWERED ELECTION SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**comprising of**

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia,**  
**Former Judge, Supreme Court of India**  
**Chairperson, High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee**

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice Ravi Shankar Jha,**  
**Former Chief Justice, Punjab & Haryana High Court**  
**Member, High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee**

**Mr. V. Giri,**  
**Learned Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India**  
**Member, High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee**  
**Supervisory Committee Appeal No. 80/2026**

**ORDER DATED 08.04.2026**

1. The appellant, CK Sasi, is before us, who hails from the State of Kerala. He is enrolled with the Bar Council of Kerala and is presently practising in the Supreme Court.
2. In the ongoing elections to the Bar Council of Kerala, the name of the appellant figures in the final voter list of advocates who are eligible to cast a vote in these elections. However, the appellant is not being allowed to cast his vote in the polling booth, which will be set up in the Supreme Court premises. The appellant contends that many similarly situated advocates are being allowed to give their votes in the Supreme Court polling booth; however, the appellant is being denied the opportunity to do so, as he failed to file a representation in time. The appellant further contends that there are many other advocates whose names are in the final voter

- list but not in the voter list of those who will cast their vote in the polling booth which will be set up in the Supreme Court premises.
- 3.** We must also record that lawyers from different States and Union Territories are practising before the Supreme Court of India. There are a sizeable number of lawyers in the Supreme Court, we are told, who hail from the State of Kerala. Also, in the present ongoing elections to the State Bar Councils, lawyers have been allowed to cast their vote in the Supreme Court premises although they belong to a different State i.e. a State other than Delhi. This is a common practice and arrangements have been made in the Supreme Court premises for the polling.
  - 4.** Considering all the aspects of the matter, we see no harm if such advocates are given an opportunity to cast their votes in the polling booth, which will be set up in the Supreme Court, Delhi. Therefore, we direct the Bar Council of Kerala to allow not only the appellant but all similarly situated advocates to cast their votes in the Supreme Court premises, provided their names figure in the final voter list published on 14.03.2026.
  - 5.** Since the polling to these elections is scheduled for 17.04.2026 and voter registers are to be dispatched to the different polling booths, all the voters/advocates who are desirous to cast their vote in the Supreme Court premises shall indicate the change in the place of polling booth from Kerala to Delhi, if not already done, by sending a representation to the High-Powered Election Committee on its official email i.e. [hpec.bck@gmail.com](mailto:hpec.bck@gmail.com), on or before 11.04.2026 by 12 noon, as representations filed after 12 noon on 11.04.2026 will not be entertained. After verification of representations so filed, such advocates shall be allowed to cast their votes in the Supreme Court premises, provided their names are already in the final voter list.

6. Since there is no additional Returning Officer to conduct the elections at the proposed polling booth in the Supreme Court premises, we appoint Ms. Pragya Baghel, Secretary, Supreme Court Bar Association, as the Additional Returning Officer of Kerala, to conduct the elections at the proposed polling booth in the Supreme Court for the elections to the Bar Council of Kerala.
7. The Bar Council of India is directed to furnish copies of this order to Ms. Pragya Baghel, Secretary, Supreme Court Bar Association and the Presidents of Supreme Court Advocates-on-Record Association and the Supreme Court Bar Association, so that this order can be widely circulated among the lawyers practising before the Supreme Court of India.
8. With the above observations, the present appeal stands disposed of.



Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia

Former Judge, Supreme Court of India

Chairperson, Supervisory Committee

Justice Ravi Shankar Jha

Former Chief Justice, Punjab & Haryana High Court

Member, Supervisory Committee

08.04.2026

New Delhi

Mr. V. Giri

Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India

Member, Supervisory Committee