



THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

Kochi : 682031

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Date: 18-07-2026

HCKL/3022/2026-DI-2-HC KERALA

NOTICE

Sub:- Designation of Senior Advocates - Application invited from Advocates practicing in Courts of Kottayam District - Reg.

Ref:- 1) High Court Notice of even number dated 10.03.2026 inviting applications for designation as Senior Advocates.

2) Representation dated 25.06.2026 received from the President, Kottayam Bar Association.

3) Rule 8(1) & 18 of the High Court of Kerala (Designation of Senior Advocates) Rules, 2026.

The High Court had invited applications for designation as Senior Advocates vide notice referred first above. The last date prescribed for submission of applications was 31.03.2026.

Subsequently, the High Court received a representation from the President, Kottayam Bar Association stating that the aforesaid notice was not effectively communicated to the Bar Associations in Kottayam District and that, consequently, eligible advocates practising in the district were deprived of an opportunity to submit applications for designation as Senior Advocates. In this regard a report was called for from the District Judge Kottayam.

Having regard to the grievance and upon considering the report of the District Judge Kottayam, the Hon'ble the Chief Justice, in exercise of the powers conferred under Rule 18 of the High Court of Kerala (Designation of Senior Advocates) Rules, 2026, has granted a further opportunity to eligible advocates practicing in the courts in Kottayam District to submit applications for designation as Senior Advocates as a curative measure.

Accordingly, eligible advocates practising in the courts in Kottayam District

may submit their applications for designation as Senior Advocates in the prescribed format attached as **Annexure-A**. General instructions for the guidance of the applicants are also attached herewith.

Applicants shall submit **one set** of the application in physical form. In addition, a soft copy of the application in **searchable PDF format** shall be forwarded by e-mail to ***cdsasecr.hc-ker@kerala.gov.in***. If additional hard copies are required, the High Court will intimate the applicants accordingly.

The duly filled applications, addressed to the Registrar General, High Court of Kerala, shall reach the High Court **on or before 05/08/2026, by 4.30 p.m.** Applications received after the prescribed date and time shall not be entertained.

(By Order)
Digitally signed by
GOPAKUMAR G
Date: 18-07-2026
17:45:36
Gopakumar G
REGISTRAR GENERAL

To:-	The Advocate General, Kerala The Secretary, Kerala High Court Advocates' Association, High Court. The Secretary, Bar Council of Kerala, Ernakulam The PS to the Honourable the Chief Justice, High Court. The PS to the Honourable Judges, High Court. The CA to Registrars, High Court.
Copy Communicated to	The Principal District Judge, Kottayam(He shall publish the same in the notice board and communicate a copy thereof to all the Bar Associations in Kottayam District.)
Copy submitted to:-	The Honourable the Chief Justice The Honourable Judges.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO BE FOLLOWED WHILE FILLING ANNEXURE-A
APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS SENIOR ADVOCATE

1.	Every Application for Designation as Senior Advocate (marked as Annexure-A) and the additional information in the prescribed formats, attached to Annexure- A, shall be made in English, printed with font size (Arial-14) in double spacing on both sides of white A4 Size paper, with an inner margin of about four centimeters width on top and on the left side.
2.	The Application should be presented in the shape of a Paper Book, duly tagged & indexed and not in spiral binding and the like.
3.	Passport size colour photograph (original) should be pasted on the Application. One additional recent passport size colour photograph (mentioning the name of the applicant on its back side) should be provided in a separate envelope.
4.	Information relating to 10 reported judgments, five synopses, pro bono/amicus curiae, articles/books/teaching assignments/guest lectures etc, may be provided in the prescribed formats attached to Annexure-A.
5.	All documents annexed to the Application should be numbered consecutively in the Index. (The Registry, at any stage, may ask for the supportive documents for verification in the light of the facts mentioned in the Application).
6.	(i) All photocopies of the accolades/testimonials should be legible and true copies of their respective originals. (ii) English translation of vernacular documents (if any) should be annexed thereto.
7.	Name of the applicant should tally with his/her name as mentioned in his/her enrolment certificate. Abbreviated name shall NOT be accepted.
8.	Copy of Income Tax Returns (Acknowledgement only) of the applicant for the last 10 years shall be enclosed with the Application.
9.	Every application shall accompany a declaration by the Advocate as envisaged under Rule 6(2) of the High Court of Kerala (Designation of Senior Advocates) Rules, 2026.
10.	The following order shall be maintained while placing the relevant documents in the paperbook: i. Index ii. Annexure-A application with prescribed formats attached iii. Copy of 10 judgements (refer Sl. No. 9 and 10 of Annexure-A) iv. Copy of 5 synopses (for applicants practising in High Court) v. Copy of Articles/Journals published/relevant documents related to teaching assignments/guest lectures taken up, if any vi. Copy of Income Tax Returns (Acknowledgement only) for last 10 years vii. Declaration as per Rule 6(2) of the High Court of Kerala (Designation of Senior Advocates) Rules, 2026. viii. Any other relevant documents

11.	One copy of books published, if any, shall be submitted along with the application.
12.	The soft copy of the Application and all enclosures, in searchable mode, along with the scanned photograph should be submitted through e-mail (<cdsasacr.hc-ker@kerala.gov.in>), in addition to the hard copy.

[ANNEXURE-A]

APPLICATION FOR DESIGNATION AS SENIOR ADVOCATE

		Recent Passport size colour photograph (original) to be pasted here					
1.	Name of the Applicant-Advocate: (Dr./Mr./Mrs./Ms.)						
2.	Date of Birth	DD-MM-YY					
3.	Age	_____ - Years					
4.	Address in full:	(i) Office -					
		(ii) Residence -					
5.	Contact Details	(i) Landline -					
		(ii) Cellphone -					
		(iii) Email -					
6.	Educational / Professional Qualifications:						
7.	(i) Date, Month and Year of Enrolment as an Advocate (ii) Enrolment Number (Copy of Enrolment Certificate to be attached) (iii) Number of years of practice.		_____ - Years				
8.	Number in the Roll of Advocates maintained by the State Bar Council						
9.	<u>For applicants practicing in the High Court</u> <i>Number of reported judgments in cases in which the applicant has appeared as-</i> (i) lead arguing counsel; and (ii) assisting counsel (only orders that lay down any principle of law) (Details to be furnished in Forms 1 & 2) NB: Copy of any of the 10 such Judgements must be submitted along with application		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>Lead arguing counsel (No.of judgments only)</td> <td>Assisting counsel (No.of judgments only)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Lead arguing counsel (No.of judgments only)	Assisting counsel (No.of judgments only)		
Lead arguing counsel (No.of judgments only)	Assisting counsel (No.of judgments only)						

10	<u>For applicants practicing in the Trial Courts/ Specialized Tribunals</u> Copies of 10 judgments must be submitted along with the application, of which 5 judgments must be originating from Appeal Suits or Sessions cases delivered by District and Sessions Court or Additional District and Sessions Court.			
11.	<u>For applicants practicing in the High Court</u> Any 5 Synopses drafted by the applicant (Details to be furnished in Form 3 - copies also to be submitted)			
12.	Pro bono / amicus curiae work (Details to be submitted in Form 4)			
13.	Whether the applicant is a first generation lawyer?			
14.	Articles/books published, experience of teaching assignments in the field of law, guest lectures delivered in law schools or professional institutions connected with law (Details to be furnished in Form 5)	Academic Articles/ books	Teaching assignments	Guest lectures delivered in law schools or professional institutions connected with law
15.	Whether the applicant is a member of the High Court Bar Association or any other Bar Association			
16.	Courts where the applicant is practising: (Court-wise period may be indicated)	Supreme Court of India/High Court(s)/ District/ Sessions Court(s)/ Tribunal(s) etc	From	To

17.	Tribunal(s) where the applicant has specialized practice (Applicable to those practising before Tribunals)		Tribunal(s)	Duration	
				From	To
18.	Nature of practice - e.g. Civil, Criminal, Constitutional, Taxation, Labour, Company, Service, etc.				
19.	Field of Law-domain expertise (such as, Constitutional law, Inter-State Water Disputes, Criminal law, Civil Law Arbitration law, Corporate law, Family law, Human Rights, Public Interest Litigation, International law, law relating to women) in which the applicant has specialization / expertise.				
20.	Whether the applicant had applied earlier to the High Court of Kerala for designation; if so, current status of application.				
21.	Whether the applicant has applied to Supreme Court / any other High Court; if so, current status of application				
22.	Whether any FIR has ever been filed against the applicant; if so, current status must be indicated.				
23.	Whether the applicant is a party to any civil, criminal or other litigation. If so, the nature of involvement.				
24.	(i)	Has the applicant at any point of time been:			
	(a)	arrested?			
	(b)	prosecuted?			
	(c)	kept under detention?			
	(d)	bound down?			
	(e)	finned by a court of law?			
	(f)	convicted by a court of law for any Offence?			
	(g)	rusticated by any authority/			

		institution/council ?	
	(h)	debarred from any examination or debarred / disqualified by any public commission/ authority?	
	(ii)	Is any case pending against the applicant in any court of law at the time of submitting this application?	
	(iii)	If the answer to any of the above-mentioned questions is 'Yes', give full particulars of the case / arrest / detention / fine / conviction / sentence / punishment etc. and / or the nature of the case pending in the Court / Authority or Institution etc., at the time of submitting this application	
25.	Whether any proceedings were initiated or are pending against the applicant before Bar Council of India, Bar Council of Kerala or any other State Bar Council? If so, particulars thereof.		
26.	Whether the applicant is an income tax assessee for the last 10 years.? If so, attach the relevant documents .		
27.	General state of health		
28.	Any other relevant information		
<u>DECLARATION</u> I _____ , Advocate hereby verify that the information furnished above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. Nothing material is concealed or suppressed therefrom. I understand that furnishing of false information or suppression of any factual information would render me unfit for being designated as Senior Advocate. Date:- [Signature of the Applicant]			

PRESCRIBED FORMATS

Form 1

LEAD ARGUING COUNSEL (For applicants practicing in the High Court)

List of Reported Judgments (only orders that lay down any principle of law)

Sl. No	Court(s)	Citation/ Case Number	Cause Title and subject matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant

Form 2

ASSISTING COUNSEL (For applicants practicing in the High Court)

List of Reported Judgments (only orders that lay down any principle of law)

Sl. No	Court(s)	Citation/ Case Number	Cause Title and subject matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant

Form 3

Details of 5 Synopses (For applicants practicing in the High Court)

Sl. No	Court(s)	Case Number	Cause Title	Details

Form 4

List of matters in which you have appeared as Pro-Bono/ Amicus Curiae_

Sl. No	Court(s)	Citation/ Case Number	Cause Title	Decided on	Reportable/ Unreportable

Form 5

Details of academic articles/books published, experience of teaching assignments in the field of law, guest lectures delivered in law schools or professional institutions connected with law

Sl.No.	Topic of published academic articles/ Books/ Lecture/ Courses	Experience details of teaching assignment and guest lectures delivered in law schools or professional institutions connected with law	Names of law schools or professional institutions connected with law	Any other relevant details