



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: 4740/2026

Date: 28.07.2026

To

The Hon'ble Chairman and
Ld. Secretaries
All State Bar Councils

Sub: Forwarding and publication of the order dated 24.07.2026 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (C) No. 751 of 2026, Harshita Grover v. Union of India and Others, along with the Bar Council of India Circular concerning social media conduct, digital ethics and unauthorised use of recordings of judicial proceeding

Sir/Ma'am,

The Bar Council of India is herewith forwarding the order dated 24.07.2026 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 751 of 2026, Harshita Grover v. Union of India and Others, along with the Bar Council of India Circular bearing BCI:D:4657/2026 dated 17.07.2026 and the forwarding and implementation directions bearing BCI/D/4659/2026 dated 17.07.2026.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court has, by way of an interim measure, directed that there shall be no extraction, dissemination, monetisation, posting, re-posting, uploading, transmitting, modification, storing or hosting of audio-video recordings of judicial proceedings on social media or any other digital platform without the prior permission of the Secretary General of the Supreme Court of India or the Registrar General of the jurisdictional High Court. The Hon'ble Court has also directed that its order be uploaded on the websites of the Supreme Court and all High Courts for public information.

It is pertinent to mention that the Circular issued by the Bar Council of India on 17.07.2026 had already addressed the same institutional concern. The Circular specifically clarified that live-streaming of judicial proceedings is intended to promote transparency and public legal education and cannot be treated as a licence to extract, clip, edit, sensationalise, monetise, mock, distort or circulate portions of judicial proceedings with disparaging captions, music, thumbnails, memes or commentary. The Circular also referred to the restriction against reproduction, transmission, uploading, posting, modification, publication or republication of live-streamed proceedings without the prior written authorisation of the concerned Court.

The subsequent order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court reinforces the concerns and directions already incorporated in the Bar Council of India Circular. It is, therefore, necessary that the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Circular of the Bar Council of India are published and circulated together, so that Advocates and other stakeholders are made aware of the complete legal and professional framework governing the use of recordings of judicial proceedings and conduct on social media and digital platforms.

Accordingly, every State Bar Council is directed to immediately upload and prominently display on the homepage of its official website the following documents:

- i. the order dated 24.07.2026 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in W.P. (C) No. 751 of 2026
- ii. the Bar Council of India Circular bearing BCI:D:4657/2026 dated 17.07.2026
- iii. the forwarding and implementation directions bearing BCI:D:4659/2026 dated 17.07.2026

The documents shall be placed together under a clearly visible heading concerning the prohibition against unauthorised use, extraction and circulation of recordings of judicial proceedings and the obligations relating to digital ethics and social media conduct. The documents shall remain prominently accessible and shall not merely be placed in an archive or an internal circular section where they may not ordinarily come to the notice of enrolled Advocates.

Every State Bar Council shall also immediately forward the aforesaid order and Circulars to every recognised Bar Association functioning within its jurisdiction, with a direction to upload and prominently display the same on its official website and notice board and to circulate them among all its members through its official communication channels.

The State Bar Councils are reminded that the forwarding and implementation directions dated 17.07.2026 already require the Circular to be individually circulated to every Advocate enrolled on the State roll and separately to every recognised Bar Association. The said directions further provide that mere general publication on the website of the State Bar Council shall not constitute complete compliance unless reasonable measures are also taken to bring the Circular to the notice of every enrolled Advocate and every Bar Association.

The same mode of comprehensive circulation shall now be followed in respect of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The State Bar Councils shall ensure that the order and the Bar Council of India Circular are circulated together so that neither document is read or implemented in isolation.

A compliance report containing the website link and confirmation of circulation to all enrolled Advocates and recognised Bar Associations should be forwarded to the Bar Council of India within three working days from the receipt of this communication.

This may be treated as urgent and requiring immediate compliance.



Srimanto Sen
Principal Secretary
Bar Council of India

Encl:

- 1. Order dated 24.07.2026 passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in W.P. (C) No.751/2026 'Harshita Grover v. Union of India & Ors.'**
- 2. Circular dated 17.07.2026 bearing no. BCI:D: 4657/2026**
- 3. Letter dated 17.07.2026 bearing no. BCI:D: 4659/2026**