



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 23RD DAY OF APRIL, 2024

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR JUSTICE SURAJ GOVINDARAJ

WRIT PETITION NO. 9698 OF 2024 (EDN-RES)

BETWEEN:

B.M.S. COLLEGE OF LAW,
BULL TEMPLE ROAD, BASAVANAGUDI,
BENGALURU - 560 019,
REPRESENTED BY ITS PRINCIPAL.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. BADRI VISHAL, ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA
21, ROUSE AVENUE INSTITUTIONAL AREA,
NEAR BAL BHAWAN, NEW DELHI - 110 002,
REPRESENTED BY CHAIRMAN.
2. KARNATAKA STATE LAW UNIVERSITY (KSLU),
NAVANAGAR, HUBBALLI - 580 025,
REPRESENTED BY THE REGISTRAR.

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. SHRIDHAR PRABHU, ADVOCATE FOR R1;
SRI. GIRISH KUMAR R, ADVOCATE FOR R2)

THIS WP IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO A) DIRECT THE RESPONDENTS TO UPDATE ITS APPROVED LIST OF CLES (LAW COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES) PUBLISHED ON ITS WEBSITE, TO REFLECT THE EXTENSION OF APPROVAL OF AFFILIATION / RECOGNITION GRANTED TO THE PETITIONER, INSTITUTION AND ETC.,

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING IN 'B' GROUP, THIS DAY, THE COURT MADE THE FOLLOWING:





ORDER

1. The petitioner is before this Court seeking for the following reliefs:
 - (a) *Issue a writ in the nature of Mandamus, or any other appropriate writ, order and direction and direct the respondents to update its "Approved List of CLE's (Law Colleges/Universities)" published on its website, to reflect the extension of approval of affiliation / recognition granted to the petitioner, institution.*
 - (b) *Issue a writ in the nature of Mandamus, or any other appropriate Writ, Order and Direction and direct the Respondents to consider the representation dated 13.02.2024 submitted by the petitioner, institution to the respondent No.1 to update its "Approved List of CLE's (Law Colleges/Universities)" published on its website, to reflect the exteniton of approval of affiliation / recognition granted to the petitioner, institution at Annexure-A.*
2. The petitioner claims to be an educational institution established in the year 1963 offering both thee year and five year degree courses in law. The petitioner, having been making payments of the necessary fee for the renewal of affiliation to respondent No.1/Bar Council of India, the said affiliation has been renewed from time to time.
3. Though the petitioner has made payment for an extension of affiliation for the year 2023-2024, on 15.12.2023 by virtue of which the affiliation would have to be extended



automatically for the academic year 2027-2028. In the list of Law Colleges / Universities (CLE's) having approval of affiliation of the Bar Council of India as on 15.05.2023 published on the website of the Bar Council, the affiliation, insofar as the petitioner is concerned, is shown to be in existence and operation until 2017-18, when infact the affiliation ought to have been shown to be extended and could be available till 2026-2027.

4. The submission is that when a college is searched by individuals on the Bar Council website, the affiliation is shown to be current and valid for the year 2024-2025 which is also not proper and correct inasmuch as the affiliation ought to have been reflected as 2027-2028. It is in that background that the petitioner had submitted a representation on 13.02.2024 for correction of the details, which has not been acted upon. The petitioner is before this Court seeking for the aforesaid reliefs.
5. The Bar Council of India being the authority which grants affiliation as regards all colleges of law degree, the petitioner would be put to disadvantage if the details of



the current affiliation are not reflected on the website of the Bar Council. Any student taking up admission in the law college may check the said details.

6. A perusal of the list as produced at Annexure-H indicates details of the affiliation university, college names and place, post names, strength approval up to the year of the establishment and remarks. In the present case, though the petitioner is stated to have made payment of the affiliation fees, the same is not reflected on the website. It would therefore be required for the Bar Council of India to add more columns in the said website to reflect the current status. In that view of the matter, the Bar Council of India is directed to add the following columns:

- i) the date on which an application for extension of affiliation is made,
- ii) the date on which the payment was made including the details thereof;
- iii) the initial affiliation letter issued by the Bar Counsel to the particular college with the PDF copy uploaded,



- iv) the approved intake of the college; and
- v) such other and further details as the Bar Council may deem fit taking into account the changed circumstances as on today.

7. In that view of the matter, I pass the following:

::ORDER::

- (a) The writ petition is allowed.
- (b) A mandamus is issued directing the Bar Council of India/respondent No.1 to consider the representation of the petitioner dated 13.02.2024 and make such changes as required in the approved list of CLE's (Law Colleges/Universities) published on the website within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

**Sd/-
JUDGE**

GJM
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 25
CT: BHK