

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. 45 /2026

ORDER DATED 25.02.2026

(Interim Order)

1. The present matter arises out of the representation (BCI:D:1263/2026) filed by the Bar Council of India, *inter alia*, challenging the order of the High-Powered Election Committee supervising the elections to the Bar Councils of Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.
2. The High-Powered Election Committee passed orders putting the affairs of the State Bar Councils of Rajasthan and Himachal

Pradesh under the supervision of special committees headed by the Advocate Generals.

3. We have heard Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra, learned Senior Advocate and Chairman, Bar Council of India. We have also perused the orders passed by the High-Powered Election Committee.
4. After hearing the arguments raised by Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra, we hereby stay the orders passed by the High-Powered Election Committee insofar as they place all the affairs of the State Bar Councils under the supervision of the above-said special committees headed by the respective Advocate Generals of the States.
5. We make it clear that though we have stayed the orders passed by the High-Powered Election Committee, but the powers granted to such Special Committees may be directly exercised by the High-Powered Election Committee itself as far as the matters related to elections are concerned. We will give a further hearing in this case on the next date.
6. We also make it clear that any member, including the Chairman of the State Bar Council, who is going to contest the upcoming elections, shall refrain from being involved in any decision-making process related to the elections. If any such member is found to be involved in any decision-making process related to the elections, he/she shall be disqualified from contesting the elections.
7. All the office bearers of the Bar Councils of Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan are hereby directed to work and act as per the directions of the High-Powered Election Committee in relation to the matters of elections.

8. The next date of hearing is fixed as 02.03.2026.



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

25.02.2026
New Delhi

Mr. V. Giri
Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India
Member, Supervisory Committee