Minutes of Meeting dated 19.02.2025, NEW DELHI BAR ASSOCIATION (NDBA), ELECTION COMMITTEE – 2024-25, (Constituted in compliance of the judgment passed by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in WP (C) No. 8l66/2010:titled P.K Dash, Advocate and Ors. versus-BAR Council of Delhi and Ors. dated-31.05.2016 & further modified vide orders dated 18.10.2016 and order dated 19.03.2024 in W.P. (C) 10363/2021 & CM Appls, 31884/2021, 17981/2022, 51769/2023 and 57075/2023, case titled as Lalit Sharma and Ors. Vs. Union of India and Ors.)

Minutes of Meeting dated 19.02.2025

Quorum:

- 1. Sh. Balwant Rai Bansal, Ld. District Judge 05/Chairperson.
- 2. Sh. Akshay Anand, Advocate-Member. (Through VC)
- 3. Sh. Neeraj Shrotriya, Advocate-Member.

Agenda:- Letter no. NDBA/2025/7396 dated 13.02.2025 of Sh. Jagdeep Vats, President and Sh. Devndra Dedha, Addl. Secretary, NDBA regarding Final Voter's List of NDBA Election -2025.

The Office has placed a letter no. NDBA/2025/7396 dated 13.02.2025 of Sh. Jagdeep Vats, President and Sh. Devndra Dedha, Addl. Secretary, NDBA, wherein, it has been stated as under:

"Reference is made to our letter no. NDBA/2025/7329 dated 06.02.2025 and your office letter no. 4376/Election Commtt./Genl./PHC/2025 dated 13.02.2025.

From the orders passed by Hon'ble High Court of Delhi at New Delhi in WP © no. 10363 titled Lalit Sharma & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Ors., it is clear that only voter's having proximity card can cast their vote. As such it becomes clear that the voter's list cannot exceed the list of Proximity Card applied by the members. The Hon'ble High Court in its wisdom has purposely got the Proximity Card applied to "OTP" verification of the voter on their mobile number to facilitate a fair election as such it has become necessary to rely on the details and photographs applied by the voter himself on the proximity portal which will leave no loop hole in conducting a fair election.

The members who are not enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi have been granted a temporary membership form New Delhi Bar Association for 6 months only unless they get their name transferred to the Bar Council of Delhi and got the permanent membership. However, the perusal of the voter's list which have been forwarded to this office contains 18 names who are

not be enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi and are not considered to be the eligible voter. Although, they have applied for the proximity cards. Therefore, the list of such voters who are not enrolled with Bar Council of Delhi have been segregated and attached herewith for your resurrections and their names are required to be excluded from the voter's list.

Hence, the voter's list forwarded by your good office is being returned herewith and it is requested to forward the rectified correct voter list so as the same can be forwarded to the Returning Officer for conducting fair and transparent election."

Earlier, to consider a letter no. NDBA/2025/7029 dated 06.02.2025 of Sh. Jagdeep Vats, President and Sh. O.N. Sharma, Hony. Secretary, NDBA, NDBA Election -2025, a Meeting of "NDBA Election Committee -2024-25" was held. The crux of meeting is as under:

"The Committee has obsevered that the Proximity Card is an Identity Proof of an Advocate/Voter for the NDBA Election in itself.

Now, the committee has resolved that the lists available with this office of advocate/members of forthcoming NDBA Election of 2253 Advocates/members of NDBA, those who have been issued their proximity cards can be provided in alphabatical manner and remaining list of 31 numbers of Proximity Cards will be provided as and when received from the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, New Delhi."

Vide letter no. 4376/Election Committ./Genl./PHC/2025 dated 13.02.2025, which was sent to Sh. Jagdeep Vats, President, New Delhi Bar Association, New Delhi, whereby, it was stated as under:

- "1. it is informed that total 2284 numbers of Proximity Cards have been approved by this office at level -II and total 2253 numbers of Proximity Cards have been received in this office till 10.02.2025. Further, 31 numbers of Proximity Cards are yet to be received.
- A List available with this office of advocates/members of forthcoming NDBA Election of 2253 numbers of those whose proximity cards have been received, is being forwarded herewith for your information and necessary action in alphabetical order.
- 3. Remaining list of 31 numbers of Proximity Cards will be provided as and when received from the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, New Delhi.
- 4. The Committee has obsevered that the Proximity Card is an Identity Proof of an Advocate/Voter for NDBA Election in itself."

Vide Minutes of Meeting dated 05.09.2024 of "NDBA Election Committee", chaired by Sh. Devender Kumar Jangala, the than Ld. ASJ-05/Chairperson, wherein, it has been clearly mentioned that all the Declaration Forms have been submitted by the New Delhi Bar Association after due verification of particulars of expected voters and all the Lists, which were issued by the Election Committee, were prepared on the basis of the Declaration Forms submitted by the NDBA.

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In this regard, several Notices dated 01.08.2024, 13.08.2024, 29.07.2024 and last Notice dated 05.09.2024 of Sh. Devender Kumar Jangala, the then Ld. ASJ-05/Chairperson of NDBA Election Committee was issued to Sh. Jagdeep Vats, President, NDBA and other concerned, as under:

No.	Perticulars	Date
1.	Last date for submission of declaration form in the O/o New Delhi Bar Association.	20th August, 2024 (till 05.00 P.M)
2.	Receipt of declaration form from NDBA due verification of particulars of expected voters.	24 th August, 2024
3.	Date for display of tentative list of eligible voters	5th September, 2024
4.	Tentative Voter's List Shall be displayed on Website of NDBA and Website of this office.	5 th September, 2024
5.	Last date for submission of objections	17th September, 2024
6.	Date for display/ uploading of final list of voters	21st September, 2024

A letter no. 24250/Election Committ./Genl./PHC/2024 dated 21.08.2024 of Sh. Devender Kumar Jangala, the then Ld. ASJ-05/Chairperson of NDBA Election Committee was also sent to Sh. Jagdeep Vats, President, NDBA, New Delhi, as under:

"With reference to Notice No. 23717-2723/EC/Genl./NDD/PHC/2024 dated 13.08.2024, whereby, a schedule for preparation of Voter's list was circulated and it was notified that "Receipt of declaration form from NDBA due verification of particulars of expected voters till 20th August, 2024".

You are, therefore, requested to submit the declaration forms duly scanned, paginated and proper entry in Excel Sheet to this office for further progress in this regard, at the earliest."

The Committee has already decided in its several Meetings held on 08.10.2024, 23.11.2024 and 29.01.2025, which are already uploaded on the Website of this court that the cut-off date of entertaining such applications was 28.09.2024 and thereafter any objection as to the issue of Final List of Voter's etc. will not be entertained.

Further, in order dated 17.01.2025 of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in W.P. © 10363/2021, titled as Lalit Sharma and Ors. Vs. Union of India and Ors. at Point (II), it has been ordered that the Elections shall now stand rescheduled to be held on 28.02.2025.

The Proximity Cards after approval at various levels on the basis of membership of the member and declarations submitted by the members of NDBA, duly verified by the NDBA have been issued to the eligible voters.

In view of above letters/communications/Notices & decisions issued time to time by the Committee, the Committee is unanimously of the view that any changes in the Final List of Voters containing names of 2640 out of which 2253 numbers of Proximity Cards have been issued to the eligible Advocates/Members of NDBA to cast the vote in forthcoming NDBA elections and removal of name of any advocate/members of New Delhi Bar Association (NDBA) will not be appropriate at this last stage of the election process as it can cause unnecessary hindrance in smooth process of forthcoming New Delhi Bar Elections -2024-25. Hence, request letter no. NDBA/2025/7396 dated 13.02.2025 of Sh. Jagdeep Vats, President and Sh. Devendra Dedha, Addl. Secretary, NDBA cannot be accepted.

Let the above Minutes be uploaded on the official website of this Court for necessary information.

Meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Afternal mouth Whokath (Akshay Anand)

Advocate, Member

(Neeraj Shrotriya) Advocate, Member.

(Balwant Rai Bansal)

DJ-05/Chairperson/NDBA Election Committee -2024

Patiala House Courts, New Delhi. -20/02/25

Principal District & Sessions Judge, (Of Pictating) New Delhi District, PHC, ND.