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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(C) 12532/2025

SUNDER PAL KHATRI

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Manish Ikkania, Mr. Arun Kumar, Mr. Rahul, Mr. Vinod Kumar, Mr. Uqbanaaz, Mr. Rohit Sinha and Mr. Shivaye Chaudhary, Advocates.

versus

BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI & ORS.

.....Respondents

Through: Mr. T. Singhdev, Mr. Tanishq Srivastava and Mr. Vedant Sood, Advocates for R-1.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN DATTA

ORDER

% **26.08.2025**

CM APPL.51125/2025 (Exemption)

1. Allowed, subject to all just exceptions.
2. The application stands disposed of.

W.P.(C) 12532/2025 and CM APPL.51126/2025 (Stay)

3. The present petition assails a notice dated 24.07.2025, whereby, the petitioner, a disabled Advocate, has been directed to vacate the Chamber allotted to him viz. Chamber bearing No. G-314 (Half Portion), at Karkardooma Courts, Delhi.
4. It is submitted that the petitioner qualified as an Advocate in the year 2021 from the Delhi University and was subsequently enrolled with the Bar Council of Delhi as an Advocate *vide* enrolment No.D-10575/2021.
5. The petitioner also got registered with the Shahdara Bar Association



in the year 2021 and has been practicing as an Advocate since.

6. The petitioner applied for the Chamber under 'Physically Handicapped Quota' (with Disability of 70%), pursuant to which, the aforesaid Chamber was allotted to the petitioner on 01.08.2023. The said chamber is being shared by the petitioner with another Advocate.

7. On 19.10.2024, a show cause notice was issued to the petitioner by the Office of the Principle District and Sessions Judge, Karkardooma Courts, Delhi, whereby, explanation was called from the petitioner on the basis of an allegation / apprehension that the petitioner was working in Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) as a 'Bus Conductor' from 04.11.2019 to 16.02.2024, and it was in this period that the petitioner got the chamber allotted for himself.

8. Consequently, the petitioner was required to show cause as to why the license in respect of the chamber should not be cancelled.

9. The said show cause notice was responded to by the petitioner *vide* communication dated 12.11.2024, wherein, while highlighting the disability of the petitioner, it was pointed out that it was only during the COVID-19 period in view of severe financial distress, that the petitioner performed some tasks on daily wage basis in DTC, without creating any employer-employee relationship, and that too during night shifts.

10. It is submitted that after submission of the aforesaid reply, no opportunity of hearing was provided to petitioner.

11. It is submitted that in the above backdrop, the petitioner was under the bona fide impression that the show cause notice stood withdrawn. However, on 24.07.2025, the impugned notice was issued to the petitioner stating as under:-



Subject : Notice to vacate Chamber No. G-314, Lawyers' Chamber Block, KKD

In compliance with the directions of the Chamber Allotment Committee, KKD, vide agenda No. 21 vide minutes of the meeting dated 12.06.2025, I have been directed to inform you that the license of Chamber No. G-314 (half portion) allotted to you, vide letter No. 8251/Genl. Br.(E)/CAC/Chmbr-Alt(PH)/2023 dated 20.09.2023, is cancelled, as to gain undue benefits in allotment of Chamber under PH Quota, by concealing the factum of continuous employment (w.e.f. 04.11.2019 to 16.02.2024) with Delhi Transport Corporation as stated in the report dated 15.05.2024 received from Delhi Transport Corporation, BBM, Depot, Delhi which attracts the violation of Rule 3 of District Courts Karkardooma Lawyers' Chamber (Allotment & Occupancy) Rules.

Further, you are informed that your application dated 09.07.2025 regarding not cancelling the Chamber license on sympathetic grounds, was considered and declined by the competent authority as the decision had already been taken by the Chamber Allotment Committee vide minutes of the meeting mentioned above.

You are, therefore, directed to vacate Chamber No. G-314 within 15 days; hand over the peaceful possession of the same to this office; and clear all outstanding dues towards license fee and electricity charges, if any, failing which, further necessary action shall be initiated as per rules.

12. It is submitted that although the notice refers to a report dated 15.05.2025, received from Delhi Transport Corporation, BBM, Depot, Delhi, a copy thereof has not been supplied to the petitioner. It is further submitted that the said notice has been issued without adjudicating the aforesaid show cause notice, to which the petitioner had submitted a detailed reply.

13. In the circumstances, it is contended that the impugned order suffers from gross denial of principles of natural justice.

14. Issue notice.

15. Learned counsel, as aforesaid, accepts notice on behalf of the respondent no.1.

16. Issue notice to the remaining respondents, on necessary steps being taken by the petitioner, through all permissible modes, including electronically.

17. Let reply be filed by the respondents, within a period of four weeks from today. Rejoinder thereto, if any, be filed within a period of two weeks



thereafter.

18. List on 17.12.2025.

19. In the meantime, in view of the aforesaid circumstances, the impugned notice dated 24.07.2025, shall remain stayed till the next date of hearing.

SACHIN DATTA, J

AUGUST 26, 2025/r