



WEB COPY

BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: **16.04.2026**

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE **MR.JUSTICE N.SATHISH KUMAR**

AND

THE HONOURABLE **MR.JUSTICE M.JOTHIRAMAN**

W.P.(MD)No.10780 of 2026

and

W.M.P.(MD)Nos.8437 and 8438 of 2026

G.K.Chitradevi

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry,
Rep by its Secretary,
Madras High Court Campus,
Chennai 600 104.

2.Ms.Kalaiyarasi Bharathy

3.The General Secretary,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court Bar Association (MMBA),
Campus of Madras High Court Madurai Bench, Madurai.

4.P.Jessi Jeeva Priya

5.Chamundi Bose

6.K.R.Shiva Shankari

...Respondents

PRAYER:- Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus calling for the records relating to the insertion and participation of Respondents 4 to 6 in the



WEB COPY

final list of contesting candidates dated 10.04.2026 for the Madurai Bench Bar Association (MMBA) election, quash the same as illegal, and consequently direct the Respondents 1 and 2 to disqualify Respondents 4 to 6 from contesting and exercising their voting rights in the MMBA Election, for violation of the One Bar One Vote principle.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.V.Babu
for Mr.C.Kishore
For Respondents : Mr.Niranjan S.Kumar (R1)
Mr.N.Dilip Kumar (R2)
Mr.M.Saravanakumar (R3)

ORDER

(Order of the Court was made by **N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.**)

Mr.Niranjan S.Kumar, learned counsel accepts notice for the first respondent, Mr.N.Dilipkumar, learned counsel, accepts notice for the second respondent and Mr.M.Saravanakumar, learned counsel, accepts notice for the third respondent.

2.The grievance of the writ petitioner is that the respondents 4 to 6 are not eligible voters. Initially, the respondents 4 to 6 have exercised their voting rights in Women Advocate Association, Madurai Bench. Subsequently, they sought migration of their wrong voting membership to MMBA within the same electoral cycle. It is totally contrary to the principle of 'One Bar, One Vote, One Post and One time'.



WEB COPY

3.The learned counsel for the writ petitioner also brought to the notice of this Court that there are two notifications issued by the General Secretary and Joint Secretary. The first notification signed by the Secretary indicates that publication of final list of candidates will be made on 16.04.2026 at 05.30. pm., and the election is scheduled on 22.04.2026. Whereas, the other notification shows as if annual general meeting is scheduled on 15.04.2026 and election is scheduled on 16.04.2026. Though much emphasis has been made before this Court that the second notification is forged one, the fact remains that which of the notification is forged are the matters to be decided.

4.The fact that the respondents 4 to 6 were the members of Women Lawyer Association and they exercised their voting right which is not in dispute.

5.Mr.Dilipkumar, learned counsel submits that as per by-law they sought permission from the Bar Council of Tamil Nadu to cast their vote. He further submits that election has already been commenced and 70 members polled their votes.



WEB COPY

6. In such view of the matter, as 70 persons have already polled their votes, we are not inclined to stall the election at present. However, considering the nature of the allegations raised before this Court, there shall be an interim order restraining the Election Officer from declaring the results of the respondents 4 to 6 till the next date of hearing.

7. At this juncture, the learned counsel appearing on either side submit that withholding the results would adversely impact the affairs of the Association. Taking note of the same, and pending further consideration, this Court appoints Mr. Veera Kathiravan, learned Additional Advocate General, Mr. Ajmal Khan, learned Senior Counsel, and Mr. Balasundaram, learned Senior Counsel, as an *ad hoc* Committee to function in tandem with the newly elected members of the Bar.

8. An apprehension has also been expressed with regard to the counting process. We hold that in such event, if any dispute arises, the same shall be brought to the notice of the *ad hoc* Committee, and the counting shall be conducted in their presence.



WEB COPY

9.List on 09.06.2026 for filing counter.

[N.S.K., J.] & [M.J.R., J.]
16.04.2026

ta

To

1.The Bar Council of Tamil Nadu and Puducherry,
Rep by its Secretary,
Madras High Court Campus,
Chennai 600 104.

2.Ms.Kalaiyarasi Bharathy

3.The General Secretary,
Madurai Bench of Madras High Court Bar Association (MMBA),
Campus of Madras High Court Madurai Bench, Madurai.



WEB COPY



**N.SATHISH KUMAR, J.
AND
M.JOTHIRAMAN, J.**

ta

W.P.(MD)No.10780 of 2026

16.04.2026