

INVITING COMMENTS ON THE DRAFT OF THE ADVOCATES
(AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

In its continuous effort to strengthen the legal framework in India, the Government of India is proposing to amend the Advocates Act, 1961. The original Act was introduced in 1961 to regulate the legal profession, safeguard client interests, and elevate the professional standards of advocates. It established the Bar Council of India and State Bar Councils to oversee the conduct and discipline of lawyers across the country.

2. As part of its ongoing commitment to reform, the Government has been introducing changes aimed at making the legal profession fair, transparent, and accessible to all. The Department of Legal Affairs is proposing to amend the Advocates Act, 1961 to address contemporary challenges and meet the needs of a growing nation.

3. These amendments aim to align the legal profession and legal education with global best practices. The reforms will focus on improving legal education, equipping lawyers to meet the demands of a rapidly changing world, and raising professional standards. The ultimate goal is to ensure that the legal profession contributes to the creation of a just and equitable society, and developed nation.

4. In view thereof, the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2025 and a tabular statement depicting existing provision and proposed amendment have been prepared.

5. The Department invites comments/feedback from the public as a part of the public consultation exercise on the draft amendments. Comments on the draft Bill may be sent by email on **dhruvakumar.1973@gov.in** and **impcell-dla@nic.in** latest by 28.02.2025.

	The Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2025	
	A BILL	
	To ensure the effective regulation of the legal profession and to amend the provisions of the Advocates Act, 1961, with the aim of modernizing the administration of legal education and the legal profession in India. These amendments seek to address the evolving needs of the legal landscape, promote ethical practices, and enhance the transparency and accountability of the legal community. By streamlining procedures and introducing necessary reforms, the amendments will better equip legal professionals to meet contemporary challenges.	
	Be it enacted in the Seventy-sixth year of the Republic of India as follows: -	
Short title and commencement	1. (1) The Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2025. (2) It shall be deemed to have come into force on the date of publication in the Official Gazette	
Insertion and substitution in Section 2	2. In section 2 of the principal Act, in clause (1) (a) After sub-clause (a), following sub-clause (aa) shall be inserted, namely: (aa) Advisory Board means a Board of Advisors constituted by Bar Council of India for the Development of Legal Education, Legal Research and Legal Profession (b) After sub-clause (b), following sub-clause (bb) shall be inserted, namely: (bb) 'Bar Association' means the association of Advocates registered with the State Bar Councils or Bar Council of India as the case may be, and includes such association at the level of Supreme Court, High Courts and district courts and below, tribunals and	

	quasi-judicial forums. (c) After sub-clause (e), following sub-clause (ee) shall be inserted, namely: (ee) “Bar Examination” means any examination or test including the All-India Bar Examination, prescribed by Bar Council of India for enrolment of a law graduate as an Advocate or for his continuance in 'practice of law' as an Advocate after his enrolment under the provisions of this Act. (d) After sub-clause (e), following sub-clause (ff) shall be inserted, namely: (ff) Center of Legal Education means Institution recognized by Bar Council of India imparting education exclusively in the field of law. (e) for clause (h), the following clause shall be substituted, namely: (h) “Law Graduate means a person who has obtained a bachelor’s degree in law of three or five years or such other duration as prescribed, from any Center of Legal Education or University established by Law or a college affiliated to any university and recognized by Bar Council of India. (f) for clause (i), the following clause shall be substituted, namely: Section 2(i) - "Legal Practitioner" means any Advocate or law graduate engaged in the practice of law before courts, tribunals or quasi-judicial forums or doing legal work in any private or public organization including but not limited to statutory and autonomous bodies, domestic and foreign law firms and corporate entities. Provided that for the removal of doubt, an experience	
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	certificate as legal practitioner issued by the respective State Bar Councils and Bar Associations, Courts/Tribunals/Quasi-judicial forums or issued by any private or public organization including but not limited to domestic and foreign law firms and corporate entities, shall be <i>prima facie</i> a proof of such legal practice. The Bar Council/s shall be at liberty to verify the authenticity of the same in either case upon receipt of any complaint regarding the same. (g) After sub-clause (i), following sub-clause (ia) shall be inserted, namely: (ia) "Misconduct" means an act or omission by an advocate which constitutes breach of or non-observation of the standards of conduct expected from an Advocate, prescribed by any regulation made by the Bar Council of India. (g) After sub-clause (n), following sub-clause (o) shall be inserted, namely: (o) "Verification Certificate" means and includes periodic verification of certificates, place of practice and other details or credentials of the Advocates to be issued by the State Bar Councils as per Regulations prescribed by BCI.	
Insertion and substitution in Section 3	3. In section 3 of the principal Act, in clause (1) (a) for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely: “for each of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura, to be known as the Bar Council of that State;”	

	(b) for sub-clause (a) of Sub-section 2, following sub-clause shall be substituted, namely: “in case of State Bar Council of Delhi, the Additional Solicitor General of India of Delhi High Court, <i>ex-officio</i>; in case of the State Bar Council of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland, the Advocate-General each of the State of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland, <i>ex-officio</i>; in case of State of Punjab and Haryana, the Advocate General of each State of Punjab and Haryana <i>ex-officio</i> and in case of any other State Bar Council the Advocate General of the said State, <i>ex-officio</i>;” (c) Sub section 3A of Section 3 shall be omitted. (d) for sub-section 4, the following sub section shall be substituted, namely: “An Advocate shall be disqualified from voting at an election under sub-section (2) or for being chosen as and for continuing as a member of the State Bar Council or Bar Council of India, unless he possesses such qualifications or satisfies such conditions as may be prescribed in this behalf by Bar Council of India (and subject to any regulations or guidelines that may be made or prescribed by Bar Council of India in that behalf.” (e) for sub-section 5, the following sub section shall be substituted, namely “An electoral roll of eligible Advocates shall be prepared and revised from time to time by each State Bar Council as per regulations prescribed by Bar Council of India.”.	
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	(a) every election of the State Bar Council or Member of Bar Council of India shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the regulations made by Bar Council of India; and (b) nothing in clause (b) of sub- section (2) shall affect the representation of elected members in any State Bar Council as constituted immediately before the commencement of this Act, until that State Bar Council is reconstituted in accordance with the provision of this Act. Provided that no Advocate/Legal Practitioner shall be entitled to be a member of any State Bar Council or Bar Council of India who is a convict or is facing trial in an offence of having minimum punishment prescribed is three years , with or without fine under any law for the time being in force or against whom a disciplinary proceeding is pending for a case of misconduct in any State Bar Council or in Bar Council of India or who has been punished for such misconduct. Provided further that the Bar Council of India may permit any such Advocate/Legal Practitioner, to contest the election of State Bar Council or Bar Council of India, if it finds that the Advocate <i>prima-facie</i> appears to have been falsely implicated and/or no substantive case of “misconduct” is made out against such advocate.” (f) for sub-section 6, the following sub section shall be substituted, namely- “Nothing in clause (b) of sub-section (2) shall affect the representation of elected members in any State Bar Council as constituted immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 2025 until that State Bar	
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		Council is reconstituted in accordance with the provisions of this Act.”	
Insertion in Section 4.		4. (a) After clause (c) of sub-section 1, the following clause (d) shall be inserted, namely “Not more than three members to be nominated by the Central Government.” (b) After sub-section 1A, the following sub-section shall be inserted, namely “(1B)To have two women members co-opted by the Council from amongst the eminent women advocates in addition to elected members. “ (c) Sub section 2A of Section 4 shall be omitted.	
Insertion and substitution in Section 6.		6. In section 6 of the principal Act, in clause (1)- (A) for clause (a), the following clause shall be substituted, namely “to admit persons as advocates on its roll, who are entitled to be enrolled as per the provisions of this Act and regulations made thereunder;” (B) for clause (dd), the following clause shall be substituted, namely “to promote and ensure effective and transparent functioning of the Bar Associations under its jurisdiction as provided under clause (bb) of sub-section (1) of section 2, and to prescribe requisite norms for the purpose of this sub-section and to provide effective welfare schemes for the members of such Bar Associations, subject to the regulations if any prescribed by Bar Council of India in this regard”.	

	(C) for clause (gg), the following clause shall be substituted, namely (gg) to inspect the Centres of Legal Education or Universities in accordance with the directions given under clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 7. (D) For clause C of sub section 2 shall be omitted. (E) for sub-section 3 the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely (3) A State Bar Council may for the Fund or Trust established under sub-section (2) of this section or otherwise seek financial assistance from the National Legal Services Authority of India or the State Legal Services Authority or any other Government Authority or Non-- Government Organization for carrying out the purpose of this Act and may receive any grants, donations, gifts or benefactions for all or any of the purposes specified in sub-section (2) which shall be credited.- to the appropriate fund or funds constituted under that sub-section.	
Insertion and substitution in Section 7.	7. In section 2 of the principal Act, in clause (1)- (A) For clause (b) the following clause shall be substituted, namely “to lay down standards of professional conduct and etiquette for advocates and to prescribe regulations as it may deem necessary. “ (B) After clause (d) the following clause shall be	

	inserted, namely “(da) To verify the genuineness and authenticity of the educational certificates and degrees of advocates enrolled with various State Bar Councils, ensuring that no person with forged, fake, or unrecognized degrees is enrolled and practicing as an advocate/legal practitioner. (db) To prescribe, implement, and oversee a framework for the periodic verification and updating of the addresses, places of practice, and other credentials of advocates enrolled with the State Bar Councils in accordance with the Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Regulations, 2015.” (C) For clause (h) the following clause shall be substituted, namely (h) to promote legal education and to lay down standards of such education in consultation with the Universities. (D) After clause (h) the following clause shall be substituted, namely- “(ha) to provide for an entrance Examination/test for admission in undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses of the centers of legal education across the country. (hb) to prescribe or conduct such exams including Bar examinations, pre or post enrolment to make a person entitled to practice law, as may be deemed necessary for maintaining standards of legal profession in India;” (E) For clause (i) the following clause shall be substituted, namely	
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	“to recognize Centres of Legal Education or Universities whose degree in law shall be a qualification for enrolment as an Advocate and/or shall be a qualification for teaching law at any level; and for that purpose, to visit and inspect such Centres of Legal Education or Universities or cause the State Bar Councils to visit and inspect Centres of Legal Education/Universities in accordance with such directions as it may give in this behalf”. (F) For clause (Ib) and (ic)the following clause shall be substituted, namely “(ib) to organize legal aid for the indigent and such other persons as may be eligible as per Regulations prescribed in this behalf,” “(ic) to recognize on a reciprocal basis foreign qualification in law obtained outside India and for laying down the conditions for equivalence of the same with qualifications in Law obtained in India and for further laying down the conditions and restrictions, if any, for the purpose of admission and practice as an advocate or legal practitioner under this Act;” (G) After clause (k) the following clause shall be inserted, namely “(l) to provide for recognition and regulation of law firms, (m) to make regulations for identifying the non-practicing advocates and barring their voting rights in the elections to the State Bar Councils and the Bar Associations. (n) to provide for legal assistance to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, women, differently abled persons, victims of social unrest, natural	
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	calamities, victim of diseases impacting the social acceptability, and needy persons and for spreading legal literacy, legal awareness amongst the people. (o) to frame schemes achieving the objectives mentioned in clause (o) and to generate funds for the same by way of securing aid from the Government or non-- government organization. (p) to provide for pre or post enrolment training and apprenticeship to law graduate who has obtained an under-graduate law degree from a recognized institution for a period not exceeding one year. (q) to provide for continuing legal education for advocates. (r) to constitute an Advisory Board for development of Legal Education, Legal Research and Legal Profession and work in the field of Legal Education, to aid and advise the Bar Council of India. (s) to promote and to develop mechanisms to enhance the skill of Advocates and Law Teachers. (t) to lay down uniform regulations for elections of State Bar Councils and to constitute Election Tribunals for deciding the disputes in relation there to.” (H) For clause (l) & (m) the following clause shall be substituted with clause (u) & (v), namely “(u) to perform all other functions conferred on it by or under this Act; (v) to do all other things necessary for discharging the aforesaid functions” (I) For Sub section 2 the following sub section shall be substituted, namely “Bar Council of India may constitute one or more funds and create or establish any Trust under Indian Trusts Act, 1882 or a Society registered under the	
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	Societies Registration Act, 1860 for the purpose of: (a) giving financial assistance to deserving advocates or law students, organizing seminars, providing training to young Advocates or to provide for welfare scheme for indigents, disabled or other advocates either directly or through the Trust; (b) providing for legal aid or advice in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf; and (c) establishing law libraries, (d) establishing the Centres of legal education” (J) For Sub section 3 the following sub section shall be substituted, namely (3) Any Trust constituted under this provision may have as Managing Trustees or Trustees, elected members of Bar Council of India, Advocates, academicians or any other eminent persons as may be nominated by Bar Council of India and/or the Trust. (K) After Sub-Section 3 the following sub section shall be inserted, namely “(4) Any Trust already constituted by Bar Council of India shall continue to function as it is, if it fulfils the conditions laid down under sub-section (2) and (3) of section 7. (5) Bar Council of India may for the purpose of Fund or Trust or Society established under sub-section (2) or otherwise seek financial assistance from the National Legal Services Authority of India or State Legal Services Authority or any other Government Authority or Non- Government Organization for carrying out the purpose of this Act or for the objects of the Trust or the Society and receive any grants, donations, gifts or benefactions for all or any of the purposes specified in sub-	
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		section (2) which shall be credited to the appropriate fund or funds constituted under that sub-section.”	
Insertion Section 8.	in	8. (A) After Sub-section 1 the following clause shall be inserted, namely: - “Provided that where a State Bar Council fails to provide for the election of its members before the expiry of the said term, Bar Council of India may, by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the said term for a period not exceeding six months at a time. Provided further that Bar Council of India may extend the tenure of the State Bar Council for further period of six months or for any other period from the date on which it would otherwise have ceased, but in no case exceeding total period of eighteen months if the State Bar Council is unable to hold elections or discharge its functions during its tenure due to circumstances beyond its control.”	
Insertion Section 8A	and substitution in	9. (A) For Sub-section 1 the following sub section shall be substituted, namely: - “Constitution of Special Committee in the absence of election. - (1) Where a State Bar Council fails to provide for the election of its members before the expiry of the term of five years or the extended term, as the case may be, referred to in section 8, Bar Council of India shall, on and from the date immediately following the day of such expiry, constitute a Special Committee to manage the affairs of the State Bar Council, consisting of” (B) For Sub-section 3 the following sub section shall be substituted, namely: “The Special Committee constituted under sub-section (1) shall, in accordance with such directions as Bar Council of India may give to it in this behalf, hold elections to the State Bar Council	

		within a period of six months from the date of its constitution under sub-section (1), and where, for any reason, the Special Committee is not in a position to conduct election within the said period , the Bar Council of India may, for reasons to be recorded by it in writing, extend the tenure of the Special Committee for any duration for the purpose of conducting elections or for effectively carrying out the purpose of this Act”. (C) After Sub-section 3 the following sub section shall be inserted, namely: “(4) In case the Special Committee fails to manage the affairs of the State Bar Councils effectively or fails to hold the election within the stipulated period, BCI may take appropriate action for the purpose of holding the elections or managing the affairs of the Council effectively.”	
Substitution	in	10. (A) For Sub-section 1 the following sub section shall be substituted, namely: - (1) A Bar Council shall constitute one or more Disciplinary Committees, each of which shall consist of three persons of whom two shall be the persons elected by the Council from amongst its members and the other shall be a person co-opted by the Council from amongst the advocates who possess the qualifications specified in proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3 and who are not members of the Council but are members of the Bar Association registered with the State Bar Council, as the case may be, and the senior most advocate amongst the members of a disciplinary Committee shall be the Chairman thereof. (B) For sub section 2 shall be omitted.	
Insertion	in	11. After sub section 2 the following sub section shall be inserted, namely: -	
Section 9A			

	“(3) The Bar Council may seek funds from authorities under the National Legal Services Authority or State Legal Services Authority or any other Government or Non-Government Authority for carrying out the purpose of this Section.”	
Insertion of Section 9B	12. After section 9 of the principal Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely: — “9B. Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee of Bar Council of India: - (1) Bar Council of India shall constitute a Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee consisting of the following members, namely: - (i) one former Judge of Supreme Court or Chief Justice of any High Court or their nominee as its chairman; (ii) two retired Judges of different High Courts as its members; (iii) one senior Advocate; (iv) one member of Bar Council of India; (2) The Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee shall inquire into any allegation or complaint of corrupt practices or misconduct against any office bearer or member of Bar Council of India in discharge of his duties as a member of the Council, which is referred to it by the Council. (3) The inquiry report of the Committee shall be placed before the General Body meeting of the Council and the Council after considering the report may- (i) accept the findings of the report and seek appropriate remedy under law; or (ii) accept the report and may refer the matter to initiate a disciplinary proceeding against the office-bearer or as the case may be a member, or (iii) return the report with reasons to be recorded in writing to the Special Public Grievance Redressal	

	Committee for having review of the finality of the inquiry report. However, if the Committee returns the report in same form or in any modified form, the General Body of the Council may accept its recommendation. (4) The committee constituted under this section shall meet at such place and such time, and shall observe such procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings as it may decide unless provided for by the regulations. (5) The members of the committee may be paid such allowances for meeting the personal expenditure in attending the meeting and for attending to any other work of the committee. “	
Insertion and substitution in Section 10	13. For Clause (b) of sub section 2 the following clause shall be substituted, namely: - “a Legal Education Committee consisting of twenty-five members, of whom nine shall be persons nominated by the Council from amongst its members and sixteen shall be persons nominated by the Council who are not members thereof; out of sixteen nominated members of Legal Education Committee- (i) one shall be a former Chief Justice of India or a former Judge of Supreme Court, who will be the Chairman of the Committee, (ii) two shall be sitting or former Chief Justices of High Courts, (iii) one shall be the Attorney General for India (iv) one shall be the Solicitor General of India, (v) two shall be Senior Advocates or Advocates of repute who are members of a registered Bar Association, (vi) one shall be the Chairman of University Grant Commission or his nominee, (vii) one shall be the Secretary (Department of Legal Affairs) Ministry of Law and Justice or his nominee	

	not below the rank of Joint Secretary, (viii) three shall be Vice-Chancellors of reputed Universities, and (ix) four shall be other Professors or Deans of Institutions of Excellence in the field of Law and Social Sciences.” (B) For Sub section 3 the following sub section shall be inserted, namely: - “A State Bar Council and the Bar Council of India may by issuing Regulations/Guidelines constitute such other Committees/Sub Committees as deem necessary for the purpose of carrying out of the provisions of this Act”.	
Insertion and substitution in Section 10A	14. (A) For sub section 3 the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely: - “The committees other than disciplinary committees constituted by the Bar Councils shall meet at the headquarters of the respective Bar Councils or at such other place in India as it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing determine.” (B) After sub section 5 the following sub section shall be inserted, namely: - “(6) The meetings of Bar Councils or its Committees may be held in any form as decided by the respective Bar Councils.”	
Substitution of Section 11	15. For Section 11 of the Act. The following section shall be substituted, namely: - “11. Staff of Bar Council. – (1) Every State Bar Council and Bar Council of India shall appoint Secretary(s) and may appoint Additional Secretary(s), Joint Secretary(s), Assistant Secretary(s) Accounts	

	Officer (s) and such number of other persons on its staff as it may deem necessary. Provided that the Bar Council of India may also designate a secretary as Principal Secretary, if needed. (2) The officers and other staff as appointed so appointed shall not be from elected members of the Council, and shall possess such designation and qualification as may be prescribed. “	
Substitution in Section 12	16. For sub section 3 the following sub-section shall be substituted, namely: “The accounts of a Bar Council shall be audited by auditors duly qualified to act as auditors of companies under the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), at such times and in such manner as may be prescribed.”	
Insertion and substitution in Section 15	17. For Section 15 of the Act, the following Section shall be substituted, namely: - “15. Power to make regulations. —(1) A Bar Council may make regulations to carry out the purposes of this Chapter. (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for— (a) the election of members of the Bar Council by secret ballot including the conditions subject to which persons can exercise the right to vote by postal ballot, the preparation and revision of electoral rolls and the manner in which the results of election shall be published (b) The format for a complaint for disciplinary proceedings and to prescribe the fee to be deposited by the complainant for such proceedings (c) the manner of election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council;	

	(d) the manner in which and the authority by which doubts and disputes as to the validity of an election to the Bar Council [or to the office of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman] shall be finally decided; 5* * * * * (f) the filling of casual vacancies in the Bar Council; (g) the powers and duties of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council (ga) the constitution of one or more funds by a Bar Council for the purpose of giving financial assistance or giving legal aid or advice referred to in sub-section (2) of section 6 and sub-section (2) of section 7; (gb) organisation of legal aid and advice to the poor, constitution and functions of committees and sub-committees for that purpose and description of proceedings in connection with which legal aid or advice may be given;] (h) the summoning and holding of meetings of the Bar Council, 2*** the conduct of business thereat, and the number of members necessary to constitute a quorum; (i) the constitution and functions of any committee of the Bar Council and the term of office of members of any such committee; (j) the summoning and holding of meetings, the conduct of business of any such committee, and the number of members necessary to constitute a quorum;	
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	(k) the qualifications and the conditions of service of the secretary, the accountant and other employees of the Bar Council; (l) the maintenance of books of accounts and other books by the Bar Council; (m) the appointment of auditors and the audit of the accounts of the Bar Council; (n) the management and investment of the funds of the Bar Council. (3) No regulations made under this section by a State Bar Council shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Bar Council of India”	
Substitution in Section 18	18. For Section 18 of the Act, the following section shall be substituted, namely: - “18. Transfer of name from one State roll to another. —(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 17, any person whose name is entered as an advocate on the roll of any State Bar Council may make an application in the prescribed form to the Bar Council of India for the transfer of his name from the roll of that State Bar Council to the roll of any other State Bar Council and, on receipt of any such application the Bar Council of India shall direct that the name of such person shall, upon payment of such transfer fee as may be prescribed by the regulations, be removed from the roll of the first mentioned State Bar Council and entered in the roll of the other State Bar Council and the State Bar Councils concerned shall comply with such direction:”	

Insertion of Section 19A	19. After Section 19 of the Act, the following section shall be inserted, namely: _ “19A. Verification by State Bar Councils. - (1) The State Bar Councils shall be required to undertake a process of verification of the place of practice and the validity /genuineness of the educational certificates produced by an Advocate at the time of his/her enrolment. The verification of educational Certificate will be done from the concerned Board or University. (2) The Verification of all advocates enrolled with a State Bar Council shall be undertaken by the State Bar Council every five years in order to verify whether such advocate is continuing in the profession and whether there has been any change in their ' place of practice'. (3) After such five-yearly verification, the updated roll shall be sent to Bar Council of India: Provided that in addition to the regular five yearly verification, the State Bar Council shall carry out verification under this section, before 90 days of each State Bar Council election. (4) The State Bar Councils shall adhere to the Bar Council of India Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Regulations, 2015, and cooperate with the Bar Council of India in verifying the genuineness of certificates, degrees, and other credentials of advocates enrolled with them, as well as in periodically updating the details of their addresses and places of practice.”	
Insertion in Section 22	20. After Sub-section 2, the following Sub section shall be inserted, namely: -	

	“(3) State Bar Councils shall maintain and manage records of all advocates registered under their jurisdiction in electronic format, ensuring that such data is stored securely and is readily accessible for verification and compliance purposes.”	
Insertion and substitution in Section 24	21. (A) For Sub-section 1, the following Sub-section shall be substituted, namely: - “24. Persons who may be admitted as advocates on a state roll. —(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, and the regulations made thereunder, a person shall be qualified to be admitted as an advocate on a State roll, if he fulfils the following conditions, namely: —” (B) For clause (e), the following clause shall be substituted, namely: - “he fulfils such other conditions as may be specified in the regulations made by the State Bar Council as approved by the Bar Council of India “ (C) For clause (f), the following clause shall be substituted, namely: - “he has paid, in respect of the enrolment, stamp duty, if any, chargeable under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (2 of 1899), and an enrolment fee payable to the State Bar Council and to the Bar Council of India as notified by the Central Government from time to time.” (D) After clause (f), the following clause shall be inserted, namely”- “(g) he has paid the professional development fee chargeable under the Regulations of Bar Council of India and the State Bar Council. Provided that professional development fee should not be more than 30 % of total fee charged at the time of enrolment; (h) he clears the All-India Bar Examination or any other test prescribed by Bar Council of India and fulfils such	

		other conditions as may be specified in the regulations made by Bar Council of India under its Regulations;” (E) For clause (b) of sub section 2, the following clause shall be substituted, namely: - “Fulfil the conditions specified in clauses (a), (b), (e) (f) and (g) of sub-section (1).” (F) For sub sub clause (ii) of Clause (d) OF Sub Section 3, the following clause shall be substituted, namely- “Fulfil the conditions specified in clauses (a), (b), (e) (f) and (g) of sub-section (1).”	
Insertion in Section 24A		22. After sub section 2 of the Act, the following sub section shall be inserted, namely: - “(3) The State Bar Council may not enroll a person if such person is convicted of offence punishable with imprisonment of three years or more, with or without fine. Provided that the Enrolment Committee of State Bar Council shall be required to seek approval of Bar Council of India before enrolment of persons convicted of any offence or who have been dismissed or removed from employment or office under the State on any charge involving moral turpitude.”	
Insertion of Section 24B		23. After Section 24A, the following section shall be inserted, namely: - “24B.- Removal of the name from State Roll. - The name of an advocate shall be removed from the State roll, if he is convicted of an offence and sentenced for a period of three years or above, with or without fine, and the conviction has been confirmed by the High Court or the Supreme Court:	

	Provided that in case period of sentence is less than five years, the advocate may after two years have elapsed since his release make an application to the State Bar Council for re- enrolment and the State Bar Council shall consider such application in consultation with Bar Council of India in accordance with section 26 and the regulation made in this regard.”	
Substitution of Section 26A	24. For section 26A of the Act, the following Section shall be substituted, namely: - “26A- Power to remove names from rolls-A State Bar Council may on receipt of information or request, remove from the State roll, the name of any advocate, - (a) who is dead; or (b) from whom a request has been received to that-effect; or (c) who is found guilty of serious misconduct or causing obstruction in court's functioning; or (d) who has incurred any disqualification under section 24A Provided that for the person mentioned in Clause (c) and (d), the State Bar council shall not take any action without conducting an inquiry.”	
Substitution in Section 28	25. For section 28 of the act, the following shall be substituted, namely: - 28. Power to make regulations. —(1) A State Bar Council may make regulations to carry out the purposes of this Chapter. (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for— (a) the time within which and form in which an advocate shall express his intention for the entry of his	

	name in the roll of a State Bar Council under section 20; (c) the form in which an application shall be made to the Bar Council for admission as an advocate on its roll and the manner in which such application shall be disposed of by the enrolment committee of the Bar Council; (e) the instalments in which the enrolment fee may be paid. (3) No regulations made under this Chapter shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Bar Council of India.”	
Substitution in Section 30	26. For the Section 30 of the act, the following section shall be substituted, namely: - “30. Right of advocates to practice. — Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder by Central Government or regulations made by the Bar Council of India, every Advocate whose name is entered in the state roll shall be entitled to practice throughout the territories to which this Act extends., — (i) in all courts including the Supreme Court; (ii) before any tribunal or person legally authorised to take evidence; and (iii) before any other authority or person before whom such advocate is by or under any law for the time being in force entitled to practice.”	
Insertion of Section 33A	27. After Section 33 of the act, the following section shall be inserted, namely: - “Section 33A: Registration of an Advocate with a Bar Association. - (1) An advocate enrolled with State Bar Council engaged in or intends to practice before a court, tribunal or Quasi-Judicial forum or any authority shall get himself registered as a member of the Bar Association where he ordinarily practices or intends	

		to practice law. (2) In case any advocate leaves one Bar Association and joins another by reason of change of place of practice or by reason of change of field of law, he shall intimate such change to the Bar Association of which he is a member within a period of thirty days. (3) No advocate shall exercise the right to vote in more than one Bar Association.”	
Omission in Section 34		28. Sub section 1A & 2 of the Section shall be omitted.	
Insertion and substitution in Section 35		29. (A) For sub-section 1 the following section shall be substituted namely: - “Where on receipt of a complaint or otherwise a State Bar Council has reason to believe that any advocate on its roll has been guilty of professional or other misconduct, it shall refer the case for disposal to its disciplinary committee within a period of one month from the date of receipt of Complaint.” (B) After clause (d) of sub section 3, the following clauses shall be inserted namely: - “(e) impose such fine as it may deem fit, proportionate to the gravity of the misconduct proved against the advocate, subject to the maximum limit of Rs. 3 lacs and cost of the proceeding; (f) impose special and exemplary costs subject to the maximum of Rs Fifty thousand on the complainant in case, the complaint is found to be vexatious or frivolous in case he is found to have been un-cooperative in the disciplinary proceedings under the Act.”	
Insertion of Section 35A		30. After Section 35 of the Act, the following Section shall be added, namely: - “35A- Prohibition on the boycotts or abstention from courts’ work. -	

	(1) No association of advocates or any member of the association or any advocate, either individually or collectively, shall give a call for boycott or abstinence from courts' work or boycott or abstain from courts' work or cause obstruction in any from in court's functioning or in court premises. (2) Violation of clause (1) shall be treated as misconduct and shall be liable for disciplinary action as contemplated under the Act and Regulations Provided that advocates may participate in a strike only when it does not impede the administration of justice such as strikes intended to bring attention to legitimate concerns about professional conduct, working conditions, or administrative matters and may include symbolic or one- day token strikes, as long as they are conducted in a way that does not disrupt court proceedings or violate clients' rights."	
Insertion and substitution in Section 36	31. (A) For sub section 1., the following sub section shall be substituted: - "Where on receipt of a complaint or otherwise Bar Council of India has reason to believe that any Advocate has been guilty of professional or other misconduct it shall refer the case for disposal either to its Disciplinary Committee of the Bar Council of India or to the Disciplinary Committee of the concerned State Bar Council. Provided that in a prima – facie case of serious complaints, Bar Council of India may immediately put any Advocate under suspension which may be reviewed from time to time." (B) After Sub section 4 the following section shall be inserted, namely: - "(5) A state Bar Council or Bar Council of India, if it thinks it necessary, appoint an Advocate with a minimum of fifteen years of practice or a former Judicial Officer as Inquiry Officer to record the evidence and forward the same to the concerned	

	Disciplinary Committee for the expeditious and final disposal of the matter.”	
Substitution in Section 36B	32. For Section 36B of the Act, the following Section shall be substituted, namely: - “36B. Disposal of disciplinary proceedings. —(1) The disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council shall dispose of the complaint received by it under section 35 expeditiously and in each case the proceedings shall be concluded within a period of Two years from the date of the receipt of the complaint or the date of initiation of the proceedings at the instance of the State Bar Council, as the case may be, failing which such proceedings shall stand transferred to the Bar Council of India which may dispose of the same as if it were a proceeding withdrawn for inquiry under sub-section (2) of section 36. Provided that the Bar Council of India shall make endeavors to conclude the said proceedings transferred to it within a period of One Year from the date of receipt of the records. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where on the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 2025 any proceedings in respect of any disciplinary matter against an advocate is pending before the disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council, that disciplinary committee of the State Bar Council shall dispose of the same within a period of one year from the date of such commencement or within a period of one year from the date of the receipt of the complaint or, as the case may be, the date of initiation of the proceedings at the instance of the State Bar Council, whichever is later, failing which such proceedings shall stand transferred to the Bar Council of India for disposal under sub-section (1). (3) If it is evident from the record that the State Bar Council or its Disciplinary Committee has failed to conduct effective hearings, exhibited negligence, or	

	shown lack of diligence in hearing and disposing of complaints within the stipulated period of two years as prescribed under sub-section (1), such failure may be treated as misconduct on the part of the General Council of the State Bar Council or its Disciplinary Committee, as the case may be.”	
Insertion and substitution in Section 42	33. (A) After clause (a) of sub section (1), the following clause shall be inserted, namely: - “(aa) Summoning the complainant or any other person concerned as may be prescribed in the regulations made by Bar Council of India.” (B) For sub section 2, the following section shall be substituted, namely: - “All proceedings before a disciplinary committee of a Bar Council shall be deemed to be the judicial proceedings within the meaning of sections 229 and 267 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and every such disciplinary committee shall be deemed to be a Civil Court for the purposes of sections 384, 385 and 388 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (46 of 2023).”	
substitution of Section 45	34. For Section 45 of the ACT, the following section shall be substituted, namely: - “45. Penalty for persons illegally practicing in courts and before other authorities. —Any person who practices in any court or before any authority or person, in or before whom he is not entitled to practice under the provisions of this Act, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and/or with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees.”	
Insertion of Section 45B	35. After Section 45, the following section shall be inserted, namely: - “45B- Liability for Misconduct in certain cases- If any person suffers loss either caused deliberately or by misconduct of the advocate, then, such person	

	may make a complaint of misconduct against the advocate under appropriate regulations as may be prescribed by Bar Council of India for deciding the liability of the advocate.”	
substitution in Section 48B	36. For sub section 2, the following sub section shall be substituted, namely: - “Where a State Bar Council is unable to perform its functions for any reason whatsoever, the Bar Council of India may, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, constitute a Committee replacing the State Bar Council and give such directions to such Committee, headed by Former Judge of a High Court and consisting of four senior Advocates having minimum twenty years of practice and registered with Bar Association, as may appear to it necessary, and such directions shall have effect, notwithstanding anything contained in the regulations made by the State Bar Council.”	
Substitution in Section 49	37. For Section 49 of the Act, the following Section shall be substituted, namely: - “49. General power of the Bar Council of India to make regulations. — 1[(1)] The Bar Council of India may make regulations for discharging its functions under this Act, and, in particular, such regulations may prescribe— (a) the conditions subject to which an advocate may be entitled to vote at an election to the State Bar Council including the qualifications or disqualifications of voters, and the manner in which an electoral roll of voters may be prepared and revised by a State Bar Council; (ab) qualifications for membership of a Bar Council and the disqualifications for such membership;	

	(ac) the time within which and the manner in which effect may be given to the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3; (ad) the manner in which the name of any advocate may be prevented from being entered in more than one State roll; (ae) the manner in which the seniority among advocates may be determined; (af) the minimum qualifications required for admission to a course of degree in law in any recognised University;] (ag) the class or category of persons entitled to be enrolled as advocates; (ah) the conditions subject to which an advocate shall have the right to practise and the circumstances under which a person shall be deemed to practise as an advocate in a court;] (ai)- for the verification of educational certificates, degrees, and credentials of advocates enrolled with State Bar Councils, and to ensure compliance with the Bar Council of India Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Regulations, 2015. (b) the form in which an application shall be made for the transfer of the name of an advocate from one State roll to another; (c) the standards of professional conduct and etiquette to be observed by advocates; (d) the standards of legal education to be observed by Universities in India and the inspection of universities for that purpose; (e) the foreign qualifications in law obtained by persons other than citizens of India and for laying down the conditions for equivalence of the same with qualifications in Law obtained in India, which may include prescribing a bridge course for equivalence of the Indian pattern and for further laying down the conditions and restrictions, if any, for the purpose of	
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	enrolment and practice as an advocate or legal practitioner under this Act. (f) the procedure to be followed by the disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council and by its own disciplinary committee; (g) the restrictions in the matter of practice to which senior advocates shall be subject; (gg) the form of dresses or robes to be worn by advocates, having regard to the climatic conditions, appearing before any court or tribunal;] (h) the fees which may be levied in respect of any matter under this Act; (i) general principles for guidance of State Bar Councils and the manner in which directions issued or orders made by the Bar Council of India may be enforced; (ia) to recognize and regulate the law firms including such firms operating in more than one State; (ib) to register and regulate Bar Associations; (ic) for rendering of legal services and spreading legal literacy; (id) to prepare and carry out welfare schemes for advocates in practice. (j) any other matter which may be prescribed: Provided that no regulations made with reference to clause (c) or clause (gg) shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Chief Justice of India: Provided further that no regulations made with reference to clause (e) shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Central Government. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the first proviso to sub-section (1), any regulations made with reference to clause (c) or clause (gg) of the said sub-section and in force immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act,	
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		1973 (60 of 1973), shall continue in force until altered or repealed or amended in accordance with the provisions of this Act.]”	
Insertion in Section 49A		38. After clause (c) of Sub section 1, the following clause shall be inserted, namely: - “(cc) rules governing the entry of foreign law firms or foreign lawyers in India.”	
Insertion of Section 49B		39. After Section 49, the following section shall be inserted, namely: - “49B- Power of Central Government to give directions. - The Central Government may give such directions to Bar Council of India as may appear to the Central Government to be necessary for carrying into execution any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule or order made thereunder”	
Chapter VII- Temporary and Transitional Provisions		40. For Section 55, 56, 57, 58, 58A, 58AA, 58AB, 58AC, 58AD, 58AE, 58AF, 58AG, 58B, in Chapter VII of the Principal Act shall be omitted.	

TABULAR STATEMENT ON AMENDMENTS TO THE ADVOCATES ACT, 1961

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
Section 2: Definitions	New Definitions added to Section 2(1).	(aa) Advisory Board means a Board of Advisors constituted by Bar Council of India for the Development of Legal Education, Legal Research and Legal Profession (bb) 'Bar Association' means the association of Advocates registered with the State Bar Councils or Bar Council of India as the case may be, and includes such association at the level of Supreme Court, High Courts and district courts and below, tribunals and quasi-judicial forums. (ee) “Bar Examination” means any examination or test including the All-India Bar Examination, prescribed by Bar Council of India for enrolment of a law graduate as an Advocate or for his continuance in 'practice of law' as an Advocate after his enrolment under the provisions of this Act. (ff) Center of Legal Education means Institution recognized by Bar Council of India imparting education exclusively in the field of law.
Section 2: Definitions	Section 2 (1) (h) “Law Graduate means a person who has obtained a bachelor’s degree in law from any university established by Law in India.	Section 2 (1) (h) “Law Graduate means a person who has obtained a bachelor’s degree in law of three or five years or such other duration as prescribed, from any Center of Legal Education or University established by Law or a college affiliated to any university and recognized by Bar Council of India.

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
Section 2: Definitions	Section 2(l) (i) "legal practitioner" means an advocate [or vakil] of any High Court, a pleader, mukhtar or revenue agent.	Section 2(i) - "Legal Practitioner" means any Advocate or law graduate engaged in the practice of law before courts, tribunals or quasi-judicial forums or doing legal work in any private or public organization including but not limited to statutory and autonomous bodies, domestic and foreign law firms and corporate entities. Provided that for the removal of doubt, an experience certificate as legal practitioner issued by the respective State Bar Councils and Bar Associations, Courts/Tribunals/Quasi-judicial forums or issued by any private or public organization including but not limited to domestic and foreign law firms and corporate entities, shall be <i>prima facie</i> a proof of such legal practice. The Bar Council/s shall be at liberty to verify the authenticity of the same in either case upon receipt of any complaint regarding the same. (ia) "Misconduct" means an act or omission by an advocate which constitutes breach of or non-observation of the standards of conduct expected from an Advocate, prescribed by any regulation made by the Bar Council of India. (o) "Verification Certificate" means and includes periodic verification of certificates, place of practice and other details or credentials of the Advocates to be issued by the State Bar Councils as per Regulations prescribed by BCI.

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
Section 3- State Bar Council	3. State Bar Councils. —(1) There shall be a Bar Council— (a) for each of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, 8[Jammu and Kashmir,] 9[Jharkhand], 10[Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh], 11***, 12***, 13[Karnataka], Orissa, 14[Rajasthan, Telangana 15[Uttar Pradesh],16[Uttaranchal, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura]], to be known as the Bar Council of that State; (b) for the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram and Nagaland to be known as the Bar Council of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram and Nagaland;] (c) for the State of Kerala and the Union territory of [Lakshadweep] to be known as the Bar Council of Kerala; (cc) for the [State of Tamil Nadu] and the Union territory of Pondicherry to be known as the Bar Council of Madras;]	(1) There shall be a Bar Council— (a) for each of the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh, Karnataka, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura, to be known as the Bar Council of that State; (b) for the States of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram and Nagaland to be known as the Bar Council of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Mizoram and Nagaland;] (c) for the State of Kerala and the Union territory of [Lakshadweep] to be known as the Bar Council of Kerala; (cc) for the [State of Tamil Nadu] and the Union territory of Puducherry to be known as the Bar Council of Madras;] (ccc) for the States of Maharashtra and Goa and the Union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, to be known as the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa;] (d) for the States of Punjab and Haryana and the Union territory of Chandigarh, to be known as the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana; (dd) for the State of Himachal Pradesh, to be known as the Bar Council of Himachal Pradesh;]

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	(ccc) for the States of Maharashtra and Goa and the Union territories of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, to be known as the Bar Council of Maharashtra and Goa;] (d) for the States of Punjab and Haryana and the Union territory of Chandigarh, to be known as the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana; (dd) for the State of Himachal Pradesh, to be known as the Bar Council of Himachal Pradesh;] (e) for the State of West Bengal and the [Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands], to be known as the Bar Council of West Bengal; and (f) for the Union territory of Delhi, to be known as the Bar Council of Delhi. (2) A State Bar Council shall consist of the following members:	(e) for the State of West Bengal and the [Union territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands], to be known as the Bar Council of West Bengal; and (f) for the Union territory of Delhi, to be known as the Bar Council of Delhi. (g) for the Union territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Union territory of Ladakh, to be known as the Bar Council of Jammu and Kashmir; and Ladakh. (2) A State Bar Council shall consist of the following members: (a) in case of State Bar Council of Delhi, the Additional Solicitor General of India of Delhi High Court, <i>ex-officio</i>; in case of the State Bar Council of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland, the Advocate-General each of the State of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland, <i>ex-officio</i>; in case of State of Punjab and Haryana, the Advocate General of each State of Punjab and Haryana <i>ex-officio</i> and in case of any other State Bar Council the Advocate General of the said State, <i>ex-officio</i>; (b) in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate not exceeding five thousand, fifteen members, in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate exceeding five thousand but not exceeding ten thousand, twenty members, and in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	(a) in the case of the State Bar Council of Delhi, the Additional Solicitor - General of India, ex officio; [in the case of the State Bar Councils of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh Mizoram and Nagaland, the Advocate-General of each of the States of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland] ex officio; in the case of the State Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana, the Advocate-General of each of the States of Punjab and Haryana, ex officio;] and in the case of any other State Bar Council, the Advocate-General of the State, ex officio; (b) in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate not exceeding five thousand, fifteen members, in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate exceeding five thousand but not exceeding ten thousand, twenty members, and in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate exceeding ten thousand, twenty-five members, elected	exceeding ten thousand, twenty-five members, elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote from amongst advocates on the electoral roll of the State Bar Council:] Provided that as nearly as possible one-half of such elected members shall, subject to any regulations that may be made in this behalf by the Bar Council of India, be persons who have for at least ten years been advocates on a State roll, and in computing the said period of ten years in relation to any such person, there shall be included any period during which the person has been an advocate enrolled under the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926 (38 of 1926).] (3) There shall be a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of each State Bar Council elected by the Council in such manner as may be prescribed. (3)A- Omitted (4) An Advocate shall be disqualified from voting at an election under sub-section (2) or for being chosen as and for continuing as a member of the State Bar Council or Bar Council of India, unless he possesses such qualifications or satisfies such conditions as may be prescribed in this behalf by Bar Council of India (and subject to any regulations or guidelines that may be made or prescribed by Bar Council of India in that behalf.)

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote from amongst advocates on the electoral roll of the State Bar Council:] Provided that as nearly as possible one-half of such elected members shall, subject to any rules that may be made in this behalf by the Bar Council of India, be persons who have for at least ten years been advocates on a State roll, and in computing the said period of ten years in relation to any such person, there shall be included any period during which the person has been an advocate enrolled under the Indian Bar Councils Act, 1926 (38 of 1926).] (3) There shall be a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of each State Bar Council elected by the Council in such manner as may be prescribed. (3A) Every person holding office as Chairman or as Vice-Chairman of any	(5) An electoral roll of eligible Advocates shall be prepared and revised from time to time by each State Bar Council as per regulations prescribed by Bar Council of India.". (a) every election of the State Bar Council or Member of Bar Council of India shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the regulations made by Bar Council of India; and (b) nothing in clause (b) of sub- section (2) shall affect the representation of elected members in any State Bar Council as constituted immediately before the commencement of this Act, until that State Bar Council is reconstituted in accordance with the provision of this Act. Provided that no Advocate/Legal Practitioner shall be entitled to be a member of any State Bar Council or Bar Council of India who is a convict or is facing trial in an offence of having minimum punishment prescribed is three years , with or without fine under any law for the time being in force or against whom a disciplinary proceeding is pending for a case of misconduct in any State Bar Council or in Bar Council of India or who has been punished for such misconduct. Provided further that the Bar Council of India may permit any such Advocate/Legal Practitioner, to contest the election of State Bar Council or Bar Council of India, if it finds that the Advocate <i>prima-facie</i> appears to have been falsely implicated and/or no substantive case of “misconduct” is made out against such advocate.

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	State Bar Council immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1977 (38 of 1977), shall, on such commencement, cease to hold office as Chairman or Vice-Chairman, as the case may be: Provided that every such person shall continue to carry on the duties of his office until the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, as the case may be, of each State Bar Council, elected after the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1977 (38 of 1977), assumes charges of the office.] (4) An advocate shall be disqualified from voting at an election under sub-section (2) or for being chosen as, and for being, a member of a State Bar Council, unless he possesses such qualifications or satisfies such conditions as may be prescribed in this behalf by the Bar Council of India, and subject to any such rules that may be made, an electoral roll shall be prepared	(6) Nothing in clause (b) of sub-section (2) shall affect the representation of elected members in any State Bar Council as constituted immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 2025 until that State Bar Council is reconstituted in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	and revised from time to time by each State Bar Council. (5) Nothing in the proviso to sub-section (2) shall affect the term of office of any member elected before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1964 (21 of 1964), but every election after such commencement shall be held in accordance with the provisions of the s made by the Bar Council of India to give effect to the said proviso.] (6) Nothing in clause (b) of sub-section (2) shall affect the representation of elected members in any State Bar Council as constituted immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1973 (60 of 1973), until that State Bar Council is reconstituted in accordance with the provisions of this Act.	

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
Section 4: Bar Council of India	4. Bar Council of India. —(1) There shall be a Bar Council for the territories to which this Act extends to be known as the Bar Council of India which shall consist of the following members, namely: — (a) the Attorney-General of India, ex officio; (b) the Solicitor-General of India, ex officio; 3* * * * * (c) one member elected by each State Bar Council from amongst its members. (1A) No person shall be eligible for being elected as a member of the Bar Council of India unless he possesses the qualifications specified in the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3. (2) There shall be a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council of India elected by the Council in such manner as may be prescribed.	4. Bar Council of India. —(1) There shall be a Bar Council for the territories to which this Act extends to be known as the Bar Council of India which shall consist of the following members, namely: — (a) the Attorney-General of India, ex officio; (b) the Solicitor-General of India, ex officio; 3* * * * * (c) one member elected by each State Bar Council from amongst its members. (d) not more than three members to be nominated by the Central Government. (1A) No person shall be eligible for being elected as a member of the Bar Council of India unless he possesses the qualifications specified in the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3. (1B) To have two women members co-opted by the Council from amongst the eminent women advocates in addition to elected members. (2) There shall be a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council of India elected by the Council in such manner as may be prescribed. (2)A- Omitted

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	(2A) A person holding office as Chairman or as Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council of India immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1977 (38 of 1977), shall, on such commencement, cease to hold office as Chairman or Vice-Chairman, as the case may be: Provided that such person shall continue to carry on the duties of his office until the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman, as the case may be, of the Council, elected after the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1977 (38 of 1977), assumes charge of the office. (3) The term of office of a member of the Bar Council of India elected by the State Bar Council shall, — (i) in the case of a member of a State Bar Council who holds office ex officio, be two years from the date of his election 2[or till he ceases to be a member of the	(3) The term of office of a member of the Bar Council of India elected by the State Bar Council shall, — (i) in the case of a member of a State Bar Council who holds office ex officio, be two years from the date of his election [or till he ceases to be a member of the State Bar Council, whichever is earlier]; and (ii) in any other case, be for the period for which he holds office as a member of the State Bar Council: Provided that every such member shall continue to hold office as a member of the Bar Council of India until his successor is elected.

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	State Bar Council, whichever is earlier]; and (ii) in any other case, be for the period for which he holds office as a member of the State Bar Council: Provided that every such member shall continue to hold office as a member of the Bar Council of India until his successor is elected.	
Section 6: Functions of State Bar Council.	(1) The functions of a State Bar Council shall be— (a) to admit persons as advocates on its roll (b) to prepare and maintain such roll; (c) to entertain and determine cases of misconduct against advocates on its roll; (d) to safeguard the rights, privileges and interests of advocates on its roll; (dd) to promote the growth of Bar Associations for the purposes of	(1) The functions of a State Bar Council shall be— (a) to admit persons as advocates on its roll, who are entitled to be enrolled as per the provisions of this Act and regulations made thereunder;" (b) to prepare and maintain such roll including in electronic mode; (c) to entertain and determine cases of misconduct against advocates on its roll; (d) to safeguard the rights, privileges and interests of advocates on its roll; (dd) to promote and ensure effective and transparent functioning of the Bar Associations under its jurisdiction as provided under clause (bb) of sub-section (1) of section 2, and to prescribe requisite norms for the

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	effective implementation of the welfare schemes referred to in clause (a) of sub-section (2) of this section and clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 7. e) to promote and support law reform; (ee) to conduct seminars and organise talks on legal topics by eminent jurists and publish journals and papers of legal interest; (eee) to organise legal aid to the poor in the prescribed manner;] (f) to manage and invest the funds of the Bar Council; (g) to provide for the election of its members; (gg) to visit and inspect Universities in accordance with the directions given under clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 7	purpose of this sub-section and to provide effective welfare schemes for the members of such Bar Associations, subject to the regulations if any prescribed by Bar Council of India in this regard. e) to promote and support law reform; (ee) to conduct seminars and organise talks on legal topics by eminent jurists and publish journals and papers of legal interest; (eee) to organise legal aid to the poor in the prescribed manner;] (f) to manage and invest the funds of the Bar Council; (g) to provide for the election of its members; (gg) to inspect the Centres of Legal Education or Universities in accordance with the directions given under clause (i) of sub-section (1) of section 7. (h) to perform all other functions conferred on it by or under this Act; (i) to do all other things necessary for discharging the aforesaid functions. (2) A State Bar Council may constitute one or more funds in the prescribed manner for the purpose of—

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	(h) to perform all other functions conferred on it by or under this Act; (i) to do all other things necessary for discharging the aforesaid functions. (2) A State Bar Council may constitute one or more funds in the prescribed manner for the purpose of— (a) giving financial assistance to organise welfare schemes for the indigent, disabled or other advocates; (b) giving legal aid or advice in accordance with the rules made in this behalf; (c) establishing law libraries. (3) A State Bar Council may receive any grants, donations, gifts or benefactions for all or any of the purposes specified in sub-section (2) which shall be	(a) giving financial assistance to organise welfare schemes for the indigent, disabled or other advocates; (b) giving legal aid or advice in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf; (c)- Omitted (3) A State Bar Council may for the Fund or Trust established under sub-section (2) of this section or otherwise seek financial assistance from the National Legal Services Authority of India or the State Legal Services Authority or any other Government Authority or Non-Government Organization for carrying out the purpose of this Act and may receive any grants, donations, gifts or benefactions for all or any of the purposes specified in sub-section (2) which shall be credited.- to the appropriate fund or funds constituted under that sub-section.

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	credited to the appropriate fund or funds constituted under that sub-section.	
Section 7: Function of the State Bar Council.	(1) Function of Bar Council of India- (b) to lay down standards of professional conduct and etiquette for advocates. (c) to lay down the procedure to be followed by its disciplinary committee and the disciplinary committee of each State Bar Council; (d) to safeguard the rights, privileges and interests of advocates; (e) to promote and support law reform; (f) to deal with and dispose of any matter arising under this Act, which may be referred to it by a State Bar Council; (g) to exercise general supervision and control over State Bar Councils;	(1) Function of Bar Council of India- (b) to lay down standards of professional conduct and etiquette for advocates and to prescribe regulations as it may deem necessary. (c) to lay down the procedure to be followed by its disciplinary committee and the disciplinary committee of each State Bar Council; (d) to safeguard the rights, privileges and interests of advocates; (da) To verify the genuineness and authenticity of the educational certificates and degrees of advocates enrolled with various State Bar Councils, ensuring that no person with forged, fake, or unrecognized degrees is enrolled and practicing as an advocate/legal practitioner. (db) To prescribe, implement, and oversee a framework for the periodic verification and updating of the addresses, places of practice, and other credentials of advocates enrolled with the State Bar Councils in accordance with the Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Regulations, 2015. (e) to promote and support law reform;

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	(h) to promote legal education and to lay down standards of such education in consultation with the Universities in India imparting such education and the State Bar Councils; (i) to recognise Universities whose degree in law shall be a qualification for enrolment as an advocate and for that purpose to visit and inspect Universities 3[or cause the State Bar Councils to visit and inspect Universities in accordance with such directions as it may give in this behalf]; (ia) to conduct seminars and organise talks on legal topics by eminent jurists and publish journals and papers of legal interest; (ib) to organise legal aid to the poor in the prescribed manner; (ic) to recognise on a reciprocal basis foreign qualification in law obtained	(f) to deal with and dispose of any matter arising under this Act, which may be referred to it by a State Bar Council; (g) to exercise general supervision and control over State Bar Councils; (h) to promote legal education and to lay down standards of such education in consultation with the Universities. (h)(a) to provide for an entrance Examination/test for admission in undergraduate and postgraduate degree courses of the centers of legal education across the country. (hb) to prescribe or conduct such exams including Bar examinations, pre or post enrolment to make a person entitled to practice law, as may be deemed necessary for maintaining standards of legal profession in India; (i) to recognize Centres of Legal Education or Universities whose degree in law shall be a qualification for enrolment as an Advocate and/or shall be a qualification for teaching law at any level; and for that purpose, to visit and inspect such Centres of Legal Education or Universities or cause the State Bar Councils to visit and inspect Centres of Legal Education/Universities in accordance with such directions as it may give in this behalf.

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	outside India for the purpose of admission as an advocate under this Act; (j) to manage and invest the funds of the Bar Council; (k) to provide for the election of its members; (l) to perform all other functions conferred on it by or under this Act; (m) to do all other things necessary for discharging the aforesaid functions. (2) The Bar Council of India may constitute one or more funds in the prescribed manner for the purpose of— (a) giving financial assistance to organise welfare schemes for indigent, disabled or other advocates; (b) giving legal aid or advice in accordance with the rules made in this behalf.	(ia) to conduct seminars and organise talks on legal topics by eminent jurists and publish journals and papers of legal interest; (ib) to organize legal aid for the indigent and such other persons as may be eligible as per Regulations prescribed in this behalf,” (ic) to recognize on a reciprocal basis foreign qualification in law obtained outside India and for laying down the conditions for equivalence of the same with qualifications in Law obtained in India and for further laying down the conditions and restrictions, if any, for the purpose of admission and practice as an advocate or legal practitioner under this Act; (j) to manage and invest the funds of the Bar Council; (k) to provide for the election of its members; (l) to provide for recognition and regulation of law firms, (m) to make regulations for identifying the non- practicing advocates and barring their voting rights in the elections to the State Bar Councils and the Bar Associations. (n) to provide for legal assistance to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes,

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	(c) establishing law libraries. (3) The Bar Council of India may receive any grants, donations, gifts or benefactions for all or any of the purposes specified in sub-section (2) which shall be credited to the appropriate fund or funds constituted under that sub-section.	women, differently abled persons, victims of social unrest, natural calamities, victim of diseases impacting the social acceptability, and needy persons and for spreading legal literacy, legal awareness amongst the people. (o) to frame schemes achieving the objectives mentioned in clause (o) and to generate funds for the same by way of securing aid from the Government or non-- government organization. (p) to provide for pre or post enrolment training and apprenticeship to law graduate who has obtained an under-graduate law degree from a recognized institution for a period not exceeding one year. (q) to provide for continuing legal education for advocates. (r) to constitute an Advisory Board for development of Legal Education, Legal Research and Legal Profession and work in the field of Legal Education, to aid and advise the Bar Council of India. (s) to promote and to develop mechanisms to enhance the skill of Advocates and Law Teachers. (t) to lay down uniform regulations for elections of State Bar Councils and to constitute Election Tribunals for deciding the disputes in relation

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		there to. (u) to perform all other functions conferred on it by or under this Act; (v) to do all other things necessary for discharging the aforesaid functions. (2) Bar Council of India may constitute one or more funds and create or establish any Trust under Indian Trusts Act, 1882 or a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 for the purpose of: (a) giving financial assistance to deserving advocates or law students, organizing seminars, providing training to young Advocates or to provide for welfare scheme for indigents, disabled or other advocates either directly or through the Trust; (b) providing for legal aid or advice in accordance with the regulations made in this behalf; and (c) establishing law libraries, (d) establishing the Centres of legal education (3) Any Trust constituted under this provision may have as Managing

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		Trustees or Trustees, elected members of Bar Council of India, Advocates, academicians or any other eminent persons as may be nominated by Bar Council of India and/or the Trust. (4) Any Trust already constituted by Bar Council of India shall continue to function as it is, if it fulfils the conditions laid down under sub-section (2) and (3) of section 7. (5) Bar Council of India may for the purpose of Fund or Trust or Society established under sub- section (2) or otherwise seek financial assistance from the National Legal Services Authority of India or State Legal Services Authority or any other Government Authority or Non-Government Organization for carrying out the purpose of this Act or for the objects of the Trust or the Society and receive any grants, donations, gifts or benefactions for all or any of the purposes specified in sub-section (2) which shall be credited to the appropriate fund or funds constituted under that sub-section.
Section 8	8. Term of office of members of State Bar Council. —The term of office of an elected member of a State Bar Council (other than an elected member thereof referred to in section 54) shall be five years from the date of publication of the result of his election:	8. Term of office of members of State Bar Council. —The term of office of an elected member of a State Bar Council (other than an elected member thereof referred to in section 54) shall be five years from the date of publication of the result of his election: Provided that where a State Bar Council fails to provide for the election of its members before the expiry of the said term, Bar Council of India may, by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the said

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	Provided that where a State Bar Council fails to provide for the election of its members before the expiry of the said term, the Bar Council of India may, by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the said term for a period not exceeding six months.	term for a period not exceeding six months at a time. Provided further that Bar Council of India may extend the tenure of the State Bar Council for further period of six months or for any other period from the date on which it would otherwise have ceased, but in no case exceeding total period of eighteen months if the State Bar Council is unable to hold elections or discharge its functions during its tenure due to circumstances beyond its control.
Section: 8A	8A. Constitution of Special Committee in the absence of election. — (1) Where a State Bar Council fails to provide for the election of its members before the expiry of the term of five years or the extended term, as the case may be, referred to in section 8, the Bar Council of India shall, on and from the date immediately following the day of such expiry, constitute a Special Committee consisting of— (i) the ex officio member of the State Bar Council referred to in clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 3 to be the Chairman:	8A. Constitution of Special Committee in the absence of election. - (1) Where a State Bar Council fails to provide for the election of its members before the expiry of the term of five years or the extended term, as the case may be, referred to in section 8, Bar Council of India shall, on and from the date immediately following the day of such expiry, constitute a Special Committee to manage the affairs of the State Bar Council, consisting of- (i) the ex officio member of the State Bar Council referred to in clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 3 to be the Chairman: Provided that where there are more than one ex officio member, the senior most amongst them shall be the Chairman; and (ii) two members to be nominated by the Bar Council of India from amongst advocates on the electoral roll of the State Bar Council, to discharge the functions of the State Bar Council until the Bar Council is constituted under this Act.

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	Provided that where there are more than one ex officio members, the senior most amongst them shall be the Chairman; and (ii) two members to be nominated by the Bar Council of India from amongst advocates on the electoral roll of the State Bar Council, to discharge the functions of the State Bar Council until the Bar Council is constituted under this Act. (2) On the constitution of the Special Committee and until the State Bar Council is constituted— (a) all properties and assets vesting in the State Bar Council shall vest in the Special Committee; (b) all rights, liabilities and obligations of the State Bar Council, whether arising out of any contract or otherwise, shall be the rights, liabilities and obligations of the Special Committee;	(2) On the constitution of the Special Committee and until the State Bar Council is constituted— (a) all properties and assets vesting in the State Bar Council shall vest in the Special Committee; (b) all rights, liabilities and obligations of the State Bar Council, whether arising out of any contract or otherwise, shall be the rights, liabilities and obligations of the Special Committee; (c) all proceedings pending before the State Bar Council in respect of any disciplinary matter or otherwise shall stand transferred to the Special Committee. (3) The Special Committee constituted under sub-section (1) shall, in accordance with such directions as Bar Council of India may give to it in this behalf, hold elections to the State Bar Council within a period of six months from the date of its constitution under sub-section (1), and where, for any reason, the Special Committee is not in a position to conduct election within the said period , the Bar Council of India may, for reasons to be recorded by it in writing, extend the tenure of the Special Committee for any duration for the purpose of conducting elections or for effectively carrying out the purpose of this Act.

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	(c) all proceedings pending before the State Bar Council in respect of any disciplinary matter or otherwise shall stand transferred to the Special Committee. (3) The Special Committee constituted under sub-section (1) shall, in accordance with such directions as the Bar Council of India may give to it in this behalf, hold elections to the State Bar Council within a period of six months from the date of its constitution under sub-section (1), and where, for any reason the Special Committee is not in a position to conduct election within the said period of six months, the Bar Council of India may, for reasons to be recorded by it in writing, extend the said period.	(4) In case the Special Committee fails to manage the affairs of the State Bar Councils effectively or fails to hold the election within the stipulated period, BCI may take appropriate action for the purpose of holding the elections or managing the affairs of the Council effectively.
Section 9	9. Disciplinary committees. —(1) A Bar Council shall constitute one or more disciplinary committees, each of which shall consist of three persons of whom	(1) A Bar Council shall constitute one or more Disciplinary Committees, each of which shall consist of three persons of whom two shall be the persons elected by the Council from amongst its members and the other shall be a person co-opted by the Council from amongst the advocates who

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	two shall be persons elected by the Council from amongst its members and the other shall be a person co-opted by the Council from amongst advocates who possess the qualifications specified in the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3 and who are not members of the Council, and the senior-most advocate amongst the members of a disciplinary committee shall be the Chairman thereof. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), any disciplinary committee constituted prior to the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1964 (21 of 1964) may dispose of the proceedings pending before it as if this section had not been amended by the said Act.	possess the qualifications specified in proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3 and who are not members of the Council but are members of the Bar Association registered with the State Bar Council, as the case may be, and the senior most advocate amongst the members of a disciplinary Committee shall be the Chairman thereof. (2)- Omitted
Section 9A	9A. Constitution of legal aid committees. — (1) A Bar Council may constitute one or more legal aid committees each of	9A. Constitution of legal aid committees. — (1) A Bar Council may constitute one or more legal aid committees each of which shall consist of such number of members, not exceeding nine but not less than five, as may be prescribed.

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	which shall consist of such number of members, not exceeding nine but not less than five, as may be prescribed. (2) The qualifications, the method of selection and the term of office of the members of a legal aid committee shall be such as may be prescribed.	(2) The qualifications, the method of selection and the term of office of the members of a legal aid committee shall be such as may be prescribed. (3) The Bar Council may seek funds from authorities under the National Legal Services Authority or State Legal Services Authority or any other Government or Non-Government Authority for carrying out the purpose of this Section."
9B.-Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee of Bar Council of India.		9B. Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee of Bar Council of India: - (1) Bar Council of India shall constitute a Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee consisting of the following members, namely: - (i) one former Judge of Supreme Court or Chief Justice of any High Court or their nominee as its chairman; (ii) two retired Judges of different High Courts as its members; (iii) one senior Advocate; (iv) one member of Bar Council of India; (2) The Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee shall inquire into any allegation or complaint of corrupt practices or misconduct against any office bearer or member of Bar Council of India in discharge of his duties as a member of the Council, which is referred to it by the Council.

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		(3) The inquiry report of the Committee shall be placed before the General Body meeting of the Council and the Council after considering the report may- (i) accept the findings of the report and seek appropriate remedy under law; or (ii) accept the report and may refer the matter to initiate a disciplinary proceeding against the office-bearer or as the case may be a member, or (iii) return the report with reasons to be recorded in writing to the Special Public Grievance Redressal Committee for having review of the finality of the inquiry report. However, if the Committee returns the report in same form or in any modified form, the General Body of the Council may accept its recommendation. (4) The committee constituted under this section shall meet at such place and such time, and shall observe such procedure in regard to the transaction of business at its meetings as it may decide unless provided for by the regulations. (5) The members of the committee may be paid such allowances for meeting the personal expenditure in attending the meeting and for attending to any other work of the committee.

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Section 10	10. Constitution of committees other than disciplinary committees. —(1) A State Bar Council shall constitute the following standing committees, namely: — (a) an executive committee consisting of five members elected by the Council from amongst its members; (b) an enrolment committee consisting of three members elected by the Council from amongst its members. (2) The Bar Council of India shall constitute the following standing committees, namely: — (a) an executive committee consisting of nine members elected by the Council from amongst its members; (b) a legal education committee consisting of ten members, of whom five shall be persons elected by the Council from amongst its members and	10. Constitution of committees other than disciplinary committees. —(1) A State Bar Council shall constitute the following standing committees, namely: — (a) an executive committee consisting of five members elected by the Council from amongst its members; (b) an enrolment committee consisting of three members elected by the Council from amongst its members. (2) The Bar Council of India shall constitute the following standing committees, namely: — (a) an executive committee consisting of nine members elected by the Council from amongst its members; (b) a Legal Education Committee consisting of twenty-five members, of whom nine shall be persons nominated by the Council from amongst its members and sixteen shall be persons nominated by the Council who are not members thereof; out of sixteen nominated members of Legal Education Committee- (i) one shall be a former Chief Justice of India or a former Judge of Supreme Court, who will be the Chairman of the Committee, (ii) two shall be sitting or former Chief Justices of High Courts, (iii) one shall be the Attorney General for India (iv) one shall be the Solicitor General of India, (v) two shall be Senior Advocates or Advocates of repute who are members

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	five shall be persons co- opted by the Council who are not members thereof. (3) A State Bar Council and the Bar Council of India may constitute from amongst its members such other committees as it may deem necessary for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of this Act.	of a registered Bar Association, (vi) one shall be the Chairman of University Grant Commission or his nominee, (vii) one shall be the Secretary (Department of Legal Affairs) Ministry of Law and Justice or his nominee not below the rank of Joint Secretary, (viii) three shall be Vice-Chancellors of reputed Universities, and (ix) four shall be other Professors or Deans of Institutions of Excellence in the field of Law and Social Sciences. (3) A State Bar Council and the Bar Council of India may by issuing Regulations/Guidelines constitute such other Committees/Sub Committees as deem necessary for the purpose of carrying out of the provisions of this Act
Section-10A	10A. Transaction of business by Bar Councils and committees thereof. — (1) The Bar Council of India shall meet at New Delhi or at such other place as it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, determine. (2) A State Bar Council shall meet at its headquarters or at such other place as it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, determine.	10A. Transaction of business by Bar Councils and committees thereof. — (1) The Bar Council of India shall meet at New Delhi or at such other place as it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, determine. (2) A State Bar Council shall meet at its headquarters or at such other place as it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing, determine. (3) The committees other than disciplinary committees constituted by the Bar Councils shall meet at the headquarters of the respective Bar Councils or at such other place in India as it may, for reasons to be recorded in writing determine.

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	(3) The committees other than disciplinary committees constituted by the Bar Councils shall meet at the headquarters of the respective Bar Councils. (4) Every Bar Council and every committee thereof except the disciplinary committees shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at their meetings as may be prescribed. (5) The disciplinary committees constituted under section 9 shall meet at such times and places and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at their meetings as may be prescribed.	(4) Every Bar Council and every committee thereof except the disciplinary committees shall observe such regulations of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at their meetings as may be prescribed. (5) The disciplinary committees constituted under section 9 shall meet at such times and places and shall observe such regulations of procedure in regard to the transaction of business at their meetings as may be prescribed. (6) The meetings of Bar Councils or its Committees may be held in any form as decided by the respective Bar Councils.
Section 11.	11. Staff of Bar Council. —(1) Every Bar Council shall appoint a secretary and may appoint an accountant and such number of other persons on its staff as it may deem necessary.	11. Staff of Bar Council. – (1) Every State Bar Council and Bar Council of India shall appoint Secretary(s) and may appoint Additional Secretary(s), Joint Secretary(s), Assistant Secretary(s) Accounts Officer (s) and such number of other persons on its staff as it may deem necessary. Provided that the Bar Council of India may also designate a secretary as Principal Secretary, if needed.

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	(2) The secretary and the accountant, if any, shall possess such qualifications as may be prescribed.	(2) The officers and other staff as appointed so appointed shall not be from elected members of the Council, and shall possess such designation and qualification as may be prescribed.
Section 12	12. Accounts and Audit. —(1) Every Bar Council shall cause to be maintained such books of accounts and other books in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed. (2) The accounts of a Bar Council shall be audited by auditors duly qualified to act as auditors of companies under the Companies Act, 1956 (1 of 1956), at such times and in such manner as may be prescribed.	12. Accounts and Audit. —(1) Every Bar Council shall cause to be maintained such books of accounts and other books in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed. (2) The accounts of a Bar Council shall be audited by auditors duly qualified to act as auditors of companies under the Companies Act, 2013 (18 of 2013), at such times and in such manner as may be prescribed.
Section 15	15. Power to make rules. —(1) A Bar Council may make rules to carry out the purposes of this Chapter. (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for— (a) the election of members of the Bar Council by secret ballot including the conditions subject to which persons can	15. Power to make regulations. —(1) A Bar Council may make regulations to carry out the purposes of this Chapter. (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for— (a) the election of members of the Bar Council by secret ballot including the conditions subject to which persons can exercise the right to vote by postal ballot, the preparation and revision of electoral rolls and the manner in which the results of election shall be published

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	exercise the right to vote by postal ballot, the preparation and revision of electoral rolls and the manner in which the results of election shall be published 3* * * * * (c) the manner of election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council; (d) the manner in which and the authority by which doubts and disputes as to the validity of an election to the Bar Council [or to the office of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman] shall be finally decided; 5* * * * * (f) the filling of casual vacancies in the Bar Council; (g) the powers and duties of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council (ga) the constitution of one or more funds by a Bar Council for the purpose	(b) The format for a complaint for disciplinary proceedings and to prescribe the fee to be deposited by the complainant for such proceedings (c) the manner of election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council; (d) the manner in which and the authority by which doubts and disputes as to the validity of an election to the Bar Council [or to the office of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman] shall be finally decided; 5* * * * * (f) the filling of casual vacancies in the Bar Council; (g) the powers and duties of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council (ga) the constitution of one or more funds by a Bar Council for the purpose of giving financial assistance or giving legal aid or advice referred to in sub-section (2) of section 6 and sub-section (2) of section 7; (gb) organisation of legal aid and advice to the poor, constitution and functions of committees and sub-committees for that purpose and description of proceedings in connection with which legal aid or advice may be given;]

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	of giving financial assistance or giving legal aid or advice referred to in sub-section (2) of section 6 and sub-section (2) of section 7; (gb) organisation of legal aid and advice to the poor, constitution and functions of committees and sub-committees for that purpose and description of proceedings in connection with which legal aid or advice may be given;] (h) the summoning and holding of meetings of the Bar Council, 2*** the conduct of business thereat, and the number of members necessary to constitute a quorum; (i) the constitution and functions of any committee of the Bar Council and the term of office of members of any such committee; (j) the summoning and holding of meetings, the conduct of business of any such committee, and the number of	(h) the summoning and holding of meetings of the Bar Council, 2*** the conduct of business thereat, and the number of members necessary to constitute a quorum; (i) the constitution and functions of any committee of the Bar Council and the term of office of members of any such committee; (j) the summoning and holding of meetings, the conduct of business of any such committee, and the number of members necessary to constitute a quorum; (k) the qualifications and the conditions of service of the secretary, the accountant and other employees of the Bar Council; (l) the maintenance of books of accounts and other books by the Bar Council; (m) the appointment of auditors and the audit of the accounts of the Bar Council; (n) the management and investment of the funds of the Bar Council. (3) No regulations made under this section by a State Bar Council shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Bar Council of India

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	members necessary to constitute a quorum; (k) the qualifications and the conditions of service of the secretary, the accountant and other employees of the Bar Council; (l) the maintenance of books of accounts and other books by the Bar Council; (m) the appointment of auditors and the audit of the accounts of the Bar Council; (n) the management and investment of the funds of the Bar Council. (3) No rules made under this section by a State Bar Council shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Bar Council of India	
Section 18	18. Transfer of name from one State roll to another. —(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 17, any person whose name is entered as an	18. Transfer of name from one State roll to another. —(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in section 17, any person whose name is entered as an advocate on the roll of any State Bar Council may make an application in the prescribed form to the Bar Council of India for the transfer of his name

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	advocate on the roll of any State Bar Council may make an application in the prescribed form to the Bar Council of India for the transfer of his name from the roll of that State Bar Council to the roll of any other State Bar Council and, on receipt of any such application the Bar Council of India shall direct that the name of such person shall, without the payment of any fee, be removed from the roll of the first mentioned State Bar Council and entered in the roll of the other State Bar Council and the State Bar Councils concerned shall comply with such direction: Provided that where any such application for transfer is made by a person against whom any disciplinary proceeding is pending or where for any other reason it appears to the Bar Council of India that the application for transfer has not been made bona fide and that the transfer should not be made, the Bar Council of India may, after giving	from the roll of that State Bar Council to the roll of any other State Bar Council and, on receipt of any such application the Bar Council of India shall direct that the name of such person shall, upon payment of such transfer fee as may be prescribed by the regulations, be removed from the roll of the first mentioned State Bar Council and entered in the roll of the other State Bar Council and the State Bar Councils concerned shall comply with such direction: Provided that where any such application for transfer is made by a person against whom any disciplinary proceeding is pending or where for any other reason it appears to the Bar Council of India that the application for transfer has not been made bona fide and that the transfer should not be made, the Bar Council of India may, after giving the person making the application an opportunity of making a representation in this behalf, reject the application.] (2) For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that where on an application made by an advocate under sub-section (1), his name is transferred from the roll of one State Bar Council to that of another, he shall retain the same seniority in the latter roll to which he was entitled in the former roll.

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	the person making the application an opportunity of making a representation in this behalf, reject the application.] (2) For the removal of doubts, it is hereby declared that where on an application made by an advocate under sub-section (1), his name is transferred from the roll of one State Bar Council to that of another, he shall retain the same seniority in the latter roll to which he was entitled in the former roll.	
Section 19		19A. Verification by State Bar Councils. - (1) The State Bar Councils shall be required to undertake a process of verification of the place of practice and the validity /genuineness of the educational certificates produced by an Advocate at the time of his/her enrolment. The verification of educational Certificate will be done from the concerned Board or University. (2) The Verification of all advocates enrolled with a State Bar Council shall be undertaken by the State Bar Council every five years in order to verify whether such advocate is continuing in the profession and whether there has been any change in their ' place of practice'. (3) After such five-yearly verification, the updated roll shall be sent to Bar

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		Council of India: Provided that in addition to the regular five yearly verification, the State Bar Council shall carry out verification under this section, before 90 days of each State Bar Council election. (4) The State Bar Councils shall adhere to the Bar Council of India Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Regulations, 2015, and cooperate with the Bar Council of India in verifying the genuineness of certificates, degrees, and other credentials of advocates enrolled with them, as well as in periodically updating the details of their addresses and places of practice.
Section 22	22. Certificate of enrolment. —(1) There shall be issued a certificate of enrolment in the prescribed form by the State Bar Council to every person whose name is entered in the roll of advocates maintained by it under this Act. (2) Every person whose name is so entered in the State roll shall notify any change in the place of his permanent residence to the State Bar Council concerned within ninety days of such change	22. Certificate of enrolment. —(1) There shall be issued a certificate of enrolment in the prescribed form by the State Bar Council to every person whose name is entered in the roll of advocates maintained by it under this Act. (2) Every person whose name is so entered in the State roll shall notify any change in the place of his permanent residence to the State Bar Council concerned within ninety days of such change. (3) State Bar Councils shall maintain and manage records of all advocates registered under their jurisdiction in electronic format, ensuring that such data is stored securely and is readily accessible for verification and compliance purposes.
Section 24	24. Persons who may be admitted as advocates on a state roll. —(1) Subject	24. Persons who may be admitted as advocates on a state roll. —(1) Subject to the provisions of this Act, and the regulations made thereunder, a person

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	to the provisions of this Act, and the rules made thereunder, a person shall be qualified to be admitted as an advocate on a State roll, if he fulfils the following conditions, namely: — (a) he is a citizen of India: Provided that subject to the other provisions contained in this Act, a national of any other country may be admitted as an advocate on a State roll, if citizens of India, duly qualified, are permitted to practice law in that other country; (b) he has completed the age of twenty-one years; (c) he has obtained a degree in law— (i) before the 1[12th day of March, 1967], from any University in the territory of India; or (ii) before the 15th day of August, 1947, from any University in any area which was comprised before that date within India as defined by the Government of India Act, 1935; or	shall be qualified to be admitted as an advocate on a State roll, if he fulfils the following conditions, namely: — (a) he is a citizen of India: Provided that subject to the other provisions contained in this Act, a national of any other country may be admitted as an advocate on a State roll, if citizens of India, duly qualified, are permitted to practice law in that other country; (b) he has completed the age of twenty-one years; (c) he has obtained a degree in law— (i) before the 1[12th day of March, 1967], from any University in the territory of India; or (ii) before the 15th day of August, 1947, from any University in any area which was comprised before that date within India as defined by the Government of India Act, 1935; or (iii) after the 12th day of March, 1967, save as provided in sub-clause (iiia), after undergoing a three-year course of study in law from any University in India which is recognised for the purposes of this Act by the Bar Council of India; or (iiia) after undergoing a course of study in law, the duration of which is not less than two academic years commencing from the academic year 1967-68 or any earlier academic year from any University in India which is recognised for the purposes of this Act by the Bar Council of India; or] (iv) in any other case, from any University outside the territory of India, if the degree is recognised for the purposes of this Act by the Bar Council of India; or

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	(iii) after the 12th day of March, 1967, save as provided in sub-clause (iiia), after undergoing a three-year course of study in law from any University in India which is recognised for the purposes of this Act by the Bar Council of India; or (iiia) after undergoing a course of study in law, the duration of which is not less than two academic years commencing from the academic year 1967-68 or any earlier academic year from any University in India which is recognised for the purposes of this Act by the Bar Council of India; or] (iv) in any other case, from any University outside the territory of India, if the degree is recognised for the purposes of this Act by the Bar Council of India; or he is a barrister and is called to the Bar on or before the 31st day of December, 1976; 5[or has passed the article clerk's examination or any other examination specified by the High Court at Bombay	he is a barrister and is called to the Bar on or before the 31st day of December, 1976; 5[or has passed the article clerk's examination or any other examination specified by the High Court at Bombay or Calcutta for enrolment as an attorney of that High Court;] or has obtained such other foreign qualification in law as is recognised by the Bar Council of India for the purpose of admission as an advocate under this Act]; (e) he fulfils such other conditions as may be specified in the regulations made by the State Bar Council as approved by the Bar Council of India (f) he has paid, in respect of the enrolment, stamp duty, if any, chargeable under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (2 of 1899), and an enrolment fee payable to the State Bar Council and to the Bar Council of India as notified by the Central Government from time to time. (g) he has paid the professional development fee chargeable under the Regulations of Bar Council of India and the State Bar Council. Provided that professional development fee should not be more than 30 % of total fee charged at the time of enrolment; (h) he clears the All-India Bar Examination or any other test prescribed by Bar Council of India and fulfils such other conditions as may be specified in the regulations made by Bar Council of India under its Regulations; Explanation. —For the purposes of this sub-section, a person shall be deemed to have obtained a degree in law from a University in India on the date on which the results of the examination for that degree are published by the University on its notice board or otherwise declaring him to have passed that examination.

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	or Calcutta for enrolment as an attorney of that High Court;] or has obtained such other foreign qualification in law as is recognised by the Bar Council of India for the purpose of admission as an advocate under this Act]; (e) he fulfils such other conditions as may be specified in the rules made by the State Bar Council under this Chapter; (f) he has paid, in respect of the enrolment, stamp duty, if any, chargeable under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899 (2 of 1899), and an enrolment fee payable to the State Bar Council of 8[six hundred rupees and to the Bar Council of India, one hundred and fifty rupees by way of a bank draft drawn in favour of that Council. Provided that where such person is a member of the Scheduled Castes or the Scheduled Tribes and produces a certificate to that effect from such authority as may be prescribed, the enrolment fee payable by him to the	(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), 3[a vakil or a pleader who is a law graduate] may be admitted as an advocate on a State roll if he— (a) makes an application for such enrolment in accordance with the provisions of this Act, not later than two years from the appointed day; and (b) fulfils the conditions specified in clauses (a), (b), (e) (f) and (g) of sub-section (1). (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) a person who— (a) has, for at least three years, been a vakil or a pleader or a mukhtar, or was entitled at any time to be enrolled under any law 6*** as an advocate of a High Court (including a High Court of a former Part B State) or of a Court of Judicial Commissioner in any Union territory; or (aa) before the 1st day of December, 1961, was entitled otherwise than as an advocate to practise the profession of law (whether by way of pleading or acting or both) by virtue of the provisions of any law, or who would have been so entitled had he not been in public service on the said date; or] (c) before the 1st day of April, 1937, has been an advocate of any High Court in any area which was comprised within Burma as defined in the Government of India Act, 1935 (25 & 26 Geo. 5 C 42); or (d) is entitled to be enrolled as an advocate under any rule made by the Bar Council of India in this behalf, may be admitted as an advocate on a state roll if he— (i) makes an application for such enrolment in accordance with the provisions of this Act; and

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	State Bar Council shall be one hundred rupees and to the Bar Council of India, twenty-five rupees.] Explanation. —For the purposes of this sub-section, a person shall be deemed to have obtained a degree in law from a University in India on the date on which the results of the examination for that degree are published by the University on its notice board or otherwise declaring him to have passed that examination. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), 3[a vakil or a pleader who is a law graduate] may be admitted as an advocate on a State roll if he— (a) makes an application for such enrolment in accordance with the provisions of this Act, not later than two years from the appointed day; and (b) fulfils the conditions specified in clauses (a), (b), (e) and (f) of sub-section (1). (3) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1) a person who—	(ii) fulfils the conditions specified in clauses (a), (b), (e) (f) and (g) of sub-section (1).

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	(a) has, for at least three years, been a vakil or a pleader or a mukhtar, or was entitled at any time to be enrolled under any law 6*** as an advocate of a High Court (including a High Court of a former Part B State) or of a Court of Judicial Commissioner in any Union territory; or (aa) before the 1st day of December, 1961, was entitled otherwise than as an advocate to practise the profession of law (whether by way of pleading or acting or both) by virtue of the provisions of any law, or who would have been so entitled had he not been in public service on the said date; or] (c) before the 1st day of April, 1937, has been an advocate of any High Court in any area which was comprised within Burma as defined in the Government of India Act, 1935 (25 & 26 Geo. 5 C 42); or (d) is entitled to be enrolled as an advocate under any rule made by the Bar Council of India in this behalf, may be	

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	admitted as an advocate on a state roll if he— (i) makes an application for such enrolment in accordance with the provisions of this Act; and (ii) fulfils the conditions specified in clauses (a), (b), (e) and (f) of sub-section (1).	
Section 24A	24A. Disqualification for enrolment.—(1) No person shall be admitted as an advocate on a State roll— (a) if he is convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude; (b) if he is convicted of an offence under the provisions of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 (22 of 1955). (c) if he is dismissed or removed from employment or office under the State on any charge involving moral turpitude. Explanation. —In this clause, the expression “State” shall have the meaning assigned to it under article 12 of the Constitution:] Provided that the disqualification for enrolment as aforesaid shall cease to	24A. Disqualification for enrolment. —(1) No person shall be admitted as an advocate on a State roll— (a) if he is convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude; (b) if he is convicted of an offence under the provisions of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 (22 of 1955). (c) if he is dismissed or removed from employment or office under the State on any charge involving moral turpitude. Explanation. —In this clause, the expression “State” shall have the meaning assigned to it under article 12 of the Constitution:] Provided that the disqualification for enrolment as aforesaid shall cease to have effect after a period of two years has elapsed since his 2[released or dismissal or, as the case may be, removal.] (2) Nothing contained in sub-section (1) shall apply to a person who having been found guilty is dealt with under the provisions of the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 (20 of 1958)

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	have effect after a period of two years has elapsed since his 2[released or dismissal or, as the case may be, removal.] (2) Nothing contained in sub-section (1) shall apply to a person who having been found guilty is dealt with under the provisions of the Probation of Offenders Act, 1958 (20 of 1958)	(3) The State Bar Council may not enroll a person if such person is convicted of offence punishable with imprisonment of three years or more, with or without fine. Provided that the Enrolment Committee of State Bar Council shall be required to seek approval of Bar Council of India before enrolment of persons convicted of any offence or who have been dismissed or removed from employment or office under the State on any charge involving moral turpitude.
Section-24B		24B.- Removal of the name from State Roll. - The name of an advocate shall be removed from the State roll, if he is convicted of an offence and sentenced for a period of three years or above, with or without fine, and the conviction has been confirmed by the High Court or the Supreme Court: Provided that in case period of sentence is less than five years, the advocate may after two years have elapsed since his release make an application to the State Bar Council for re- enrolment and the State Bar Council shall consider such application in consultation with Bar Council of India in accordance with section 26 and the regulation made in this regard.
Section 26A	26A. Power to remove names from roll. —A State Bar Council may remove from the State roll the name of any advocate who is dead or from whom a request has been received to that effect.	26A- Power to remove names from rolls-A State Bar Council may on receipt of information or request, remove from the State roll, the name of any advocate, - (a) who is dead; or (b) from whom a request has been received to that-effect; or (c) who is found guilty of serious misconduct or causing obstruction in

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		court's functioning; or (d) who has incurred any disqualification under section 24A Provided that for the person mentioned in Clause (c) and (d), the State Bar council shall not take any action without conducting an inquiry.
Section 28	28. Power to make rules. —(1) A State Bar Council may make rules to carry out the purposes of this Chapter. (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for— (a) the time within which and form in which an advocate shall express his intention for the entry of his name in the roll of a State Bar Council under section 20; 2* * * * * (c) the form in which an application shall be made to the Bar Council for admission as an advocate on its roll and the manner in which such application shall be disposed of by the enrolment committee of the Bar Council;	28. Power to make regulations. —(1) A State Bar Council may make regulations to carry out the purposes of this Chapter. (2) In particular, and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such regulations may provide for— (a) the time within which and form in which an advocate shall express his intention for the entry of his name in the roll of a State Bar Council under section 20; 2* * * * * (c) the form in which an application shall be made to the Bar Council for admission as an advocate on its roll and the manner in which such application shall be disposed of by the enrolment committee of the Bar Council; (d)- Omitted (e) the instalments in which the enrolment fee may be paid. (3) No regulations made under this Chapter shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Bar Council of India.

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	(d) the conditions subject to which a person may be admitted as an advocate on any such roll; (e) the instalments in which the enrolment fee may be paid. (3) No rules made under this Chapter shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Bar Council of India.	
Section 30	30. Right of advocates to practice. —Subject to the provisions of this Act, every advocate whose name is entered in the 3[State roll] shall be entitled as of right to practice throughout the territories to which this Act extends, — (i) in all courts including the Supreme Court; (ii) before any tribunal or person legally authorised to take evidence; and (iii) before any other authority or person before whom such advocate is by or under any law for the time being in force entitled to practise.	30. Right of advocates to practice. — Subject to the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder by Central Government or regulations made by the Bar Council of India, every Advocate whose name is entered in the state roll shall be entitled to practice throughout the territories to which this Act extends., — (i) in all courts including the Supreme Court; (ii) before any tribunal or person legally authorised to take evidence; and (iii) before any other authority or person before whom such advocate is by or under any law for the time being in force entitled to practice.
Section 33A		Section 33A: Registration of an Advocate with a Bar Association. - (1) An advocate enrolled with State Bar Council engaged in or intends to

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		practice before a court, tribunal or Quasi-Judicial forum or any authority shall get himself registered as a member of the Bar Association where he ordinarily practices or intends to practice law. (2) In case any advocate leaves one Bar Association and joins another by reason of change of place of practice or by reason of change of field of law, he shall intimate such change to the Bar Association of which he is a member within a period of thirty days. (3) No advocate shall exercise the right to vote in more than one Bar Association.
Section 34	Section 34- Power of High Court to make rules. -(1) The High Court may make rules laying down the conditions subject to which an advocate shall be permitted to practise in the High Court and the Courts subordinate thereto. (1A) The High Court shall make regulations for fixing and regulating by taxation or otherwise the fees payable as costs by any party in respect of the fees of his adversary's advocate upon all proceedings in the High Court or in any Court subordinate thereto.:	Section 34- Power of High Court to make rules. -(1) The High Court may make rules laying down the conditions subject to which an advocate shall be permitted to practise in the High Court and the Courts subordinate thereto. (1A)-Omitted (2)- Omitted

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	(2) Without prejudice to the provisions contained in sub-section (1), the High Court at Calcutta may make rule providing for the holding of the Intermediate and the Final examinations for articulated clerks to be passed by the persons referred to in section 58 AG for the purpose of being admitted as advocates on the State roll any other matter connected therewith.]	
Section 35	35. Punishment of advocates for misconduct. —(1) Where on receipt of a complaint or otherwise a State Bar Council has reason to believe that any advocate on its roll has been guilty of professional or other misconduct, it shall refer the case for disposal to its disciplinary committee. (1A) The State Bar Council may, either of its own motion or on application made to it by any person interested, withdraw a proceeding pending before its disciplinary committee and direct the inquiry to be made by any other	35. Punishment of advocates for misconduct. —(1) Where on receipt of a complaint or otherwise a State Bar Council has reason to believe that any advocate on its roll has been guilty of professional or other misconduct, it shall refer the case for disposal to its disciplinary committee within a period of one month from the date of receipt of Complaint. (1A) The State Bar Council may, either of its own motion or on application made to it by any person interested, withdraw a proceeding pending before its disciplinary committee and direct the inquiry to be made by any other disciplinary committee of that State Bar Council. (2) The disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council 4*** shall fix a date for the hearing of the case and shall cause a notice thereof to be given to the advocate concerned and to the Advocate-General of the State.

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	disciplinary committee of that State Bar Council. (2) The disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council 4*** shall fix a date for the hearing of the case and shall cause a notice thereof to be given to the advocate concerned and to the Advocate-General of the State. (3) The disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council after giving the advocate concerned and the Advocate-General an opportunity of being heard, may make any of the following orders, namely:— (a) dismiss the complaint or, where the proceedings were initiated at the instance of the State Bar Council, direct that the proceedings be filed; (b) reprimand the advocate; (c) suspend the advocate from practice for such period as it may deem fit; (d) remove the name of the advocate from the State roll of advocates. (4) Where an advocate is suspended from practice under clause (c) of sub-	(3) The disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council after giving the advocate concerned and the Advocate-General an opportunity of being heard, may make any of the following orders, namely:— (a) dismiss the complaint or, where the proceedings were initiated at the instance of the State Bar Council, direct that the proceedings be filed; (b) reprimand the advocate; (c) suspend the advocate from practice for such period as it may deem fit; (d) remove the name of the advocate from the State roll of advocates. (e) impose such fine as it may deem fit, proportionate to the gravity of the misconduct proved against the advocate, subject to the maximum limit of Rs. 3 lacs and cost of the proceeding; (f) impose special and exemplary costs subject to the maximum of Rs Fifty thousand on the complainant in case, the complaint is found to be vexatious or frivolous in case he is found to have been un-cooperative in the disciplinary proceedings under the Act. (4) Where an advocate is suspended from practice under clause (c) of sub-section (3), he shall, during the period of suspension, be debarred from practicing in any court or before any authority or person in India. (5) Where any notice is issued to the Advocate-General under sub-section (2), the Advocate-General may appear before the disciplinary committee of the State Bar Council either in person or through any advocate appearing on his behalf. Explanation. —In this section, 3[section 37 and section 38], the expressions “Advocate-General” and “Advocate-General of the State” shall, in relation to the Union territory of Delhi, mean the Additional Solicitor General of India.

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	section (3), he shall, during the period of suspension, be debarred from practicing in any court or before any authority or person in India. (5) Where any notice is issued to the Advocate-General under sub-section (2), the Advocate-General may appear before the disciplinary committee of the State Bar Council either in person or through any advocate appearing on his behalf. Explanation. —In this section, 3[section 37 and section 38], the expressions “Advocate-General” and “Advocate-General of the State” shall, in relation to the Union territory of Delhi, mean the Additional Solicitor General of India.	
Section 35A		35A- Prohibition on the boycotts or abstention from courts’ work. - (1) No association of advocates or any member of the association or any advocate, either individually or collectively, shall give a call for boycott or abstinence from courts’ work or boycott or abstain from courts’ work or cause obstruction in any from in court’s functioning or in court premises. (2) Violation of clause (1) shall be treated as misconduct and shall be

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		liable for disciplinary action as contemplated under the Act and Regulations Provided advocates may participate in a strike only when it does not impede the administration of justice such as strikes intended to bring attention to legitimate concerns about professional conduct, working conditions, or administrative matters and may include symbolic or one-day token strikes, as long as they are conducted in a way that does not disrupt court proceedings or violate clients' rights.
Section 36	36. Disciplinary powers of Bar Council of India. —(1) Where on receipt of a complaint or otherwise the Bar Council of India has reason to believe that any advocate 6*** whose name is not entered on any State roll has been guilty of professional or other misconduct, it shall refer the case for disposal to its disciplinary committee. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Chapter, the disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India may, 7[either of its own motion or on a report by any State Bar Council or on an application made to it by any person interested], withdraw for inquiry before	36. Disciplinary powers of Bar Council of India. - 1) Where on receipt of a complaint or otherwise Bar Council of India has reason to believe that any Advocate has been guilty of professional or other misconduct it shall refer the case for disposal either to its Disciplinary Committee of the Bar Council of India or to the Disciplinary Committee of the concerned State Bar Council. Provided that in a prima – facie case of serious complaints, Bar Council of India may immediately put any Advocate under suspension which may be reviewed from time to time. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in this Chapter, the disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India may, 7[either of its own motion or on a report by any State Bar Council or on an application made to it by any person interested], withdraw for inquiry before itself any proceedings for disciplinary action against any advocate pending before the disciplinary committee of any State Bar Council and dispose of the same. (3) The disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India, in disposing of any case under this section, shall observe, so far as may be, the procedure

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	itself any proceedings for disciplinary action against any advocate pending before the disciplinary committee of any State Bar Council and dispose of the same. (3) The disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India, in disposing of any case under this section, shall observe, so far as may be, the procedure laid down in section 35, the references to the Advocate-General in that section being construed as references to the Attorney-General of India. (4) In disposing of any proceedings under this section the disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India may make any order which the disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council can make under sub-section (3) of section 35, and where any proceedings have been withdrawn for inquiry 1[before the disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India], the State Bar Council concerned shall give effect to any such order.	laid down in section 35, the references to the Advocate-General in that section being construed as references to the Attorney-General of India. (4) In disposing of any proceedings under this section the disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India may make any order which the disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council can make under sub-section (3) of section 35, and where any proceedings have been withdrawn for inquiry 1[before the disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India], the State Bar Council concerned shall give effect to any such order. (5) A state Bar Council or Bar Council of India, if it thinks it necessary, appoint an Advocate with a minimum of fifteen years of practice or a former Judicial Officer as Inquiry Officer to record the evidence and forward the same to the concerned Disciplinary Committee for the expeditious and final disposal of the matter.

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Section 36B	36B. Disposal of disciplinary proceedings. —(1) The disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council shall dispose of the complaint received by it under section 35 expeditiously and in each case the proceedings shall be concluded within a period of one year from the date of the receipt of the complaint or the date of initiation of the proceedings at the instance of the State Bar Council, as the case may be, failing which such proceedings shall stand transferred to the Bar Council of India which may dispose of the same as if it were a proceeding withdrawn for inquiry under sub-section (2) of section 36. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where on the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1973 (60 of 1973), any proceedings in respect of any disciplinary matter against an advocate is pending before the disciplinary	36B. Disposal of disciplinary proceedings. —(1) The disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council shall dispose of the complaint received by it under section 35 expeditiously and in each case the proceedings shall be concluded within a period of Two years from the date of the receipt of the complaint or the date of initiation of the proceedings at the instance of the State Bar Council, as the case may be, failing which such proceedings shall stand transferred to the Bar Council of India which may dispose of the same as if it were a proceeding withdrawn for inquiry under sub-section (2) of section 36. Provided that the Bar Council of India shall make endeavors to conclude the said proceedings transferred to it within a period of One Year from the date of receipt of the records. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-section (1), where on the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 2025 any proceedings in respect of any disciplinary matter against an advocate is pending before the disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council, that disciplinary committee of the State Bar Council shall dispose of the same within a period of one year from the date of such commencement or within a period of one year from the date of the receipt of the complaint or, as the case may be, the date of initiation of the proceedings at the instance of the State Bar Council, whichever is later, failing which such proceedings shall stand transferred to the Bar Council of India for disposal under sub-section (1).

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	committee of a State Bar Council, that disciplinary committee of the State Bar Council shall dispose of the same within a period of six months from the date of such commencement or within a period of one year from the date of the receipt of the complaint or, as the case may be, the date of initiation of the proceedings at the instance of the State Bar Council, whichever is later, failing which such proceedings shall stand transferred to the Bar Council of India for disposal under sub-section (1).	(3) If it is evident from the record that the State Bar Council or its Disciplinary Committee has failed to conduct effective hearings, exhibited negligence, or shown lack of diligence in hearing and disposing of complaints within the stipulated period of two years as prescribed under sub-section (1), such failure may be treated as misconduct on the part of the General Council of the State Bar Council or its Disciplinary Committee, as the case may be.
Section 42	42. Powers of disciplinary committee. —(1) The disciplinary committee of a Bar Council shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908), in respect of the following matters, namely: — (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath; (b) requiring discovery and production of any documents;	42. Powers of disciplinary committee. —(1) The disciplinary committee of a Bar Council shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908), in respect of the following matters, namely: — (a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath; (aa) Summoning the complainant or any other person concerned as may be prescribed in the regulations made by Bar Council of India. (b) requiring discovery and production of any documents; (c) receiving evidence on affidavits; (d) requisitioning any public record or copies thereof from any court or office;

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	(c) receiving evidence on affidavits; (d) requisitioning any public record or copies thereof from any court or office; (e) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents; (f) any other matter which may be prescribed: Provided that no such disciplinary committee shall have the right to require the attendance of— (a) any presiding officer of a court except with the previous sanction of the High Court to which such court is subordinate; (b) any officer of a revenue court except with the previous sanction of the State Government. (2) All proceedings before a disciplinary committee of a Bar Council shall be deemed to be judicial proceedings within the meaning of sections 193 and 228 of the Indian Penal Code (45 of 1860), and every such disciplinary committee shall be	(e) issuing commissions for the examination of witnesses or documents; (f) any other matter which may be prescribed: Provided that no such disciplinary committee shall have the right to require the attendance of— (a) any presiding officer of a court except with the previous sanction of the High Court to which such court is subordinate; (b) any officer of a revenue court except with the previous sanction of the State Government. (2) All proceedings before a disciplinary committee of a Bar Council shall be deemed to be the judicial proceedings within the meaning of sections 229 and 267 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, and every such disciplinary committee shall be deemed to be a Civil Court for the purposes of sections 384, 385 and 388 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (46 of 2023). (3) For the purposes of exercising any of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), a disciplinary committee may send to any civil court in the territories to which this Act extends, any summons or other process, for the attendance of a witness or the production of a document required by the committee or any commission which it desires to issue, and the civil court shall cause such process to be served or such commission to be issued, as the case may be, and may enforce any such

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	deemed to be a civil court for the purposes of sections 480, 482 and 485 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898 (5 of 1898). (3) For the purposes of exercising any of the powers conferred by sub-section (1), a disciplinary committee may send to any civil court in the territories to which this Act extends, any summons or other process, for the attendance of a witness or the production of a document required by the committee or any commission which it desires to issue, and the civil court shall cause such process to be served or such commission to be issued, as the case may be, and may enforce any such process as if it were a process for attendance or production before itself. 2[(4) Notwithstanding the absence of the Chairman or any member of a disciplinary committee on a date fixed for the hearing of a case before it,	process as if it were a process for attendance or production before itself. 2[(4) Notwithstanding the absence of the Chairman or any member of a disciplinary committee on a date fixed for the hearing of a case before it, the disciplinary committee may, if it so thinks fit, hold or continue the proceedings on the date so fixed and no such proceedings and no order made by the disciplinary committee in any such proceedings shall be invalid merely by reason of the absence of the Chairman or member thereof on any such date: Provided that no final orders of the nature referred to in sub- section (3) of section 35 shall be made in any proceeding unless the Chairman and other members of the disciplinary committee are present. (5) Where no final orders of the nature referred to in sub- section (3) of section 35 can be made in any proceedings in accordance with the opinion of the Chairman and the members of a disciplinary committee either for want of majority opinion amongst themselves or otherwise, the case, with their opinion thereon, shall be laid before the Chairman of the Bar Council concerned or if the Chairman of the Bar Council is acting as the Chairman or a member of the disciplinary committee, before the

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	the disciplinary committee may, if it so thinks fit, hold or continue the proceedings on the date so fixed and no such proceedings and no order made by the disciplinary committee in any such proceedings shall be invalid merely by reason of the absence of the Chairman or member thereof on any such date: Provided that no final orders of the nature referred to in sub- section (3) of section 35 shall be made in any proceeding unless the Chairman and other members of the disciplinary committee are present. (5) Where no final orders of the nature referred to in sub- section (3) of section 35 can be made in any proceedings in accordance with the opinion of the Chairman and the members of a disciplinary committee either for want of majority opinion amongst themselves or otherwise, the case, with their opinion thereon,	Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council, and the said Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council, as the case may be, after such hearing as he thinks fit, shall deliver his opinion and the final order of the disciplinary committee shall follow such opinion.]

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	shall be laid before the Chairman of the Bar Council concerned or if the Chairman of the Bar Council is acting as the Chairman or a member of the disciplinary committee, before the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council, and the said Chairman or the Vice-Chairman of the Bar Council, as the case may be, after such hearing as he thinks fit, shall deliver his opinion and the final order of the disciplinary committee shall follow such opinion.]	
Section 45	45. Penalty for persons illegally practicing in courts and before other authorities—Any person who practices in any court or before any authority or person, in or before whom he is not entitled to practice under the provisions of this Act, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months.	45. Penalty for persons illegally practicing in courts and before other authorities. —Any person who practices in any court or before any authority or person, in or before whom he is not entitled to practice under the provisions of this Act, shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year and/or with fine which may extend to two lakh rupees.
Section 45B		45B- Liability for Misconduct in certain cases- If any person suffers loss either caused deliberately or by misconduct of the advocate, then, such person may make a complaint of misconduct against the advocate under

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		appropriate regulations as may be prescribed by Bar Council of India for deciding the liability of the advocate.
Section 48B	48B. Power to give directions. —(1) For the proper and efficient discharge of the functions of a State Bar Council or any committee thereof, the Bar Council of India may, in the exercise of its powers of general supervision and control, give such directions to the State Bar Council or any committee thereof as may appear to it to be necessary, and the State Bar Council or the committee shall comply with such directions. (2) Where a State Bar Council is unable to perform its functions for any reason whatsoever, the Bar Council of India may, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, give such directions to the ex officio member thereof as may appear to it to be necessary, and such directions shall have effect, notwithstanding anything contained in the rules made by the State Bar Council.	48B. Power to give directions. —(1) For the proper and efficient discharge of the functions of a State Bar Council or any committee thereof, the Bar Council of India may, in the exercise of its powers of general supervision and control, give such directions to the State Bar Council or any committee thereof as may appear to it to be necessary, and the State Bar Council or the committee shall comply with such directions. (2) Where a State Bar Council is unable to perform its functions for any reason whatsoever, the Bar Council of India may, without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, constitute a Committee replacing the State Bar Council and give such directions to such Committee, headed by Former Judge of a High Court and consisting of four senior Advocates having minimum twenty years of practice and registered with Bar Association, as may appear to it necessary, and such directions shall have effect, notwithstanding anything contained in the regulations made by the State Bar Council

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Section 49-	49. General power of the Bar Council of India to make rules. — 1[(1)] The Bar Council of India may make rules for discharging its functions under this Act, and, in particular, such rules may prescribe— (a) the conditions subject to which an advocate may be entitled to vote at an election to the State Bar Council including the qualifications or disqualifications of voters, and the manner in which an electoral roll of voters may be prepared and revised by a State Bar Council; (ab) qualifications for membership of a Bar Council and the disqualifications for such membership; (ac) the time within which and the manner in which effect may be given to the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3;	49. General power of the Bar Council of India to make regulations. — 1[(1)] The Bar Council of India may make regulations for discharging its functions under this Act, and, in particular, such regulations may prescribe— (a) the conditions subject to which an advocate may be entitled to vote at an election to the State Bar Council including the qualifications or disqualifications of voters, and the manner in which an electoral roll of voters may be prepared and revised by a State Bar Council; (ab) qualifications for membership of a Bar Council and the disqualifications for such membership; (ac) the time within which and the manner in which effect may be given to the proviso to sub-section (2) of section 3; (ad) the manner in which the name of any advocate may be prevented from being entered in more than one State roll; (ae) the manner in which the seniority among advocates may be determined; (af) the minimum qualifications required for admission to a course of degree in law in any recognised University;] (ag) the class or category of persons entitled to be enrolled as advocates;

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	(ad) the manner in which the name of any advocate may be prevented from being entered in more than one State roll; (ae) the manner in which the seniority among advocates may be determined; (af) the minimum qualifications required for admission to a course of degree in law in any recognised University;] (ag) the class or category of persons entitled to be enrolled as advocates; (ah) the conditions subject to which an advocate shall have the right to practise and the circumstances under which a person shall be deemed to practise as an advocate in a court;] (b) the form in which an application shall be made for the transfer of the name of an advocate from one State roll to another;	(ah) the conditions subject to which an advocate shall have the right to practise and the circumstances under which a person shall be deemed to practise as an advocate in a court;] (ai)- for the verification of educational certificates, degrees, and credentials of advocates enrolled with State Bar Councils, and to ensure compliance with the Bar Council of India Certificate and Place of Practice (Verification) Regulations, 2015. (b) the form in which an application shall be made for the transfer of the name of an advocate from one State roll to another; (c) the standards of professional conduct and etiquette to be observed by advocates; (d) the standards of legal education to be observed by Universities in India and the inspection of universities for that purpose; (e) the foreign qualifications in law obtained by persons other than citizens of India and for laying down the conditions for equivalence of the same with qualifications in Law obtained in India, which may include prescribing a bridge course for equivalence of the Indian pattern and for further laying down the conditions and restrictions, if any, for the purpose of enrolment and practice as an advocate or legal practitioner under this Act.

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	(c) the standards of professional conduct and etiquette to be observed by advocates; (d) the standards of legal education to be observed by Universities in India and the inspection of universities for that purpose; (e) the foreign qualifications in law obtained by persons other than citizens of India which shall be recognised for the purpose of admission as an advocate under this Act; (f) the procedure to be followed by the disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council and by its own disciplinary committee; (g) the restrictions in the matter of practice to which senior advocates shall be subject;	(f) the procedure to be followed by the disciplinary committee of a State Bar Council and by its own disciplinary committee; (g) the restrictions in the matter of practice to which senior advocates shall be subject; (gg) the form of dresses or robes to be worn by advocates, having regard to the climatic conditions, appearing before any court or tribunal;] (h) the fees which may be levied in respect of any matter under this Act; (i) general principles for guidance of State Bar Councils and the manner in which directions issued or orders made by the Bar Council of India may be enforced; (ia) to recognize and regulate the law firms including such firms operating in more than one State; (ib) to register and regulate Bar Associations; (ic) for rendering of legal services and spreading legal literacy; (id) to prepare and carry out welfare schemes for advocates in practice. (j) any other matter which may be prescribed:

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	4[(gg) the form of dresses or robes to be worn by advocates, having regard to the climatic conditions, appearing before any court or tribunal;] (h) the fees which may be levied in respect of any matter under this Act; (i) general principles for guidance of State Bar Councils and the manner in which directions issued or orders made by the Bar Council of India may be enforced; (j) any other matter which may be prescribed: Provided that no rules made with reference to clause (c) or clause (gg) shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Chief Justice of India:] 1[Provided further that] no rules made with reference to clause (e) shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Central Government.	Provided that no regulations made with reference to clause (c) or clause (gg) shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Chief Justice of India:] Provided further that no regulations made with reference to clause (e) shall have effect unless they have been approved by the Central Government. (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the first proviso to sub-section (1), any regulations made with reference to clause (c) or clause (gg) of the said sub-section and in force immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1973 (60 of 1973), shall continue in force until altered or repealed or amended in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

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	(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the first proviso to sub-section (1), any rules made with reference to clause (c) or clause (gg) of the said sub-section and in force immediately before the commencement of the Advocates (Amendment) Act, 1973 (60 of 1973), shall continue in force until altered or repealed or amended in accordance with the provisions of this Act.]	
Section 49A	49A. Power of Central Government to make rules. —(1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act including rules with respect to any matter for which the Bar Council of India or a State Bar Council has power to make rules. (2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for— (a) qualifications for membership of a Bar Council and disqualifications for such membership;	49A. Power of Central Government to make rules. —(1) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make rules for carrying out the purposes of this Act including rules with respect to any matter for which the Bar Council of India or a State Bar Council has power to make rules. (2) In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing power, such rules may provide for— (a) qualifications for membership of a Bar Council and disqualifications for such membership; (b) the manner in which the Bar Council of India may exercise supervision and control over State Bar Councils and the manner in which the directions issued or orders made by the Bar Council of India may be enforced; (c) the class or category of persons entitled to be enrolled as advocates under this Act;

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	(b) the manner in which the Bar Council of India may exercise supervision and control over State Bar Councils and the manner in which the directions issued or orders made by the Bar Council of India may be enforced; (c) the class or category of persons entitled to be enrolled as advocates under this Act; (d) the category of persons who may be exempted from undergoing a course of training and passing an examination prescribed under clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 24; (e) the manner in which seniority among advocates may be determined; (f) the procedure to be followed by a disciplinary committee of a Bar Council in hearing cases and the procedure to be followed by a disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India in hearing appeals; (g) any other matter which may be prescribed.	(cc) rules governing the entry of foreign law firms or foreign lawyers in India. (d) the category of persons who may be exempted from undergoing a course of training and passing an examination prescribed under clause (d) of sub-section (1) of section 24; (e) the manner in which seniority among advocates may be determined; (f) the procedure to be followed by a disciplinary committee of a Bar Council in hearing cases and the procedure to be followed by a disciplinary committee of the Bar Council of India in hearing appeals; (g) any other matter which may be prescribed. (3) Rules under this section may be made either for the whole of India or for all or any of the Bar Councils. (4) If any provision of a rule made by a Bar Council is repugnant to any provision of a rule made by the Central Government under this section, then, the rule under this section, whether made before or after the rule made by the Bar Council, shall prevail and the rule made by the Bar Council shall, to the extent of the repugnancy, be void. (5) Every rule made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session

Section	Existing Provision	Proposed Amendments
	(3) Rules under this section may be made either for the whole of India or for all or any of the Bar Councils. (4) If any provision of a rule made by a Bar Council is repugnant to any provision of a rule made by the Central Government under this section, then, the rule under this section, whether made before or after the rule made by the Bar Council, shall prevail and the rule made by the Bar Council shall, to the extent of the repugnancy, be void. (5) Every rule made under this section shall be laid, as soon as may be after it is made, before each House of Parliament, while it is in session, for a total period of thirty days which may be comprised in one session or in two or more successive sessions, and if, before the expiry of the session immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or	immediately following the session or the successive sessions aforesaid, both Houses agree in making any modification in the rule or both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.

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	both Houses agree that the rule should not be made, the rule shall thereafter have effect only in such modified form or be of no effect, as the case may be; so, however, that any such modification or annulment shall be without prejudice to the validity of anything previously done under that rule.	
Section 49B	New Section	49B- Power of Central Government to give directions. - The Central Government may give such directions to Bar Council of India as may appear to the Central Government to be necessary for carrying into execution any of the provisions of this Act or of any rule or order made thereunder
Chapter VII- Temporary and Transitional Provisions	Section 55, 56, 57, 58, 58A, 58AA, 58AB, 58AC, 58AD, 58AE, 58AF, 58AG, 58B, in Chapter VII of the Principal Act shall be omitted.	OMITTED