

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT SRINAGAR

WP(C)PIL 5/2026

YANG BURZHOME (AKA
MOHAMAD ASHFAQ HUSSAIN
HANDOO)

...Petitioner/Appellant(s)

Through: Petitioner in person

Vs.

REGISTRAR GENERAL (HIGH
COURT OF J AND K AND LADAKH)
AND OTHERS

...Respondent(s)

Through:

CORAM:

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE (ACTING)

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE MOHD YOUSUF WANI, JUDGE

ORDER

07.09.2026

1. This petition, purportedly filed in Public Interest has been initiated by one Yang Burzhome, Aka Mohammad Ashfaq Hussain, a resident of Tanki Mohala, Jaima Masjid, Srinagar for seeking inter alia directions to the respondents in the following manner:

"(1) DIRECT Respondent No. 1 (Registrar General) and Respondent No. 2 (Bar Council of India) should develop an integrated digital platform, AI powered "Know Your Advocate Card(KYA)" profile card, that features profiles for every advocate. These profiles should include Performance and Efficiency Metrics, such as disposal rates, adjournment history, case success context, disciplinary records, and hourly or fixed-fee structures for routine matters. (ANNEXURE II: KYA CARD; Annexure: XIII Representation to Registrar General)

(2) DIRECT: Respondent No 4 (National Legal Services Authority) to develop an automated interface called the "Nyaya Mitra Solution Explorer." This interface will generate an AI powered case Audit report "Case Health Card" that includes: legal merit and foundation analysis; precedent alignment using SUPACE to assess whether arguments presented in a case are supported by or conflict with

current Supreme Court and High Court precedents; a plain language summary; evidence readiness and procedural viability (fact-circumstance audit); document scrutiny; limitation and jurisdiction checks; and procedural outlook and predictability (forecasting median disposal time). (Annexure III: Case Health Card; Annexure XVI: Representation to National Legal Services Authority)

(3) DIRECT Respondent No. 1 (Registrar General) and Respondent No. 2 (Bar Council of India) to jointly formulate and implement a mandatory Continuing Legal Education (CLE) framework, incorporating annual certifications in ethics, constitutional morality, and digital/AI compliance. Formulating and implementing a mandatory Continuing Legal Education (CLE) framework that requires a transition from the current "one-time" qualification model to a system of sustained professional development. The current regulator, the Bar Council of India (BCI), often lacks the capacity to effectively regulate post-entry quality, necessitating a structured CLE regime to address declining ethical standards and the rapid rise of digital technologies. (ANNEXURE IV: CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION; Annexure XIV: Representation to Bar Council of India)

(4) DIRECT Respondent Nos. 4 (NALSA) and 2 (Bar Council of India) to make Access to legal databases, precedent analysis, and professional legal interpretation available to independent litigants, small practitioners, legal aid lawyers, and rural advocates through AI-driven legal research platforms, e-Sewa Kendras, AI Chatbots, AI Driven FAQ's, and Nayaya Mitra app to reduce inequalities by making legal information more accessible and affordable.

(ANNEXURE V: DEMOCRATISATION OF LEGAL KNOWLEDGE)

(5) DIRECT the Respondents No 2 (Bar Council of India) to institute a transparent, client-centric billing guidelines model requiring mandatory written engagement contracts, fee disclosure baselines, and structured grievance mechanisms for litigants. (ANNEXURE VI: LEGAL FEE PAYMENT GUIDELINES)

(6) DIRECT Respondent No. 1 (Registrar General) to deploy an automated, digital delay-monitoring system across all subordinate courts to track, limit, and audit unnecessary adjournments, ensuring that cost provisions under Section 35B of the CPC are strictly enforced. AI-powered digital tracking systems can create continuously updated procedural records accessible to litigants,

advocates, courts, and oversight institutions. (ANNEXURE VII: AI DELAY MONITORING AND PROFILING)

(7) DIRECT Respondent NO 2 (Bar Council of India) to establish Independent Disciplinary and Ethics Tribunals, incorporating retired judicial officers, legal academics, and public representatives, to ensure non-partisan, transparent, and time-bound adjudication of professional misconduct complaints within six months. (ANNEXURE INDEPENDENT DISCIPLINARY AND ETHICS TRIBUNALS)

(8) DIRECT Respondent No. 4 (NALSA) and Respondent No. 2 (Bar Council of India) to collaborate with the Ministry of Law and Justice to enhance the Public Defender Model. This should involve appointing salaried advocates on a contractual basis to serve rural communities, ethnic and racial minorities, and women. Additionally, they should establish robust, AI-assisted community legal aid e-Sewa Kendras across rural districts. (ANNEXURE IX: FOR THE PUBLIC DEFENDER MODEL.)

(9) DIRECT Respondent No. 4 (NALSA) to develop AI-powered multilingual legal assistants for all devices and platforms as much as possible, that are capable of providing preliminary legal guidance to economically vulnerable individuals in their native language. AI chatbot systems represent one of the most practical tools for expanding access to justice in rural India. (ANNEXURE X: AI-POWERED MULTILINGUAL LEGAL ASSISTANTS)

(10) The DIRECT Respondents No. 1 (Registrar General), No. 2 (Bar Council of India), and No. 4 (NALSA) to establish e-Sewa Kendras to assist non-literate or marginalized litigants, particularly ethnic and racial minorities, including the people of Ladakh and Northeast India, rural communities, and women. The e-Sewa Kendras will serve as both a physical and human bridge to help overcome the digital divide, ensuring that a lack of technology or literacy does not prevent access to the justice system. (Annexure XI: e-Sewa Kendras.)

(11) DIRECT Respondent 3 (Union of India) income tax revenue collected from advocates be allocated to the Bar Counsel account to help litigant, particularly ethnic and racial minorities, including the people of Ladakh and Northeast India beyond the courtroom. Additionally, 5% of GDP funds (excluding the police budget) be automatically designated for the judiciary in each annual budget. This funding is crucial to address the existing vacancy rates of 30% in High Courts and 22% in subordinate courts, which contribute to

a backlog of over 5.1 crore cases. Correcting the judicial deficit and increasing the current ratio from 15-21 judges per million to the Law Commission's recommended 50 per million requires significant changes in budgetary priorities (Annexure XII: Comprehensive Judicial Modernisation Framework; Annexure XV: Representation to Union of India). Representation to National Legal Service Authority- Annexure-XVI

(12) PASS such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper in the interest of justice, equity, transparency, and constitutional accountability."

2. From a perusal of the prayer clause, it is abundantly clear that the petitioner is seeking the creation of certain applications to reform the justice delivery system, particularly the working of the advocates. He seems to have represented to the Registrar General of this Court, the Bar Council of India, Ministry of Law and Justice, Union of India as also the NALSA. The representations made to the different authorities in the last week of July 2026 are by way of a precursor to the filing of this PIL.
3. Although we find that some of the issues raised by the petitioner may be helpful in improving and reforming the justice delivery system in the long run, yet the PIL filed at this stage is premature. The digitization of the court records and the development of various applications for augmenting the justice delivery system is a work in progress. The E-Committee of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, as well as the NALSA, is seized of the matter. Entertaining this PIL and issuing directions at this stage may not be conducive. We, therefore, dispose of this petition with the advice to the petitioner to wait for some time and allow

the measures undertaken by the concerned authorities to fructify in full-fledged action.

4. With these observations, we do not wish to entertain this PIL and give liberty to the petitioner to raise these issues after awaiting the outcome of the steps already initiated by the concerned authorities supra.

5. Disposed of.

(Mohd Yousuf Wani)
Judge

(Sanjeev Kumar)
Chief Justice (Acting)

SRINAGAR:

07.09.2026

"ARIF"

