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भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

21, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area, Near Bal Bhawan, New Delhi - 110002

BCI:D:4035/2026

Date: 23.06.2026

To,

**The Secretaries
All State Bar Councils**

Sub.: Extension of time for submission of enrolment certificates by candidates who appeared in and cleared AIBE XIX & subsequent under the undertaking-based eligibility framework

Ma'am's/Sir's,

The General Council of Bar Council of India has considered the requests received from various candidates who appeared in and successfully cleared AIBE XIX, seeking extension of time for submission of their enrolment certificates beyond the period of six months, together with the Office Note placed in that regard.

The Council noted that the candidates concerned have appeared in AIBE XIX under the undertaking-based eligibility framework prescribed by the Bar Council of India. The said framework contemplated the following categories

Category 1, final year or final semester law students having no backlogs from previous semesters, studying in a Bar Council of India recognised University or College approved by the Bar Council of India and affiliated with a Bar Council of India recognised University

Category 2, candidates who had completed their final semester examinations with no backlogs and were awaiting their final results, having studied in a Bar Council of India recognised University or College approved by the Bar Council of India and affiliated with a Bar Council of India recognised University

Category 3, law graduates who had not yet enrolled with any State Bar Council and who had obtained or were required to obtain their LL.B. degree from a Bar Council of India recognised University or College approved by the Bar Council of India and affiliated with a Bar Council of India recognised University

Category 4, law graduates employed in service who had either not enrolled or had surrendered their enrolment due to employment

The Council observed that the requirement of submitting the enrolment certificate within the prescribed period is an important regulatory safeguard. The purpose is to ensure that only duly qualified and duly enrolled candidates are permitted to avail the benefit of the AIBE result. The Council further observed that any relaxation must therefore be narrowly framed, objectively verifiable, and incapable of being misused by candidates who were negligent, ineligible, or who failed to apply for enrolment within time.

It was decided that, in respect of AIBE XIX, the normal rule shall continue to be that candidates must endeavour to submit their enrolment certificates to BCI within six months from the date of declaration of the AIBE XIX result.

It was further resolved that, for candidates falling under Categories 1 and 2, an outer limit of one year from the date of declaration of the AIBE XIX result may be allowed, for submission of enrolment certificate, only where the candidate was unable to submit the enrolment certificate within six months due to non-declaration of final result, non-issuance of final marksheet, non-issuance of degree or provisional degree certificate, or delay in completion of enrolment formalities despite the candidate having applied for enrolment within the original period of six months.

It was further resolved that the benefit of the one year outer limit shall not be automatic. It shall be available only where the candidate produces objective documentary proof showing that the candidate had acted within time, had become eligible for enrolment, had applied for enrolment within the original period of six months wherever such application could be made, and that the delay was not on account of any omission, negligence, defect, suppression, misrepresentation, or late action on the part of the candidate.

It was further resolved that, Category 3 candidates who had already obtained their LL.B. degree, final marksheet, provisional degree certificate, or any other final qualifying university certificate necessary for enrolment shall remain bound by the period of six months from the date of declaration of the AIBE XIX result. Such candidates shall not be entitled to claim the one year outer limit merely on the ground that they did not apply for enrolment in time, applied at the fag end of the six month period, failed to remove defects, or delayed compliance with enrolment requirements.

It was further resolved that the one year outer limit shall not apply where the candidate had the necessary qualifying documents and eligibility for enrolment but failed to apply to the concerned State Bar Council within a reasonable time and in any case within the original period of six months from the date of declaration of the AIBE XIX result. No candidate shall be permitted to create an artificial ground for extension by applying belatedly, submitting an incomplete application, withholding documents, failing to cure defects, or approaching the enrolment authority only at the fag end of the prescribed period.

It is clarified that the period of one year, wherever applicable, shall be reckoned only from the date of declaration of the AIBE XIX result. The date of issuance of the final marksheet, degree, provisional degree certificate, or any other university certificate shall not constitute a separate, fresh, or extended starting point. Such documents shall be relevant only for verifying eligibility and for determining whether the candidate was genuinely unable to complete enrolment formalities within six months.

It is further clarified that no State Bar Council, Enrolment Committee, University, or enrolment authority shall be treated as liable or responsible merely because a candidate seeks the benefit of this resolution. Where delay is not attributable to the concerned authority, or where the delay has occurred due to incomplete documents, defective application, non-removal of defects, want of eligibility, suppression, misrepresentation, verification issues, non-payment of fee, non-compliance with enrolment requirements, or any act or omission of the candidate, no extension shall be claimed as a matter of right.

It is further clarified that this relaxation shall not apply to Category 4 candidates, namely law graduates employed in service who had either not enrolled or had surrendered their enrolment due to employment. In respect of such candidates, the period of six months, as expressly recorded in the undertaking submitted by them, shall continue to apply without extension.

It was further resolved that, with effect from AIBE XX and for all subsequent All India Bar Examinations, the same principle shall apply prospectively, unless otherwise modified by the Bar Council of India. The six month period shall remain the normal rule. The one year period shall operate only as an outer limit for Categories 1 and 2 in objectively verifiable cases where the candidate was unable to complete enrolment formalities within six months for reasons not attributable to the candidate. Category 3 candidates who had already obtained the degree, final marksheet, provisional degree certificate, or other final qualifying university certificate necessary for enrolment shall remain bound by the period of six months. Category 4 candidates shall continue to be governed only by the period of six months.

It was further resolved that this resolution shall not be treated as waiver of any eligibility, educational, documentary, enrolment, verification, or statutory requirement. It shall not create any equity in favour of any candidate who is otherwise ineligible under the Advocates Act, 1961, the Bar Council of India Rules, the Rules of Legal Education, 2008, the AIBE undertaking, or any applicable direction of the Bar Council of India.

This is for your understanding, compliance, dissemination, and due application where necessary.



**Srimanto Sen
Principal Secretary
Bar Council of India**