

Col Arun Sharma (Retd.)

SECRETARY  
BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI



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दिल्ली विधिज्ञ परिषद्  
**BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI**

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

2/6, Siri Fort Institutional Area, Khel Gaon Marg, New Delhi-110 049

Ref. No. : **BCD/Elect/2026/210**

**10.02.2026**

Dated : .....

**OFFICE OF THE RETURNING OFFICER BCD ELECTION 2026**

**Mr. Rajiv Kumar Khosla, Advocate**  
**Enrollment No: D/416/1981 (Ballot No:9)**  
94, Mall Apartment, Mall Road,  
Delhi 110054

**Mobile No. 9212050070**

**SUBJECT: DECISION ON REPRESENTATION DATED 06/02/2026 REGARDING MODE OF CASTING PREFERENTIAL VOTES.**

Sir,

The Election Committee has carefully and objectively considered your representation dated 06/02/2026, wherein you proposed changing the prescribed mode of marking preferential votes from numerals (1, 2, 3) to enclosed numerals ('1', '2', '3') to prevent potential manipulation. In this regard please refer to Rule 14 of Bar Council of Delhi Rules.

After due deliberation, the Committee has decided to decline the requested modification for the following reasons:

The standard practice of using plain numerals is well-established and understood by the vast majority of the electorate. Introducing punctuation marks or specific enclosures (like '\$\$') at this late stage is likely to cause confusion, leading to an increase in invalid or rejected ballot papers, which would defeat the purpose of a fair election.

The Committee has already worked out measure for implementing robust security protocols to ensure the integrity of the counting process, including:

- Entire counting process will be under 24/7 CCTV surveillance and high-resolution videography.
- Each candidate's authorized counting agents will have a clear, unobstructed view of every ballot paper as it is unfolded and counted.

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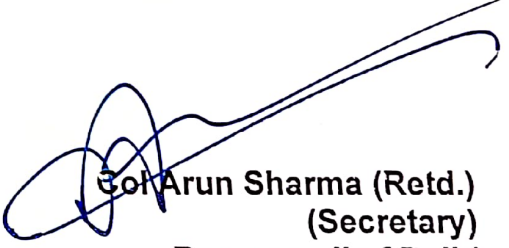
- Senior Impartial observers and Independent officials will oversee the process to prevent any post-vote marking or tampering.
- There would be a fool proof security. arrangement to safeguard the Ballot Boxes and the Ballot papers throughout the process till the conclusion of the process

The "Instructions to Voters" and the format of the ballot have already been finalized and widely disseminated. Modifying these instructions now would result in procedural inconsistency and potential legal challenges regarding the uniformity of the voting process.

While the Committee appreciates your concern for a foolproof system, we are confident that the current administrative and security measures are sufficient to prevent any manipulation. The counting will proceed as per the originally notified guidelines.

We trust this clarifies the Committee's position.

Yours Sincerely,

  
**Col Arun Sharma (Retd.)**  
(Secretary)  
Bar council of Delhi