



Justice Ranjit Singh (Retd.),  
Chairperson  
Powered Election Committee  
Council of Punjab and Haryana, Chandigarh



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BCPH/ELECTION/

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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE HIGH-POWERED ELECTION COMMITTEE OF THE BAR COUNCIL OF  
PUNJAB AND HARYANA, HELD TODAY i.e. 01.12.2025, CHAIRED BY THE HON'BLE CHAIRMAN  
MR. JUSTICE RANJIT SINGH (RETD.), JUDGE PUNJAB AND HARYANA HIGH COURT.**

In the meeting held today, the High-Powered Election Committee took the following decisions to ensure free and fair Election of the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana, Chandigarh.

1. Revised Election Programme 2025-2026 for conduct of election to Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana was issued on 25.11.2025.

Date of polling was fixed as 29.01.2026 for District Courts and High Courts at Chandigarh, whereas 30.01.2026 was fixed for the date of polling at all Districts and Sub-Divisions in the States of Punjab and Haryana.

In continuation of the same, date of counting is fixed as 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2026 at the premises of Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh. Counting will start from 10:00 AM onwards, and ballot boxes received from the polling at High Court and District Court shall be opened for counting first.

Since, the counting will be done in the premises of High Court, Hon'ble Returning Officer may approach the appropriate authority for making provision for space for the purposes of strong room and counting purposes.

2. In a meeting held on 29.11.2025, the High-Powered Election Committee had considered the report received from the Office of Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana about the verification forms received in bulk, for which payment was also received in bulk primarily from **single/one source**. It was also noticed that forms had also been filled in a same handwriting in some cases.

The Committee has considered the rule position and has noticed that note provided under Rule 6 sub-rule B (1) of the Bar Association (Constitution and Registration) Rules, 2015, which is reproduced as under:-

*"Note:- Provided that clearance of subscription shall be by way of RTGS or NEFT or IMPS or UPI or any other electronic mode of transfer of money or by account payees' cheque from the account of member himself. In case of cheque, such cheques must be deposited immediately after the last date within 2 working days otherwise such subscription shall be deemed to be doubtful."*

It is thus clear that payment has to be made **by member himself** by the mode of payment provided in the Note above-mentioned. Committee is of the view that the payments which have been made in bulk, along with the verification forms received in bulk, cannot be treated as payment made by member himself. Accordingly, all such payments received in bulk, in respect of all those forms, cannot be accepted in the preliminary electoral roll/voter list, specially viewed in the background of Code of Conduct issued by the Committee on the basis of the rule position. It is clearly provided in the Code of Conduct that by offering or accepting anything either in cash or in kind for casting vote would be

treated as a misconduct. Accordingly, such member who has not made payment himself/herself cannot be entered in the electoral roll.

3. As per the report received from the Office, a contact was established with Election Commission of both the States, and in this regard further progress is to be intimated by 03.12.2025 (Wednesday) and will be taken up for discussion in the next meeting.

Justice Ranjit Singh (Retd)  
Judge Punjab & Haryana High Court  
Chairperson, High Powered Election Committee Phase III-C

Justice M. M. S. BEDI (Retd)  
Judge Punjab & Haryana High Court  
Member, High Powered Election Committee Phase III-C

Mr. Kuljeet Singh Sidhu, Sr. Advocate  
Punjab & Haryana High Court  
Member, High Powered Election Committee Phase III-C