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SUPREME COURT

SC Slams Bar Councils for Sneaky 'Optional Fees', Orders Immediate Halt

Sheikh Rayees • August 11, 2025

PUBLISHED REPORT

The country's highest court has delivered a sharp rebuke to the Bar Council of India and its state counterparts, making it crystal clear: there is no such thing as an "optional fee" during advocate enrolment. "No State Bar Council or the Bar Council of India shall collect any amount under the guise of optional," the bench declared, stressing that only the statutory fees set out in the Advocates Act, 1961,...

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