



KARNATAKA STATE BAR COUNCIL

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocate Act, 1961)

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ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು

MITTALAKOD S. S.
CHAIRMAN

KSBC/687/2025

22.4.2025

To,

The Hon'ble Chief Justice,
Supreme Court of India,
NEW DELHI

Respected Sir,

Sub:- Request to reconsider the issue of transfer
Of Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Karnataka.

With due respect and humble submission, I would like to submit the following few lines for your kind consideration and onward submission that there is a recommendation to transfer four Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Karnataka to other High Courts from the Hon'ble Collegium, Supreme Court of India and to the Government of India.

In this regard, on behalf of the entire legal fraternity of Karnataka State and on behalf of the Karnataka State Bar Council and on my own behalf, I like to state that the abrupt transfer of four High Court Judges from Karnataka raises serious concerns

about judicial independence, transparency, and institutional stability. Such decisions, especially when made without clear public explanation, undermine the confidence of both the judiciary and the public in the collegium system. Judges build deep familiarity with local legal issues, ongoing cases, and administrative functions of their High Court, and sudden transfers disrupt this continuity. It also sends a troubling signal to sitting Judges—that their postings can be altered without sufficient reason or notice—potentially deterring impartial judicial conduct.

Moreover, the Karnataka High Court is one of the busier Courts in the country, and removing multiple experienced judges at once could hamper the Court's efficiency and delay justice. Transfers, if necessary, should be gradual, well-justified, and based on transparent principles rather than arbitrary decisions. At a time when judicial pendency is a major concern, such sudden reshuffling risks further burdening an already strained system and eroding the public trust in the sanctity of judicial appointments.

Sudden transfers of High Court judges, especially without transparent reasoning, can significantly affect the morale of the judiciary in several ways:



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1. **Sense of Insecurity:** Judges may begin to feel vulnerable, fearing that decisions they make—especially bold or unpopular ones—might lead to punitive transfers. This undermines judicial independence.

2. **Professional Disruption:** Judges spend years building familiarity with the legal, cultural, and administrative environment of a particular High Court. Abrupt transfers disrupt their rhythm and continuity, leading to professional dissatisfaction. The transfer of experienced Judges, especially those well versed with the local language, customs and socio economic issues, could impact the deliver of justice and the effective functioning of the High Court.

3. **Demotivation Among Peers:** When Senior Judges are moved without apparent justification, it sends a message to their colleagues that merit, experience, or seniority might not safeguard their positions. This creates uncertainty and disillusionment within the judicial ranks.

4. **Erosion of Institutional Integrity:** If transfers are perceived as arbitrary or influenced by external pressures, it chips away at the dignity of the institution and weakens the confidence Judges have in the system that governs them.

5. **Impact on Younger Judges and Aspirants:** Aspiring Judges observing such treatment of seniors might be discouraged from entering the judiciary or from upholding strong, independent stances.

In sum, such transfers—if seen as opaque or unjust—can deeply demoralize the judiciary, ultimately affecting the quality, courage of its decisions, create instability, delay justice, and undermine the trust and efficiency on which the legal ecosystem depends.

The Karnataka State Bar Council including the entire legal fraternity of the State stands in solidarity with the Hon'ble Judges.

Hence the Karnataka State Bar Council hereupon calls the Hon'ble Supreme Court Collegium to immediately intervene and withdraw the transfer of the 4 High Court Judges.



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Once again, We the Members of the Karnataka State Bar Council representing the entire Legal Fraternity of State of Karnataka request your goodself to reconsider the issue of transfer of four Hon'ble Judges of High Court of Karnataka to other High Courts.

Hope that the Hon'ble Collegium Judges will reconsider and withdraw its order in transferring the 4 Hon'ble Judges of the High Court of Karnataka.

With respectful regards,

Yours sincerely,

Mittalakod S.S.

(MITTALAKOD S.S.)
CHAIRMAN