

SUPREME COURT BAR ASSOCIATION (SCBA) ELECTION

Candidate KYC (Know Your Candidate) Questionnaire-cum-Declaration Form

To be filled, verified, and signed by the candidate. This form, once signed, will be published on Lawyers Association for Constitution (lafc.in) website.

This questionnaire is designed to help voters evaluate candidates contesting the SCBA elections by ensuring transparency regarding their personal background, professional record, legal ethics, and policy stances. The candidate must fill in every field truthfully and sign the verification line at the bottom of every page, in addition to the final Declaration on the last page.

Note to candidate: Type your answers directly into the blank lines below, Leave a field blank and write "NIL" where not applicable. Sign at the bottom of every page.

Please give the answers just below the questions (so that people can read properly in Mobile)

Section 1: Basic & Personal Information.

Post -

TREASURER

Full Name

SHANTANU KUMAR

Age

46

Section 2: Educational & Professional Qualifications

Undergraduate & Legal Qualification

Degree(s) Obtained

LL.B.

College/University Attended

CAMPUS LAW CENTRE, DELHI UNIVERSITY

Year of Passing Out

2004

Additional / Master's Qualifications (e.g., LL.M., Ph.D.)

QUALIFIED MEDIATOR

Section 3: Enrolment & Membership in Bar Associations

Enrolment Details

Year of Enrolment as an Advocate - 2004

Verification: I certify that the entries on this page are true. Candidate Signature:

Date: 11.08.2026



Name of the State Bar Council
BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI

1

Professional Status

Advocate , Advocate-on-Record (AOR) / Senior Advocate , *(If applicable)*

If Candidate is a Senior Advocate, the Court mention the Court which designated :

ADVOCATE-ON-RECORD

Bar Association Memberships *(List all active and past memberships in SCBA, High Court Bar Associations, District Bar Associations, etc.)*

- 1) SCBA
 - 2) SCORA
 - 3) DELHI HIGH COURT BAR ASSOCIATION
 - 4) DELHI BAR ASSOCIATION
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Membership in Other Professional/Academic Associations if any,

- 1) NIL
 - 2) NIL
 - 3) NIL
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If you are a member of any Political Party, please give details, if not, mention as " NO"

(Past or present membership, post held, or explicit non-affiliation)

NO

Section 4: Electoral History in SCBA

Number of Times Contested in SCBA Elections

NIL

Details of Previous Contests *(Posts contested, year, and results/outcome)*

- 1) NIL
 - 2) NIL
 - 3) NIL
-

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Date: 11.08.2026



Past Office-Bearer Positions Held (In SCBA or any other Bar/Legal organisation)

- 1) NIL
 - 2) NIL
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Section 5: Legal & Criminal Antecedents, if any : NIL

Pending Criminal Cases (As Accused)

Case Number / FIR Details
NIL

Specific Offences Charged
NIL

Court Handling the Case
NIL

Disposed-Off Cases,

Outcome (Acquittal / Discharge / Quashed / Conviction)
NIL

Specific Offences Charged
NIL

Details/Summary of Court Order(s)
NIL

Section 6: Active Practice & Physical Presence

Physical Presence in Court Total number of days physically present in the Supreme Court in preceding year from 1st August 2025 to 1st Aug 2026

PRESENT ON ALMOST ALL WORKING DAYS

Key Areas of Practice (at least 5)

- 1) CRIMINAL
 - 2) CIVIL
 - 3) ARBITRATION
 - 4) SERVICE
 - 5) COMMERCIAL
-

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Section 8: Policy Views & Legal Vision

Vision for SCBA Members (50 words each)

- 1) **Key priorities regarding advocate welfare** - strengthening the SCBA Advocates Welfare & Emergency Assistance Fund for medical, accident, disability and distress cases, backed by a single-window Welfare Cell with transparent, time-bound assistance criteria, negotiated discounts on healthcare, diagnostics, travel and accommodation, a long-term Welfare Corpus and special measures for senior, differently-abled and hardship-hit advocates
- 2) **chamber allotment** - transparent, objective and publicly verifiable chamber-allotment system through digitisation of applications, waiting-lists and allotments, published eligibility and priority criteria, periodically updated waiting lists, prompt induction of vacant or recovered chambers, application-tracking for members and periodic audits ensuring fairness, with special consideration for long-waiting young practitioners.
- 3) **medical insurance** - strengthen the group medical insurance scheme through better collective-bargained coverage at competitive premiums, affordable family coverage, an expanded hospital/diagnostic network, a dedicated claims help desk, coverage for critical illness and accidental hospitalisation, clear member information on coverage and exclusions and annual review based on claims and feedback.
- 4) **court infrastructure** - Will improve seating and working spaces, Wi-Fi and charging facilities, conference/consultation rooms, a new chamber block to ease the shortage of chambers, printing and photocopying facilities, cleanliness, sanitation and drinking water, better facilities for women and differently-abled advocates, improved waiting areas for young advocates, a modernised e-library, stronger Registry coordination and periodic infrastructure audits based on member feedback.
- 5) **young lawyer support** - a structured Young Advocates Assistance Scheme for genuine hardship and affordable professional services; a voluntary Senior–Junior Mentorship Programme covering drafting, court craft and ethics; regular skill-development workshops on advocacy, technology/AI and practice management; a transparent platform for research, briefing and internship opportunities; dedicated working and research infrastructure and fair, transparent chamber-allotment priority for long-waiting young advocates.

Your opinion on the Selection & Appointment of Judges What is your stance on the current Collegium System versus alternative models (e.g., Judicial Appointments Commission with Bar representation)? What should be the correct, transparent method for selecting Supreme Court and High Court judges? (50 words)

In my view, the debate over judicial appointments in India ultimately comes down to balancing independence from executive interference against genuine transparency and accountability. I believe the Collegium system, while it successfully insulates appointments from political pressure, suffers from real flaws its opacity, the absence of defined selection criteria and the perception of favouritism have all undermined public confidence. I am not convinced that the National Judicial Appointments Commission was the right alternative, since executive involvement risked compromising judicial independence, which the Supreme Court rightly treats as part of the basic structure. Instead, I favour reforming the Collegium itself through published criteria, a permanent secretariat and greater procedural transparency so that independence is preserved while accountability is strengthened.

Section 9: Message to Voters

In one paragraph (100 words or less), describe to voters what you stand for as a candidate

The Supreme Court Bar Association is not merely an institution—it is a professional family of advocates. My priority will be to make the SCBA more transparent, more responsive and more welfare-oriented, with every initiative focused on the genuine needs of its members. I will strive to address the day-to-day problems of practicing advocate of Supreme Court viz. Sequence of the cause list, Registry issues particularly-filing and listing of the matters, etc and will also make sure that the funds of SCBA and expenditure are properly monitored and are transparent to the members.



Declaration & Verification

I, the undersigned, being a candidate for the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) Election, do hereby solemnly declare and affirm as follows:

1. The information furnished by me in the foregoing Questionnaire is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and no material fact has been concealed, suppressed, or misrepresented therein.
2. I am aware that this Declaration, together with my answers to the Questionnaire, is being obtained for the purpose of the SCBA Election KYC and will be published on the website of Lawyers' Association for Constitution (lafc.in) website for the information of the electorate.
3. I undertake full responsibility for the accuracy of the information furnished above, and I understand that furnishing false or misleading information may render me liable to such consequences as may be prescribed under applicable law.

Name of Candidate (Block Letters): SHANTANU KUMAR

Enrolment / Membership No.: D/1024/2004 / K - 00790

Place: DELHI

Date: 11.08.2026

Signature of Candidate:



(Signature to be affixed by the candidate; a scanned/typed signature or e-signature as accepted by SCBA for the purpose of this online form.)

