

## News

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### **The Supreme Court Collegium is urged by the Karnataka Bar Council to reevaluate the transfer of four HC judges.**

According to the Bar Council, sudden transfers have the potential to undermine the judiciary and undermine public confidence in the legal system.



On Wednesday, the Karnataka State Bar Council (KSBC) requested that the Supreme Court Collegium reevaluate its suggestion to move four judges from the Karnataka High Court.

The abrupt relocation of four seasoned judges has sparked severe concerns about judicial independence, openness, and institutional stability, the Council wrote in a letter to the Chief Justice of India (CJI).

It further stated that such sudden transfers have the potential to undermine the judiciary and undermine public confidence in the legal system.

*Once more, on behalf of the entire Karnataka legal community, we members of the Karnataka State Bar Council ask that you give the matter of moving four honorable judges from the Karnataka High Court to other High Courts another look. The Council expressed its hope that the Honorable Collegium Judges would change their minds and revoke their decision to transfer the four Honorable Judges of the Karnataka High Court.*

It is believed that the effectiveness and operation of the Court would be hampered by the removal of several seasoned judges.

Additionally, the Karnataka High Court is one of the busiest courts in the nation, and dismissing several seasoned justices at once may impair the Court's effectiveness and cause delays in the administration of justice. If a transfer is required, it should be made gradually, rationally, and according to open principles rather than at random. Such a hasty reorganization runs the risk of adding to the strain on an already overburdened system and undermining public confidence in the integrity of judge appointments at a time when judicial pendency is a significant concern,"

the letter stated.

On April 21, the Supreme Court Collegium suggested that Justices Krishna Dixit, K Natarajan, Hemant Chandangoudar, and Sanjay Gowda be transferred.

It has been suggested that Justice Dixit be transferred to the High Court of Orissa, Justice Natarajan to the High Court of Kerala, Justice Chandangoudar to the High Court of Madras, and Justice Gowda to the High Court of Gujarat.

The decision was made *"to infuse inclusivity and diversity at the level of High Courts and to strengthen the quality of administration of justice,"* according to a statement released by the Collegium on the Supreme Court website.

The Karnataka legal community is furious about the transfer recommendation.

In protest of the transfer recommendation, the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru (AAB) did not report to work on April 23.

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