

IN THE HIGH COURT OF MADHYA PRADESH
AT INDORE

WP No. 19363 of 2026

(NARENDRA SINGH BIDWAL Vs THE STATE OF MADHYA PRADESH AND OTHERS)

Dated : 29-05-2026

Shri V.K. Jain - Senior Advocate assisted with Shri Piyush Parashar -
Advocate for the petitioner.

Shri Vijay Asudani and Shri Nikhil Mishra - Advocate for respondents no.5
& 8 on caveat.

Shri Shantanu Sharma - Advocate for the respondents No.5 & 8 through
VC.

Sh. Viraj Godha - Govt. Advocate for the respondents No.1,2,3 & 6.

Heard on the question of admission as well as interim relief.

Issue notice to the respondents, except respondents no.5 & 8 (on caveat),
upon payment of the process fee within seven working days by speed post,
returnable within four weeks. Failure to do so shall result in the dismissal of the
petition without further reference to the Court.

Since the elections have been over on 21.05.2026, this Court does not deem
to stay the elections, however, since the petitioner has raised a question on the
powers of the election officer to issue guidelines after the announcement of the
program of election, which was admittedly on 21.04.2026 and the powers to frame
any guidelines or to permit the amendment of the constitution to be acted upon
after declaration of the election program i.e. 21.04.2026.

Prima-facie this Court is satisfied with the arguments raised by the Senior
Counsel on the issue.

The counsel for the respondent no.5 & 8 appearing on caveat has been

heard, but this Court is not satisfied with the submissions made by the counsels in rebuttal to the submissions made by the counsel for the petitioner demonstrating the powers of the election officer to issue such guidelines or amend the bye-laws after announcement of the election program i.e. 21.04.2026.

As an interim measure it is therefore directed that the operation of the order dated 03.05.2026 (Annexure-P/7) shall remain stayed. It is made clear that since the petitioners have already approached the Registrar by filing their complaint vide Annexure-P/11 dated 24.05.2026, the Registrar is directed to conduct a detailed enquiry on the allegations made by the petitioner herein and submit the report before this Court within a period of 15 days, positively, by a detailed finding substantiating with documentary evidence if necessary after hearing all the parties concerned to the said election. It is also directed that since the petitioner has also filed complaint before the Superintendent of Police, Cyber Cell in respect of his grievances, which is Annexure-P/9 dated 04.05.2026, the Superintendent of Police, Cyber Cell is also directed to submit his report before this Court, positively in a sealed cover, within a period of 15 days from today.

Since we are not inclined to stay the elections as the elections has been declared on 21.05.2026 it is made clear that the elected body may function but shall not take any policy decision till the next date of hearing.

List the matter after 15 days.

(JAI KUMAR PILLAI)
V. JUDGE