



SELANGOR BAR REPRESENTATIVE



Dato' Rajpal Singh

This term the Chairman and I represented Selangor Bar in the Bar Council.

I was appointed as follows: -

- (a) Co-chairperson Bar Counsel Task Force on IPCMC and police accountability in 2025;
- (b) Chairman of Ad hoc committee on death penalty; and
- (c) Member of Criminal Law Committee.

This year, the Bar Council was engaged in various activities and deliberated on a broad range of matters concerning the members of the bar and the administration of justice.

The key decisions taken by the Bar Council are summarised below.

(1) Memoranda of Understanding

The Bar Council approved the following Memoranda of Understanding (“MOU”):

- (a) MOU between the Malaysian Bar and the Chongqing Bar Association;
- (b) MOU between the Malaysian Bar and the China-ASEAN Law Research Centre;
- (c) MOU between the Malaysian Bar and the Chongqing Arbitration Commission;
- (d) MOU between the Malaysian Bar and the Malaysian Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators (“MAICSA”); and
- (e) MOU between the Malaysian Bar and the Institute of Business Administration (“IBA”) Alternative Dispute Resolution International Center (“IBA ADRIC”), Center for Executive Education, Karachi.



(2) Service Legal Agreements for CLJ Legal Network Sdn Bhd, The Digital Library Sdn Bhd and Thomson Reuters Asia Sdn Bhd

The Bar Council approved the Service Level Agreements with CLJ Legal Network Sdn Bhd, The Digital Library Sdn Bhd and Thomson Reuters Asia Sdn Bhd. These agreements enable Members to access the legal research products from those providers, pursuant to the Resolution Regarding the Provision of Legal Research Products from CLJ Legal Network Sdn Bhd, The Digital Library Sdn Bhd, and Thomson Reuters Asia Sdn Bhd, adopted at the 79th Annual General Meeting of the Malaysian Bar on 15 March 2025.

(3) Renewal of the MyBarCare Group Term Life Insurance Policy for the 2025/2026 Term

The Bar Council approved the renewal of the MyBarCare Group Term Life Insurance Policy for the 2025/2026 Term with Great Eastern Life Assurance Berhad, arranged through Howden Insurance Brokers. The policy will be in force from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

(4) Proposed Amendments to the Rules of Court 2012

The Bar Council National Legal Aid and YBGK Committee, together with the Bar Council Civil Law and Law Reform Committee, reviewed Order 15, Rules 18 to 26 of the Rules of Court 2012, which concern poor persons. A number of amendments were proposed, inter alia, to ensure uniformity with the recent amendments to the Legal Profession Act 1976. These proposals have been approved by the Bar Council and will be communicated to the Rules Committee.

(5) Sentencing Database System

The Courts have introduced a Sentencing Database System to enhance consistency and transparency in sentencing. This system will allow judges to refer to past sentencing data when making decisions, although they are not bound by it. The system is not intended to replace judiciary discretion.

The Sentencing Database System was launched on 15 February, 2025 at the lower courts in Sabah and Sarawak. A task force comprising representative from the Judiciary, the Bar Council, and the Attorney General's Chambers would be established to oversee the implementation and address issues arising from the system's rollout. However, notwithstanding earlier indications of periodic review meetings, no monthly meetings with CR or the Judiciary were convened during the reporting period, apart from the meetings held 11 December 2024 and 7 February 2025.



(6) Joint Working Task Force to Reform the Healthcare Dispute Resolution System

The Bar Council approved the establishment of the Joint Working Task Force (“JWTF”) composed of Members of the Bar; and representatives from the Association of Private Hospitals of Malaysia, Medical Protection Society Malaysia, Marsh Malaysia, Medico-Legal Society of Malaysia, Academy of Medicine of Malaysia, Malaysian Medical Association, Ministry of Health, Malaysia, AGC, and the Federation of Malaysian Consumers Association. The objective of the JWTF is to explore the feasibility of mediation or arbitration as an initial step before resorting to legal proceedings in medico-legal claims.

(7) New Committees of the Bar Council for the 2025/2026 term

The following new committees were approved by the Bar Council:

- (a) Ad Hoc Committee on Prison Reforms;
- (b) Ad Hoc Committee on Sectoral Law and Practice Integration;
- (c) Ad Hoc Parliament Liaison Committee;
- (d) Animal Rights Committee; and
- (e) Enforcement Committee.

(8) Maritime Law Internship Programme

The Bar Council approved a proposal by the Bar Council Shipping and Admiralty Law Committee to introduce a Maritime Law Internship Programme, which will be implemented in collaboration with participating law firms. The objectives of the internship programme are to identify young and emerging talents suited for the shipping and admiralty law sector in Malaysia and to provide practical exposure through participation in court proceedings and arbitration hearings or trials related to maritime law.

(9) Malaysian Bar Risk Management Podcast Channel

The Bar Council agreed to the creation of a Malaysian Bar podcast channel named “My BarRisk Management Podcast”, which will cover issues in relation to risk management.

**(10) Malaysia/Singapore Bench and Bar Games 2025**

The Malaysia/Singapore Bench & Bar Games 2025 was held in Melaka from 12 to 14 September 2025, uniting members of both Bars in the spirit of camaraderie and sportsmanship. The Malaysian contingent was headed by The Right Honourable Datuk Seri Utama Wan Ahmad Farid bin Wan Salleh, the Chief Justice of Malaysia.

Team Malaysia emerged victorious with an overall score of 11.5 to Singapore's 5.5, showcasing strong performances across the various sports contested

I have enjoyed the experience and opportunity to serve the Bar this term, for which I thank the members of Selangor Bar.

I wish to thank the Chairman and my colleagues in the Committee for all the support and encouragement, and the secretariat staff for all the assistance rendered during the term.

Report submitted by,

Dato' Rajpal Singh

Selangor Bar Representative to the Bar Council