

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 581 OF 2024

YOGMAYA M.G.

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

W I T H

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 1060 OF 2025

O R D E R

1. In this batch of petitions, which arise out of the elections to the various State Bar Councils, the following two contentious issues have emerged for our consideration:

(i) What should be the zone of consideration for the purpose of co-option of the women members of the State Bar Councils?

(ii) What should be the correct methodology for calculating the transferable votes amongst the contesting candidates, particularly the women candidates?

2. Adverting to the first Issue, we have discussed the same in open Court with the members of the Bar, who are present in Court representing various State Bar Councils. On a suggestion proffered by the Court, there is a broad consensus, in almost one voice, that the Chief Justices of the jurisdictional High Courts may be authorised to nominate either a former woman Judge of the High Court or a senior practising woman member of the Bar as co-opted woman members to the State Bar Councils.

3. In our considered opinion, such a recourse will infuse objectivity, independence and transparency into the working of the State Bar Councils. We, accordingly, direct that the two women candidates to be co-opted to the State Bar Councils shall be from the following categories:

- (i) former women Judges of the jurisdictional High Court, or
- (ii) senior women members of the Bar having fair standing and belonging to the concerned State/States/UTs.

4. However, the Hon'ble Chief Justices shall take into consideration all the relevant factors while nominating the co-opted women members and shall consult all the elected members of the respective State Bar Councils before taking any such decision. It is, however, clarified that unsuccessful participation in the election to the State Bar Councils will not be construed as a disqualification. Owing to the urgency of the issue, we request Hon'ble Chief Justices to do the needful expeditiously, so that the State Bar Councils can be formally constituted without any undue delay.

5. Coming to the second Issue set out hereinabove, it seems to us that there are varied opinions, which require to be minutely considered by the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee presided over by Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, a former Judge of this Court. In this regard, the interested members of the Bar are permitted to submit their suggestions/opinions to Justice Dhulia's Committee within one week and on consideration thereof, the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee may accord an opportunity

for oral hearing(s) before taking a final decision in that regard.

6. With these directions, WP (C) Nos. 581/2024 and 1060/2025 are disposed of, at this stage. However, it goes without saying that the parties are at liberty to seek redressal of their grievances, if and when any such occasion arises, through an appropriate petition.

7. All applications for intervention are hereby dismissed, and other pending application(s), if any, also stand closed.

.....CJI.
(SURYA KANT)

.....J.
(JOYMALYA BAGCHI)

.....J.
(V. MOHANA)

NEW DELHI;
AUGUST 04, 2026.

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition(s) (Civil) No(s). 581/2024

YOGAMAYA M.G.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(IA No. 116408/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 114890/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 105057/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 84368/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 84359/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 170837/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 2393/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 164984/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 319506/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 164441/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 303054/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 133404/2026 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS, IA No. 56070/2026 - CLARIFICATION/DIRECTION, IA No. 194085/2026 - EARLY HEARING APPLICATION, IA No. 2394/2026 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., IA No. 324597/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T., IA No. 54681/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 3349/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 2392/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 330221/2025 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 195232/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 297837/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 116406/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 84363/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 84356/2026 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION, IA No. 328655/2025 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 317476/2025 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 170834/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 164440/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 133403/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 105056/2026 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA No. 330222/2025 - MODIFICATION OF COURT ORDER, IA No. 328656/2025 - MODIFICATION OF COURT ORDER, IA No. 54682/2026 - PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON, IA No. 30495/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ ANNEXURES, IA No. 91954/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION, IA No. 49937/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION and IA No. 3350/2026 - PERMISSION TO FILE APPLICATION FOR DIRECTION)

WITH

W.P.(C) No. 1060/2025 (PIL-W)

(IA No. 308062/2025 - EARLY HEARING APPLICATION, IA No. 281348/2025 - GRANT OF INTERIM RELIEF and IA No. 295630/2025 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION)

Date : 04-08-2026 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE V. MOHANA

For Petitioner(s) : Dr. Charu Mathur, Adv.
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UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

The Writ Petitions stand disposed of in terms of the signed order.

All applications for intervention are hereby dismissed, and other pending application(s), if any, also stand closed.

(NITIN TALREJA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)
DY. REGISTRAR

(Signed order is placed on the file)