

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO(S).61/2025

RAMAN ALIAS RAMAN GANDHI

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

REGISTRAR GENERAL, HIGH COURT OF DELHI & ANR. RESPONDENT(S)

WITH

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.216/2025

O R D E R

1. Heard the petitioner appearing in person, the learned senior counsel appearing for the petitioner in the companion Petition, the learned senior counsel representing the Registrar General of the High Court of Delhi and the learned senior counsel appearing for the intervenor(s).

2. The challenge in these Writ Petitions is to a notification dated 29th November, 2024 issued by the High Court of Delhi of designating 70 members of the Bar as Senior Advocates in accordance with Section 16(2) of the Advocates Act, 1961. The process has been conducted in accordance with the rules framed by the High Court of Delhi in terms of the directions issued by this Court in the case of *Indira Jaising vs. Supreme Court of India(I)*¹ and *Indira Jaising vs. Supreme Court of India through Secretary General (II)*².

3. We have perused the report submitted by the Registrar General which is kept on record in a sealed cover. We have

1 (2017) 9 SCC 766

2 (2023) 8 SCC 1

also perused the affidavit of Shri Sudhir Nandrajog, learned Senior Advocate. Out of 302 applicants who have submitted applications for conferment of designation as Senior Advocate, 70 members of the Bar have been designated as Senior Advocates. Out of the remaining applicants, cases of 67 applicants have been deferred and the rest have been rejected.

4. After having perused the affidavit of Shri Sudhir Nandrajog and the documents produced by the Registrar General of the High Court of Delhi, we find that the only appropriate solution will be to direct the High Court of Delhi to consider afresh the cases of the deferred and rejected applicants in accordance with the existing Rules, namely 'The High Court of Delhi Designation of Senior Advocate Rules, 2024' (for short, "the 2024 Rules"). We are conscious of the fact that the prayer for reconsideration of the decisions in *Indira Jaising (I)*¹ and *Indira Jaising (II)*² has been heard by a Bench of three Judges of this Court and the judgment is awaited. We make it clear that the directions issued above are in the peculiar facts of the case to avoid possible injustice to any of the applicants. This is a fit case to exercise jurisdiction of this Court under Article 142 of the Constitution of India.

5. Therefore, we issue following directions:

- i. The Registrar General of the High Court of Delhi will take steps for reconstitution of the Permanent Committee in terms of Rule 3 of the 2024 Rules.

ii. On the requisition send by the Registrar General of the High Court of Delhi, nomination shall be made by the Government of NCT of Delhi in terms of Rule 3(d) of the 2024 Rules within a period of one week from the date of receipt of the said requisition; and

iii. The applications of the deferred and rejected applicants (out of 302 applicants) shall be again placed before the Permanent Committee which shall be processed afresh in accordance with the 2024 Rules.

(iv) We request the High Court of Delhi to complete this process expeditiously.

6. With the above directions, the Writ Petitions are disposed of. We clarify that the directions issued above should not be construed to mean that this Court has accepted the allegations/factual assertions made by the petitioners/intervenors and Shri Sudhir Nandrajog.

7. Pending applications including the applications seeking impleadment/intervention, stand disposed of accordingly.

.....J.
(ABHAY S. OKA)

.....J.
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

NEW DELHI;
APRIL 15, 2025.

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

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO(S).61/2025

RAMAN ALIAS RAMAN GANDHI

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

REGISTRAR GENERAL, HIGH COURT OF DELHI & ANR. RESPONDENT(S)

(IA NO.21346/2025 - PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON,
IA NO.62688/2025 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT
IA NO.76598/2025 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT, IA NO.76599/2025
- PERMISSION TO APPEAR AND ARGUE IN PERSON, IA NO.81223/2025
- INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT,
IA NO.81361/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS
AND IA NO.84172/2025 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES)

WITH

W.P.(C) No. 216/2025 (X)

(IA No. 67076/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS AND IA
NO.89923/2025 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT)

Date : 15-04-2025 These matters were called on for hearing
today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ABHAY S. OKA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Petitioner(s): Petitioner-in-person

Mr. Vikas Singh, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Utsav Jain, AOR
Mr. Sudip Patra, Adv.
Ms. Deepika Kalia, Adv.
Mr. Anant Aditya Patra, Adv.

For Respondent(s): Mr. Raj Shekhar Rao, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Sharmila Upadhyay, AOR
Mr. Sarvjit Pratap Singh, Adv.
Mr. Anmol Wadhwa, Adv.
Mr. Rishabh Khare, Adv.

For Applicant(s): Mr. Siddharth Mridul, Sr. Adv.
(Intervenor/s/
Impleaders) Mr. Dev P. Bhardwaj, AOR

Mr. Vikas Singh, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Utsav Jain, AOR
Mr. Sudip Patra, Adv.
Ms. Deepika Kalia, Adv.
Mr. Anant Aditya Patra, Adv.

Applicant-in-person, AOR

Mr. B P Suresh, Sr. Adv.
Mr. A. Lakshminarayanan, AOR
Mr. U Kathiravan, Adv.

Mr. C. S. Rathour, Adv.
Mr. Rathod Rajesh Ranjit, AOR
Mrs. Neetu Gaur, Adv.
Mr. Pramod Kumar Singh, Adv.
Mrs. Tejasvi Kumar Sharma, Adv.

**UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R**

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

Pending applications including the applications seeking impleadment/intervention, stand disposed of accordingly.

(ASHISH KONDLE)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(AVGV RAMU)
COURT MASTER (NSH)

[THE SIGNED ORDER IS PLACED ON THE FILE]