



भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

21, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area, Near Bal Bhawan, New Delhi - 110002

BCI/D:5653/2026

Date: 31.08.2026

To,

1. The Chairman/Vice-Chairman
All the State Bar Councils
2. The Secretary,
All the State Bar Councils,
3. All the contesting candidates to the Elections of the State Bar Council/s

Through,

The Secretary, State Bar Council

- Ref.: 1. Order dated 04.08.2026 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Writ Petition (Civil) No.581 of 2024, Yogamaya M.G. v. Union of India & Ors., with Writ Petition (Civil) No.1060 of 2025.
2. Communication dated 31.08.2026 received from the Office of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, former Judge, Supreme Court of India and Chairman, High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee.

Sub.: Notice regarding virtual hearing before the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee on the issue of Single Transferable Vote on 02.09.2026 at 6:00 PM - Immediate notice to all contesting candidates.

Sir/Ma'am,

1. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, by its order dated 04.08.2026 in the above-mentioned proceedings concerning elections to the various State Bar Councils, inter alia considered the issue relating to the correct methodology for calculating transferable votes amongst contesting candidates, particularly women candidates.
2. The Hon'ble Supreme Court observed that there were varied opinions on the said issue which required detailed consideration by the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee presided over by Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, former Judge of the Supreme Court of India. The Hon'ble Supreme Court accordingly permitted interested members of the Bar to submit their suggestions/opinions to the Committee and further authorised the Committee, upon consideration thereof, to accord opportunity for oral hearing before taking a final decision on the issue.

3. The Bar Council of India has now received a communication dated 31.08.2026 from the Office of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, informing that, in pursuance of the aforesaid order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee has decided to hear the issue relating to the Single Transferable Vote on 02.09.2026 at 6:00 PM through virtual mode.
4. The Bar Council of India has further been requested to immediately issue notice to all contesting candidates through their respective State Bar Councils and to make arrangements for and moderate the virtual hearing.
5. Accordingly, each State Bar Council is hereby requested and directed to immediately circulate this notice to each and every contesting candidate who contested the election to the concerned State Bar Council, irrespective of whether such candidate has been declared elected or unsuccessful, so that every contesting candidate is duly informed of the hearing and has an equal opportunity to participate in accordance with the directions of the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee.
6. Since the hearing is scheduled for 02.09.2026 at 6:00 PM, the matter may kindly be treated as MOST URGENT. The State Bar Councils shall ensure immediate service of this notice upon all contesting candidates through the available electronic modes, including their registered email addresses and/or other available modes of electronic communication, so that no contesting candidate is deprived of notice on account of the short interval before the hearing.
7. The State Bar Councils are also requested to ensure that the communication reaches all contesting candidates without exception and to maintain an appropriate record of circulation/service. Confirmation of compliance and circulation may kindly be forwarded to the Bar Council of India by return email at the earliest.
8. The virtual hearing link and necessary joining instructions is as follows:-

Topic: Hearing before the HPESC on the issue of Single Transferable Vote

Time: Sep 2, 2026 06:00 PM Mumbai, Kolkata, New Delhi

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84904039388?pwd=5Dbh9FBaLtn40G6EPmb0cb6n9n6oxM.1>

Meeting ID: 849 0403 9388

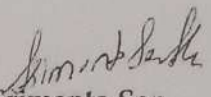
Passcode: 123456

The State Bar Councils shall be required to immediately forward the same to all contesting candidates upon receipt, without any delay.

9. All persons participating in the virtual hearing are requested to join sufficiently in advance and identify themselves appropriately by mentioning their **name and the State Bar Council election concerned**, so that the proceedings may be conducted and moderated in an orderly manner.

10. It is clarified that the hearing is being convened by the High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee pursuant to the order dated 04.08.2026 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, and the Bar Council of India is facilitating the virtual hearing and its moderation in terms of the communication received from the Office of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia.
11. A copy of the order dated 04.08.2026 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India may also be circulated along with this notice for the information of all concerned.

All State Bar Councils are requested to accord top priority to the matter and ensure immediate and complete compliance.


Srimanto Sen
Principal Secretary
Bar Council of India

Copy for information to

1. Office of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia, Chairman, High-Powered Election Supervisory Committee
2. All Hon'ble Members, Bar Council of India

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.

Validity unknown

Digitally signed by
NITIN TAJI
Date: 2025.08.21
12:33:28 +05'30'
Reason

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

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)

Mr. Sawan Shukla, Adv.
Mr. Rohit Kumar, Adv.

Intervenor-in-person, AOR
Applicant-in-person, AOR
Mr. Pravartak Suhas Pathak, AOR
Mr. Durgesh Ramchandra Gupta, AOR
Mr. Amit, AOR

Mr. Vairawan A.S., AOR
Mr. K. Kannan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Atmaram Nadkarni, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Nakul Dewan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Ma Gouthaman, Adv.
Mr. Naveen M, Adv.
Mr. Maheswaran Prabakaran, Adv.

Ms. Abiha Zaidi, AOR
Ms. Gayatri Virmani, Adv.

Mr. Niranjana Sahu, AOR
Mr. Manav Sabarwal, Adv.
Ms. Shivangi Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Rathin Gopi Tg, Adv.
Mr. Haraswardhan, Adv.
Mr. Aayush Kumar, Adv.

Mr. Avijit Mani Tripathi, AOR
MR. Z.H. Isaac Haiding, Adv.
Mr. T.K. Nayak, Adv.
Mr. Daniel Stone Lyngdoh, Adv.
Ms. Marbiang Khongwir, Adv.

Mr. Santosh Paul, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Sriharsh N. Bundela, AOR
Ms. Aditi Rai, Adv.
Mr. Naveen Kumar Yadav, Adv.
Mr. Raghav Dikshit, Adv.
Mr. Aditya Sonawane, Adv.
Mr. Vedant Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Niranjana Sahu, AOR
Mr. Rajesh Kumar Nayak, Adv.

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.

Mr. Rohit Bansal, Adv.
Mr. Varij Nayan Mishra, Adv.

Mr. Abhishek Vikas, AOR

Ms. Filza Moonis, AOR
Mr. C. Kranthi Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Danish Saifi, Adv.

Ms. Manisha Ambwani, AOR

Mr. Sriram P., AOR
Ms. Sona K. Kareem, Adv.
Mr. Anandhu S. Nair, Adv.
Ms. Maneesha Sunilkumar, Adv.

Mr. Satyeyu Veer, Adv.
Mr. Shishir Pinaki, Adv.
Mr. Dhanaeswar Gudapalli, Adv.
Mr. D. Mahesh Babu, AOR

Mr. A.K. Ganguli, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Nakul Dewan, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Prasenjit Kesvani, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Surya Kapoor, Adv.
Mr. Upmanyu Tiwari, Adv.
Mr. Satyender Saharan, Adv.
Mr. Anurag Rana, Adv.
Ms. Aagam Kaur, AOR

Ms. Rajshri Ashutosh Dubey, AOR
Mrs. Rajshri Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Ashutosh Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek Chauhan, Adv.
Mr. Amit P Shahi, Adv.
Mr. Rishabh Bhardwaj, Adv.
Mrs. Rekha Chaudhary, Adv.
Mr. Rahul Sethi, Adv.

Mr. Sunny Kadiyan, AOR

Ms. Filza Moonis, AOR
Mr. C. Kranthi Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Danish Saifi, Adv.

Mr. Dama Sheshadri Naidu, Sr. Adv.
Ms. S. Lakshmi Iyer, AOR
Ms. Sakshi Jain, Adv.

Mr. P V Surendranath, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Biju P Raman, AOR
Mr. John Thomas Arakal, Adv.

Ms. Tatini Basu, AOR
Mr. Byrapaneni Suyodhan, Adv.
Ms. Obulapuram Keerthi, Adv.
Mr. Kumar Shashank, Adv.
Ms. Esha Thawal, Adv.

Mr. D Bharat Kumar, Adv.
Mr. M Chandrakanth Reddy, Adv.
Mr. Siddhartha Sinha, AOR

Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.
Mr. Yusuf, AOR

Mr. Aljo K. Joseph, AOR
Mr. Sashwat Mishra, Adv.
Mr. L Leela Vara Prasad, Adv.
Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Siddharth Singh, Adv.

Mrs. Sumita Ray, AOR
Ms. Disha Ray, Adv.
Mr. Anurag Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Piyush Wadhwa, Adv.

Dr. Arvind S. Avhad, AOR
Mr. Rajat Kapoor, Adv.

Mr. Pukhrambam Ramesh Kumar, AOR
Mr. Karun Shamra, Adv.
Ms. Anupama Ngangom, Adv.
Ms. Rajkumari Divyasana, Adv.

Mr. Vikas Upadhyay, AOR
Ms. Ankita Kashyap, Adv.
Mr. Nitin Gaur, Adv.
Mr. Ranveer Singh, Adv.

Mr. Jasbir Singh Malik, Adv.
Ms. Prachi Sohi, Adv.
Ms. Nitika Dubey, Adv.
Mr. Varun Punia, AOR

Mr. Vivek Narayan Sharma, AOR
Mrs. Mahima Bhardwaj Kalucha, Adv.
Mr. Akash Singh, Adv.
Mr. Rajeev Kumar Jha, Adv.
Mr. Dinesh Sharma, Adv.
Ms. Palak Kaushik, Adv.
Ms. Annika Khurana, Adv.

Mr. Kunal Chatterji, AOR
Ms. Maitrayee Banerjee, Adv.

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.
Mr. Md. Anas Chaudhary, Adv.
Ms. Shehla Chaudhary, Adv.
Mr. Mohd. Sharyab Ali, Adv.
Mr. Shoaib Ahmad Khan, Adv.
Mr. Ansar Ahmad Chaudhary, AOR

Ms. Yogamaya M. G., Adv.
Mr. Deepak Prakash, AOR
Ms. Komal, Adv.
Ms. Jyoti P. Deborah, Adv.

For Respondent(s) : Mr. R. Venkataramani, Attorney General
Mr. Tushar Mehta, Solicitor General
Mrs. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.
Ms. Gargie Boss, Adv.
Mr. Anirudh Singh, Adv.
Ms. Sonali Jain, Adv.
Dr. N. Visakamurthy, AOR
Mr. Anuj Udupa, Adv.
Ms. Aastha Singh, Adv.
Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.
Mr. P.V. Yogeswaran, Adv.
Ms. Ameyavikrama Thanvi, Adv.
Mr. Chitvan Singhal, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek Kumar Pandey, Adv.
Mr. Raman Yadav, Adv.
Mr. Kartikay Aggarwal, Adv.
Mr. Aman Mehta, Adv.
Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, aor, Adv.

Ms. Radhika Gautam, AOR

Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Guru Krishna Kumar, Sr. Adv.
Mr. S Prabakaran, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Anjul Dwivedi, Adv.
Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.
M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR

Mr. T. Singhdev, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Prateek Bhatia, AOR
Mr. Tanishq Srivastava, Adv.
Ms. Anum Hussain, Adv.
Ms. Yamini Singh, Adv.
Mr. Abhijit Chakravarty, Adv.
Mr. Bhanu Gulati, Adv.

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

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.

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.