

Revised (only for appearance)

ITEM NO.53

COURT NO.1

SECTION PIL-W

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. 303054/2025 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 297837/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

WITH

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

IA No. 308062/2025 - EARLY HEARING APPLICATION

IA No. 281348/2025 - GRANT OF INTERIM RELIEF

IA No. 295630/2025 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

Date : 08-12-2025 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI

For Petitioner(s) Ms. Shobha Gupta, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Ritu Bharadwaj, Adv.
Mr. Deepak Prakash, AOR
Mr. Sriram P., Adv.
Ms. Tanjana Rai, Adv.
Ms. Jyoti P. Deborah, Adv.
Ms. Komal, Adv.

Dr. Charu Mathur, Adv.
Mr. Ansar Ahmad Chaudhary, AOR
Mr. Pulkit Aggarwal, Adv.
Md. Anas Chaudhary, Adv.
Mr. Zahid Ali, Adv.
Mr. Mohd. Sharyab Ali, Adv.
Ms. Alia Bano Zaidi, Adv.
Ms. Sangita Malhotra, Adv.
Ms. Neema Rani, Adv.
Mr. Jazib Siddiqui, Adv.
Mr. Mohd. Asim Khan, Adv.
Ms. Nitu Kumari, Adv.
Ms. Nimta Passi, Adv.
Mr. Prakash Tanwar, Adv.
Ms. Aakanksha Gautam, Adv.

Ms. Rashmi Rekha, Adv.
 Ms. Khairun Nisha, Adv.
 Ms. Purna Deo, Adv.
 Mr. Taufeeq Ahmad, Adv.
 Ms. Anamika, Adv.
 Mr. Saurabh Kumar, Adv.
 Ms. Kainat Shaikh, Adv.
 Ms. Malka Asad, Adv.
 Mr. Shoaib Ahmad Khan, Adv.
 Mr. Sandeep Garausa, Adv.
 Mr. Vikas Kumar, Adv.
 Ms. Pallavi Talwar, Adv.

For Respondent(s) Mrs. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.
 Mr. Anuj Udupa, Adv.
 Ms. Aastha Singh, Adv.
 Mr. Gaurang Bhushan, Adv.
 Mr. P.V.yogeswaran, Adv.
 Mr. Aman Mehta, Adv.
 Dr. N. Visakamurthy, AOR

Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Guru Krishna Kumar, Sr. Adv.
 Ms. Radhika Gautam, Adv.
 Ms. Anjul Dwivedi, Adv.
 Ms. Radhika Gautam, AOR

Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. S Prabakaran, Sr. Adv.
 Ms. Anjul Dwivedi, Adv.
 Dr. Ram Sankar, Adv.
 Mrs. Harini Ramsankar, Adv.
 Mr. Maheswaran Prabakaran, Adv.
 Mrs. Usha Prabakaran, Adv.
 Mr. S Anand, Adv.
 Mr. Sujatha Bagadhi, Adv.
 Mr. Sushant Singh, Adv.
 For M/S. Ram Sankar & Co, AOR

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

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

Mr. Aljo K. Joseph, AOR

Mr. Rajesh Kumar, Adv.
Mr. Virendra Mohan, Adv.
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Mr. Rohit Kalra, Adv.
Mr. Saket Jee, Adv.

Mrs. Meenakshi Arora, Sr. Adv.
Dr. Arvind S. Avhad, AOR
Mr. Rajat Kapoor, Adv.

Mr. Jasbir Singh Malik, Adv.
Ms. Prachi Sohi, Adv.
Ms. Pooja Devi, Adv.
Ms. Niharika Singh, Adv.
Mr. Varun Punia, AOR

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

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

1. We have briefly heard learned Senior Counsel representing the cause of the women lawyers as also those representing various State Bar Councils.
2. Mr. Manan Kumar Mishra, learned Senior Counsel and the Chairman of the Bar Council of India, is also present. He has referred to the affidavit filed on behalf of the Bar Council of India (respondent No.2 herein), where, in principle, it has been agreed that the women members of the Bar shall be ensured 30% representation in the composition of the State Bar Councils.
3. He, however, submits that this year, liberty may be given to the Bar Council to fill up the posts by co-opting women in the current election.
4. We note that the elections of four Bar Councils have already been notified, and as a consequence, the election process has commenced. So, it will not be prudent to earmark the seats for the women lawyers in elections in such States. However, we are quite sure that the women members who are contesting/proposed to contest the election in these four Bar Associations, namely, of

Andhra Pradesh, Punjab & Haryana, Telangana, and Uttar Pradesh will contest the election with full spirit, and the advocate-voters will also make an endeavour to ensure that adequate representation is provided to the women members of the Bar.

5. The elections in the Bar Councils of Bihar and Chhattisgarh have already been held. These two Bar Councils may also be excluded.

6. So far as the remaining Bar Councils are concerned, it is directed that 30% of the total seats in the State Bar Council shall be represented by women members of the Bar Associations. Out of these, 20% be filled up by way of election and 10% by way of co-option. A proposal regarding co-option of the women candidates shall be placed before this Court. Wherever the women members of the Bar do not come forward to contest 20% seats to be represented by them, the process of co-option in such Bar Councils shall also be undertaken for the remaining seats to ensure that the women members get 30% representation.

7. The Bar Council of India and the State Bar Councils shall be at liberty to put up their respective proposals for infusing strength for the purpose of inclusivity in the composition of the Bar Council as well as for recourse that may be required to be adopted for suitable enhancement in the total seats.

8. Before concluding, we place on record our appreciation for the pragmatic, progressive, and cooperative approach adopted by the Bar Council of India in giving effect to the above-stated initiative, which is essentially meant to empower female members of the Bar, apart from also furthering the cause of women empowerment and realizing the constitutional vision of an equitable society.

9. Post the matter for further consideration on 30.01.2026.

(SATISH KUMAR YADAV)
ADDITIONAL REGISTRAR

(PREETHI T.C.)
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

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