

ITEM NO.5

COURT NO.3

SECTION XIV

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

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s).24485/2024

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 11-09-2024 in WP(C) No.10736/2024 passed by the High Court of Delhi at New Delhi]

FOZIA RAHMAN

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI & ANR.

Respondent(s)

IA No.237099/2024 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

WITH

C.A. No. 10496-10497/2024 (XIV-A)

D.K. SHARMA & ORS.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(FOR INTERVENTION APPLICATION ON IA 265648/2024

FOR CLARIFICATION/DIRECTION ON IA 265649/2024

IA No. 217680/2024 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 265649/2024 - CLARIFICATION/DIRECTION

IA No. 182343/2024 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 265648/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

IA No. 217678/2024 - INTERVENTION/IMPLEADMENT)

SLP(C) No. 22202/2024 (XIV)

ADITI CHAUDHARY

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(FOR EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT ON IA 212722/2024

FOR INTERVENTION APPLICATION ON IA 239533/2024

FOR INTERVENTION APPLICATION ON IA 257449/2024

FOR INTERVENTION APPLICATION ON IA 281294/2024

IA No. 212722/2024 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 281294/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

IA No. 257449/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

IA No. 239533/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION)

SLP(C) No. 23648/2024 (XIV)

SHOBHA GUPTA & ANR.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

BAR COUNCIL OF DELHI & ORS.

Respondent(s)

(FOR EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT ON IA 231858/2024

FOR INTERVENTION APPLICATION ON IA 234406/2024

FOR INTERVENTION APPLICATION ON IA 258944/2024

FOR APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS ON IA 258945/2024

IA No. 258945/2024 - APPROPRIATE ORDERS/DIRECTIONS

IA No. 231858/2024 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

IA No. 258944/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

IA No. 234406/2024 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION)

Date : 19-12-2024 These matters were called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Petitioner(s) Dr. Adish C. Aggarwala, Sr. Adv.
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Mr. Sandeep Lamba, Adv.
Mrs. Avni Singh, Adv.

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Ms. Manasvi Negi, Adv.
Ms. Simranjeet Kaur, Adv.
Ms. Akshita Mishra, Adv.
Ms. Sanskriti Shakuntla Gupta, Adv.
Mr. Nayoleeka Purty, Adv.
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Ms. Seema Thapliyal, Adv.

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 Ms. Aafreen, Adv.
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 Ms. Zobia Rehman Khan, Adv.
 Ms. Maimuna Fatima, Adv.
 Ms. Injila, Adv.
 Ms. Shumaila Naaz, Adv.
 Mr. Firoj Ali, Adv.
 Ms. Garima Mishra, Adv.
 Mr. Dhriti Dewan, Adv.
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 Mr. Khalid Arshad, Adv.
 Ms. Amita Saxena, Adv.
 Mr. Sounak Basu, Adv.
 Ms. Seema Khan, Adv.
 Mr. Tanveer A. Khan, Adv.
 Mr. Sameer, Adv.
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 Ms. Talish Ray, Adv.
 Ms. Vasudha Priyansha, Adv.
 Ms. Aditi Chaudhary, Adv.
 Mr. Inzamam Khan, Adv.
 Mr. Sitwat Nabi, Adv.
 Ms. Harshita Singhal, Adv.
 Mr. Farheen Intekhab, Adv.
 Mr. Ap Siddiqui, Adv.
 Mr. Mohd Riyyan, Adv.

Mr. D. K. Sharma, Adv.
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For Respondent(s) Mr. Vijay Hansaria, Sr. Adv.
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 Mr. Jatan Singh, Sr. Adv.
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 Mr. Harsh Gautam, Adv.
 Mr. Siddharth Tripathi, Adv.
 Mr. Nitesh Mehra, Adv.

Ms. Gayatri Puri, Adv.
 Mr. Inderbir Singh Alag, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Nishant Anand, Adv.
 Mr. Rajat Manchanda, Adv.
 Mr. Dhan Mohan, Adv.
 Ms. Bandana Kaur Grover, Adv.
 Mr. Naginder Benipal, Adv.
 Mr. Sanjay Dewan, Sr. Adv.
 Mr. Amit Chadha,, Sr. Adv.
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 Mr. Bhanu Gulati, Adv.
 Mr. Sourabh Kumar, Adv.

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 Ms. Monika Chauhan, Adv.
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 Mr. Shalini Satyanaryan, Adv.
 Mr. Maheswaram Yadava Reddy, Adv.

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 Mr. Pawan Kumar Shukla, Adv.
 Mrs. Vatsala Tripathi, Adv.
 Mr. Krishna Prakash Dubey, Adv.
 Mr. Shashank Singh, AOR

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 Mr. Shivam Verma, Adv.
 Ms. Cherish Gujral, Adv.
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 Mrs. Vemula Roopa Dimple, Adv.
 Mr. Vijay Kumar, Adv.
 Mr. Keshav Dev, Adv.
 Mr. Jitender Khurana, Adv.
 Mr. Vaibhav Agarwal, Adv.
 Ms. Gursheen Kaur, Adv.
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 Mr. Kushagra Kumar Kansal, Adv.
 Mr. Vedansh Anand, Adv.
 Mr. Yash Tyagi, Adv.
 Ms. Aisha Singh, Adv.
 Ms. Disha Choudhary, Adv.
 Mr. Mohit Joshi, Adv.
 Mr. Sandip Munian, Adv.
 Ms. Jyotsna Vyas, Adv.

Mr. Ashok Kumar Panigrahi, Adv.
 Mr. Avinish Kumar Saurabh, Adv.
 Mr. Ajit Pravin Wagh, AOR
 Mr. Viniod Chauhan, Adv.
 Mr. Abhinav Anand, Adv.

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

SLP(C)No.24485/2024, SLP(C)No.22202/2024 and SLP(C)No.23648/2024

1. Heard learned Senior Counsels and other learned counsels representing the petitioners, Delhi High Court Bar Association and various District Bar Associations in the NCT of Delhi. Their valuable suggestions along with the alternative options given by them, have been put across for due consideration by the members of the Bar. All of them have very fairly agreed to explore suitable amendments in the existing structure of the Governing Bodies of the High Court and the District Bar Associations.

2. During the course of hearing, it was emphasised that the restructuring of the Governing Bodies of the Delhi High Court Bar Association and the District Bar Associations of NCT of Delhi, may be initiated as a pilot project and eventually it can serve as a model to be followed on a pan-India basis, subject to, however, such modifications as may be necessitated keeping in view the prevailing local conditions.

3. It is also broadly agreed amongst all the Senior Advocates/Advocates, who are present in Court that the interim arrangement made hereinafter, may be on experimental basis for this year on the same analogy as was followed by this Court vide order dated 02.05.2024, in the case titled 'Supreme Court Bar Association vs. B.D. Kaushik'.

4. Consequently, the following interim directions are issued:

(i) There shall be only one post of Treasurer, as it already exists in the Delhi High Court Bar Association. The said post of Treasurer is earmarked exclusively for women candidates, in the ensuing elections.

(ii) One post of the members of the Executive Committee, who are to be elected from amongst the Senior Designated Advocates, shall also be earmarked exclusively for the women Senior Advocates.

(iii) In the next category of those who are to be elected from amongst Advocates having 25 years of practice, one such post of Executive Member too shall be earmarked exclusively for women candidates.

(iv) The election of the High Court Bar Association shall be held on the scheduled date.

5. Adverting to various District Bar Associations in the NCT of Delhi, it is directed that in each and every District Bar Association, the post of Treasurer shall be earmarked only for women candidates of that Bar Association. Since the strength of the members of the Executive Committee/Governing Body of the District Bar Associations vary from Bar to Bar, it is directed that 30% of the posts of Executive Members (including the posts already reserved) shall be earmarked in each District Bar Association for the women candidates having at least 10 years practice to their credit. The directions issued with respect to the composition of Executive Committees of District Bar Associations is also on experimental basis and may vary in future after consideration of the suggestions received from the Members of the Bar. The elections of the District Bar Associations in the NCT of Delhi shall also be held as per the scheduled dates.

6. Mr. Siddharth Mridul, Senior Advocate is requested to assist the Court as an *amicus curiae*. The Members of the Bar are requested to submit their suggestions to him on his following e-mail address:

sidharth.mridul@gmail.com

7. We request Mr. Mridul to collect the relevant information and data from all the High Courts' Bar Associations of the country and submit his suggestions after due consultation with the Members of the Delhi High Court Bar Association, other High Court Bar Associations and the District Bar Associations.

8. Mr. Puneet Dhawan, Advocate-on-Record and Ms. Sanskriti Shakuntala Gupta, Advocate shall assist Mr. Siddharth Mridul, Senior Advocate to collect, collate and compile the information.

9. List on 03.02.2025.

C.A.Nos. 10496-10497/2024

1. Detag.
2. As per the Office Report, service in I.A. Nos.217680/2024 and 217678/2024 is inconclusive.
3. Let fresh dasti notice be issued, returnable on 20.01.2025.
4. In case the office-bearers of the NGT Bar Association express reluctance in acceptance of notice, the Registrar of the Tribunal is directed to effect service on such office-bearers, to enable them to enter appearance on the date fixed.

(SATISH KUMAR YADAV)
ADDITIONAL REGISTRAR

(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER