



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:4.6.72./2026

Date: 21.07.2026

To

1. Hon'ble High-Powered Election Committees
constituted for elections to the State Bar Councils
2. All Returning Officers

Through

The Secretary/ies
All the State Bar Council/s

Sub.: Communication of the Resolution adopted by the General Council of the Bar Council of India on 19.07.2026 concerning preservation of the existing statutory elected strength of the State Bar Councils and appropriate implementation of the prescribed representation of women in accordance with the final electoral ranking.

Sir's/Ma'am's,

The General Council of the Bar Council of India, in its meeting held on 19.07.2026 considered the implementation of the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court concerning representation of women in the State Bar Councils and the existing statutory composition prescribed under Section-3(2)(b) of the Advocates Act, 1961.

Upon detailed consideration, the General Council has resolved that the existing statutory elected strength of fifteen, twenty or twenty-five members, as applicable to the concerned State Bar Council, should ideally remain intact, undiminished and unaffected.

Accordingly, all candidates falling within the first fifteen, twenty or twenty-five positions, as the case may be, in the final overall electoral ranking deserve to be treated as falling within the existing statutory elected strength. Every woman candidate falling within such statutory strength should be fully counted towards the prescribed representation of women.

The remaining numerical shortfall, if any, in the prescribed representation of women should be separately determined only after giving full credit to all women elected within the existing statutory strength.

Where any result, notification or gazette publication has already been issued by declaring eighteen, fourteen or eleven candidates from the overall electoral ranking together with five, four or three women candidates respectively, the concerned Returning Officer or High-Powered Election Committee shall revise and republish the same so as to first include the twenty-five, twenty or fifteen highest-ranked candidates, as applicable. Women falling within such statutory strength shall be counted towards the prescribed representation, and only the balance shortfall shall be filled by additional women candidates in accordance with their inter se electoral ranking. No candidate falling within the applicable statutory strength shall be excluded or displaced, and no woman candidate shall be counted twice.

For clarity, the General Council has formulated the following maximum proposed composition

- i. where the existing statutory elected strength is twenty-five, the prescribed representation shall be seven women members and the maximum possible total strength shall be thirty-two
- ii. where the existing statutory elected strength is twenty, the prescribed representation shall be six women members and the maximum possible total strength shall be twenty-six
- iii. where the existing statutory elected strength is fifteen, the prescribed representation shall be four women members and the maximum possible total strength shall be nineteen

The above maximum strength shall arise only where no woman candidate is elected within the existing statutory strength. For every woman elected within the statutory strength, the number of additional seats required to address the shortfall shall stand correspondingly reduced.

No additional seat shall be carved out of, adjusted against, substituted for or treated as reducing any of the existing elected seats prescribed under Section 3(2)(b) of the Advocates Act, 1961.

The General Council has constituted a Committee of Senior Advocates to examine the legality of the proposed mechanism. The proposal for any additional seats beyond the existing statutory strength shall remain subject to consideration of the Committee report, its final approval by the General Council and such orders as may be passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

You are, therefore, requested to kindly

- i. prepare and preserve the complete final overall ranking of all candidates strictly in accordance with the votes secured and the applicable system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote
- ii. separately identify all women candidates falling within the existing statutory strength of fifteen, twenty or twenty-five positions

- iii. calculate the remaining shortfall in the prescribed representation of four, six or seven women members, as applicable, after giving full credit to women falling within the existing statutory strength
- iv. prepare a separate list of women candidates who may fall immediately below the existing statutory strength and who may be considered against any additional seats, subject to the final decision of the Bar Council of India and the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court
- v. refrain from excluding, displacing or treating as unelected any candidate falling within the existing statutory elected strength merely for the purpose of accommodating representation through co-option or additional seats
- vi. forward to the Bar Council of India the certified final result, complete ranking, vote details and separate women-candidate position statement immediately upon completion of counting
- vii. where any declaration, notification or gazette publication has already been made on the earlier basis, prepare and forward the revised and consolidated list for immediate republication in conformity with the Resolution

This communication shall be read subject to the orders already passed and any further orders that may be passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The Returning Officers and High-Powered Election Committees are requested to ensure strict preservation of the complete electoral record and shall not take any action inconsistent with the existing statutory elected strength or with any subsisting judicial direction.

A copy of the Resolution adopted by the General Council and a copy of the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed on 08.12.2025 in Writ Petition No.581/2024 is enclosed for your kind perusal.

With regards,


Srimanto Sen
Principal Secretary
Bar Council of India

Encl.: Copy of the Resolution

Copy to

Hon'ble Chairperson and Hon'ble Members
High Powered Election Supervisory Committee.



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Extract of the Minutes of the Meeting of the General Council of the Bar
Council of India dated 19.07.2026

Item No.162/2026

To consider a proposal for suitable enhancement of the composition of State Bar Councils for securing meaningful representation of women without disturbing the existing statutory elected strength under Section 3(2)(b) of the Advocates Act, 1961, and to take consequential steps in light of the proposed Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2026.

The General Council considered the existing composition of the State Bar Councils under Section 3(2)(b) of the Advocates Act, 1961, the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India concerning representation of women in State Bar Councils, the liberty expressly granted to the Bar Council of India to submit proposals for suitable enhancement of the total number of seats, and the legal necessity of giving effect to such directions without disturbing the subsisting statutory scheme or prejudicing any duly elected member.

The General Council noted that Section-3(2)(b) of the Advocates Act, 1961 presently provides as follows:

"in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate not exceeding five thousand, fifteen members, in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate exceeding five thousand but not exceeding ten thousand, twenty members, and in the case of a State Bar Council with an electorate exceeding ten thousand, twenty-five members, elected in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote from amongst advocates on the electoral roll of the State Bar Council."

The General Council considered the order dated 8th December, 2025 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Yogamaya M. G. v. Union of India & Ors., W.P.(C) No. 581 of 2024, whereby the Hon'ble Court directed that women be ensured 30 per cent representation in the composition of the State Bar Councils, with 20 per cent being filled through election and 10 per cent through co-option. The Hon'ble Court further provided that where women do not come forward to contest the requisite elected seats, co-option may also be undertaken for the remaining representation.

The General Council has considered the proposal of Mr. Amit Vaid, Hon'ble Member, Bar Council of India and also took particular note of the following liberty expressly granted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court:

"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."



The General Council is of the considered view that the expressions "infusing strength" and "suitable enhancement in the total seats" contemplate an enlargement of the existing composition wherever such enlargement is required to secure inclusivity. The order does not require that duly elected statutory members be displaced or that elected seats already created by Parliament be retrospectively converted into co-opted seats.

The General Council considered the proposal contained in the proposed Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 2026. It noted that the Bill proposes a fresh statutory arrangement governing elected seats, representation of women and co-option. The proposed Bill, is soon going to become law.

The General Council, therefore, records that the present decision is not a change of institutional policy concerning the representation of women. The Bar Council of India remains fully and unequivocally committed to ensuring meaningful representation of women in every State Bar Council and to implementing the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in their true letter and spirit.

What has been reconsidered is only the legally permissible method by which that objective may be achieved while the existing Section 3(2)(b) continues to operate.

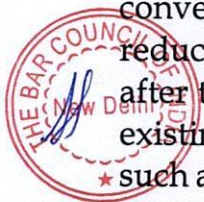
Upon a fuller examination of the statutory provision, the proposed legislative text, the stage of the elections in different States and the possible consequences for members already elected or participating in an ongoing electoral process, the General Council found it necessary to refine the earlier formulation.

The General Council also considered Article 141 of the Constitution of India, under which the law declared by the Hon'ble Supreme Court is binding on all courts within the territory of India. The directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court concerning representation of women are therefore required to be implemented faithfully. At the same time, any subordinate legislation, administrative arrangement or institutional direction framed by the Bar Council of India has to be within the authority conferred by the Advocates Act, 1961.

The General Council records that the present Resolution does not purport to amend the Advocates Act, 1961. The Bar Council of India is not going to alter by resolution the numerical composition expressly fixed by Parliament. The Resolution formulates a proposal to constitute an Expert Committee to examine the Resolution and furnish its views so that the Bar Council of India could place the same before the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

The General Council is of the clear opinion and records that the mandate of the existing statutory provision is clear and binding. The fifteen, twenty or twenty-five seats, as the case may be, constitute seats required by Parliament to be filled through election in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote.

The Hon'ble Chairman is of the view that, so long as Section 3(2)(b) of the Advocates Act, 1961 continues in its present form, the Bar Council of India cannot, by an internal resolution, executive direction or administrative arrangement, convert any of those statutory elected seats into reserved or co-opted seats, or reduce the number of persons entitled to be elected against them. The Council, after thorough deliberations comes to the conclusion that any departure from the existing statutory composition would require an amendment by Parliament or such appropriate directions as the Hon'ble Supreme Court may consider necessary in exercise of its constitutional jurisdiction.



The Bar Council of India therefore considers it appropriate to preserve the existing statutory elected strength and to secure the prescribed 30% representation of women by adding only such number of women members as may be required after giving full credit to women elected within the existing statutory strength and thus to treat the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Yogamaya M.G. v. Union of India & Ors.*, W.P. (C) No. 581/2024, for the creation of 30% seats for women Advocate as an addition to the existing seats

The General Council is of the considered view that the existing statutory elected strength must be preserved in full.

The protection shall equally extend to an election process which has already commenced on the basis of the existing statutory strength. The conditions governing such an election should not ordinarily be altered after commencement in a manner which changes the number or character of the seats for which candidates entered the contest and electors cast or are required to cast their votes.

RESOLUTION

The General Council therefore resolves that the existing twenty-five, twenty or fifteen elected seats, as the case may be, shall remain intact, undiminished and unaffected.

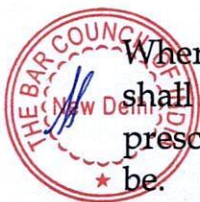
Where twenty-five members are presently provided under Section 3(2)(b), the prescribed representation shall be seven women members. If no woman is elected within the first twenty-five positions, seven additional women members shall be added and the total strength shall be thirty-two. If one or more women are elected within the first twenty-five positions, each such elected woman shall be counted towards the prescribed number of seven and only the balance shortfall shall be filled through additional seats.

Where twenty members are presently provided under Section 3(2)(b), the prescribed representation shall be six women members. If no woman is elected within the first twenty positions, six additional women members shall be added and the total strength shall be twenty-six. If one or more women are elected within the first twenty positions, each such elected woman shall be counted towards the prescribed number of six and only the balance shortfall shall be filled through additional seats.

Where fifteen members are presently provided under Section 3(2)(b), the prescribed representation shall be four women members. If no woman is elected within the first fifteen positions, four additional women members shall be added and the total strength shall be nineteen. If one or more women are elected within the first fifteen positions, each such elected woman shall be counted towards the prescribed number of four and only the balance shortfall shall be filled through additional seats.

Accordingly, thirty-two, twenty-six and nineteen shall be the maximum possible strengths respectively, and shall arise only where no woman is elected within the existing statutory strength of twenty-five, twenty or fifteen members.

Where women are elected within the existing statutory strength, the total strength shall increase only by the number required to fill the remaining shortfall in the prescribed representation of seven, six or four women members, as the case may be.



Any additional seats required to fill the remaining shortfall in the prescribed representation of seven, six or four women members, as the case may be, shall not be carved out of, adjusted against, substituted for or treated as reducing any of the elected seats presently provided under Section 3(2)(b).

The prescribed numbers of seven, six and four women members have been formulated with reference to the existing statutory composition and the requirement of meaningful representation of women. Every woman elected through the ordinary electoral process shall be fully credited towards the applicable prescribed number. The number of additional seats shall therefore be limited strictly to the balance shortfall and shall correspondingly decrease for every woman elected within the existing statutory strength.

The General Council resolves that all women candidates falling within the first fifteen, twenty or twenty-five positions, as the case may be, in the final overall electoral ranking shall be declared elected against the existing statutory strength and shall be fully counted towards the applicable prescribed representation of four, six or seven women members respectively.

Only the remaining numerical shortfall, after giving such credit, shall be filled through additional seats for giving effect to the representation of women contemplated by the order dated 08.12.2025 passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court. In *Yogamaya M.G. v. Union of India & Ors.*, W.P. (C) No. 581/2024. The number of additional seats shall correspondingly stand reduced by the number of women elected within the existing statutory strength, and no additional seat shall be created beyond the balance shortfall or result in any woman advocate being counted twice.

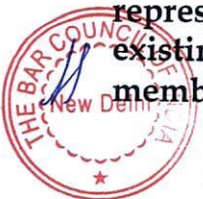
The Council further constitutes a Committee of three Senior Advocates to examine the legality of this Resolution and submit its report within six weeks. The Committee. is proposed to comprise

1. Mr. S. B. Upadhyay, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court
2. Mr. Guru Krishna Kumar, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court
3. Mr. Dinesh Kumar Goswami, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court
4. Ms. Priya Hingorani, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court (Special Invitee)

The Council shall consider the report and thereafter confirm the Resolution.

The membership of candidates added from the nineteenth to twenty-fifth, fifteenth to twentieth and twelfth to fifteenth positions in the respective State Bar Councils shall be confirmed after the report of committee and finally after the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court only. Until then, such newly added members shall be entitled to participate in meetings and voting and to contest for any post.

The General Council resolves that the final resolution shall be placed before the Hon'ble Supreme Court in *M. Vardhan v. Union of India & Anr.*, W.P. (C) 1319/2023, (after receipt of report) as a legally harmonising mechanism which gives effect simultaneously to the binding directions concerning women's representation, the express liberty for enhancement of the total seats, the existing mandate of Section 3(2)(b) and the rights and tenure of duly elected members.



It is further resolved that this Resolution be forwarded to all Returning Officers and High-Powered Election Committees with copy to High Powered Election Supervisory Committee, so that all candidates falling within the existing statutory strength of twenty-five, twenty or fifteen members, as the case may be, are declared elected in accordance with the final electoral ranking. Women so elected shall first be counted towards the prescribed representation, and only the remaining shortfall shall be accommodated through additional seats.

It is clarified that, where a result, notification or gazette publication has already been issued by declaring eighteen, fourteen or eleven candidates from the overall electoral ranking together with five, four or three women candidates respectively, the same shall be revised and republished so as to first include the twenty-five, twenty or fifteen highest-ranked candidates, as applicable. Women falling within such statutory strength shall be counted towards the prescribed representation, and only the balance shortfall shall be filled by additional women candidates in accordance with their inter se electoral ranking. No candidate falling within the applicable statutory strength shall be excluded or displaced, and no woman candidate shall be counted twice.

The General Council records that the present decision neither retreats from nor dilutes the commitment of the Bar Council of India to women's representation. It strengthens that commitment by placing it upon a legally sustainable foundation, while protecting the democratic mandate of existing elected members and ensuring fidelity to the Advocates Act, 1961, the binding directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the constitutional rule of law.

Resolved accordingly.

Certified to be the True Copy




Srimanto Sen
Principal Secretary
Bar Council of India

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
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. 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. Pulkrit 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.
 Mr. Lalit Belwal, Adv.
 Mr. N Leela Vara Prasad, Adv.
 Mr. Santhosh Kumar Kolkundra, Adv.
 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

ITEM NO.53

COURT NO.1

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For Respondent(s) Mrs. Aishwarya Bhati, A.S.G.
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 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.
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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