



Fax : 0177-2658071
E-mail : bchp1971@gmail.com
Phone : 2657455 & 2659071

हिमाचल प्रदेश विधिज्ञ परिषद्

BAR COUNCIL OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

High Court Complex, Raveneswood, Shimla-171 001

Ref. No. BCHP-Letter-2026 1409

Dated 29.08.2026

To 1459
The President/ Secretary
All the Bar Associations of HP.

Subject: Suggestion of names of senior women members of the Bar Association for co-option to the State Bar Council.

Sir/Madam,

This is to inform you that the office of Bar Council of HP has received a communication from Hon'ble High Court of Himachal Pradesh on dated 29-08-2026 conveying that, pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, the Hon'ble Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh has desired to suggest the names of some senior women members of the Bar Associations for being considered for co-option to the State Bar Council after fulfilling the following criteria:

1. Candidate must possess a minimum of 20 years of combined active practice in the High Court and the District Judiciary.
2. Candidates must be Annual Income Tax Returns filer for the preceding five financial Years, reflecting her gross taxable income of not less than Rs 6 Lakh per annum in each year.
3. Candidates must be in regular practice in the courts having personally filed or conducted proceedings in at least 60 cases during last three years. (Copy of above mentioned letter is annexed herewith for your perusal please).

All the President/Secretary of Bar Associations of Himachal Pradesh are requested to circulate this letter of High Court widely amongst all the advocates by displaying the same on their notice boards and through appropriate electronic /Whatsapp messaging groups, so that maximum publicity may be done at the earliest.

The names of the senior women members fulfilling the above mentioned criteria, for being co-opted to the State Bar Council shall be forwarded either herself or through President of respective bar association, to the office of Bar Council of Himachal Pradesh within 7 days from the date of receipt of this letter, so that the requisite information may be forwarded to the Hon'ble High Court at the earliest.

Thanking you

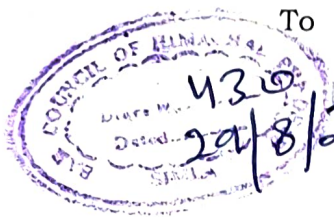
Yours Sincerely

SECRETARY
BAR COUNCIL OF
H.P. SHIMLA

HIGH COURT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH, SHIMLA - 171001

No. HHC/Rules/HSC/Imp.J/2026 **26553**
Dated: Shimla, the 27th August, 2026.

To



The Secretary,
Bar Council of Himachal Pradesh,
Shimla, H.P. 171001.

Subject: Hon'ble Supreme Court's Writ Petition (C) No. 581 of 2024 with Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1060 of 2025.

Sir,

I am directed to inform that the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order dated 04.08.2026, passed in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 581 of 2024, titled as **"Yogamaya M.G. versus Union of India & Ors. (copy enclosed)"**, has inter-alia directed as under:

"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.***

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."

Taking into consideration the above said directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, Hon'ble the Chief Justice has desired to suggest names of some senior women members of the Bar for being co-opted to the State Bar Council after fulfilling the following criteria:

- i) Candidates must possess a minimum of 20 years of combined active practice in the High Court and the District Judiciary.

- ii) Candidates must be Annual Income Tax Returns filer for the preceding five financial years, reflecting her gross taxable income of not less than Rs.6 lakh per annum in each year.
- iii) Candidates must be in regular practice in the Courts, having personally filed or conducted proceedings in at least 60 cases during last three years.

You are, therefore, requested to call for names of the Senior women members fulfilling the above criteria, for being co-opted to the State Bar Council by giving wide publicity, so that the Hon'ble Authorities could be apprised and necessary action could be taken accordingly.

Encls: As above.

Yours faithfully,



(Bhupesh Sharma)
Registrar General

27.8.16

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO. 581 OF 2024

YOGAMAYA 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 K. VERMA
Date: 2025.08.14
10:52:11
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

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.