



2026:AHC-LKO:26714-DB

**HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD  
LUCKNOW**

**PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (PIL) No. - 318 of 2026**

Soni Sharma, Advocate (Enroll No. 05560/2015)

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

Lucknow Bar Association, Lucknow Thru  
Chairman Elders Committee- Sri Jai Singh And  
Ors.

.....Respondent(s)

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Counsel for Petitioner(s) : Rohit Mishra, Km. Vishwa Mohini  
Counsel for Respondent(s) : Durgesh Kumar Shukla, Shishir Jain

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**Court No. - 1**

**HON'BLE RAJAN ROY, J.  
HON'BLE MANJIVE SHUKLA, J.**

1. Vakalatnama filed today by Ms. Priya Singh and Mr. Mayank Pandey, Advocates on behalf of respondent No.1 is taken on record.
2. Affidavit of service and application for deleting respondent No.4 and 5 from memo of writ petition filed today by Shri Rohit Mishra, learned Counsel for the petitioner and application for intervention filed on behalf of Shri Alok Tiwari, Advocate by Shri G.L. Yadav are taken on record.
3. Heard Km. Vishwa Mohini and Shri Rohit Mishra, learned Counsel for the petitioner, Shri G.L. Yadav, Advocate who has filed an application for intervention on behalf of Shri Alok Tiwari, Advocate who is a member of the Lucknow Bar Association, Shri Sharad Pathak, learned Senior Advocate assisted by Shri Mayank Pandey, learned Counsel appearing on behalf of respondent No.1 i.e. Lucknow Bar Association, Lucknow, Shri Shushil Kumar Singh a member of the Bar. Respondents no. 4 and 5 have been deleted.
4. It is not in dispute that there is a direction by Hon'ble the Supreme Court under which 30% of posts in the Bar Associations whether it be Executive Body or Governing Council has to be reserved for women. The directions have been issued under Article 142 of the Constitution

of India. These directions are binding on all Bar Associations, who are obliged to provide the aforesaid reservation subject to any further orders being passed in this regard by Hon'ble the Supreme Court in proceedings bearing **SLP (C) No.1404 of 2025 (Deeksha N Amruthesh vs. State of Karnataka & Ors.)** which are still pending. Article 144 of the Constitution of India enjoins all authorities, civil and judicial, in the territory of India to act in aid of the Supreme Court.

5. The cause of action for filing this Public Interest Litigation is the ensuing elections to the Governing Council/Executive Body of the Lucknow Bar Association at Lucknow which is a Bar annexed to the District Court, Lucknow and non-compliance of the aforesaid dictum of the Supreme Court of India, although, the schedule of election was notified subsequent to the orders being passed by Hon'ble the Supreme Court. The orders were passed in February, 2026 and prior to it, whereas the notification of schedule of election was issued by the respondent No.1 on 10.03.2026 but without taking into consideration the orders of the Supreme Court of India.

6. On being confronted, Shri Sharad Pathak, learned Senior Counsel appearing for the respondent No.1 submitted that the elections are being held in pursuance to an order passed by a Coordinate Bench of this Court on 16.02.2026 in Writ C No.1109 of 2026 (Beerendra Mishra Saurabh and others vs. Bar Council of U.P. and Others), according to which, the elections have to be completed within ten weeks from the said date, however, on being asked as to whether the order of the Coordinate Bench dated 10.02.2026 absolves the respondent No.1, which was also an opposite party in the said writ petition from complying the orders of the Supreme Court of India and in fact, whether it could by any stretch of imagination be understood as doing so, he fairly submitted that it did not and could not. He then submitted, in that eventuality, the elections have to be rescheduled.

7. Be that as it may, if the elections are required to be rescheduled then it will certainly have to be rescheduled because non compliance of the orders of the Supreme Court of India passed under Article 142 of the Constitution of India cannot be countenanced in any eventuality.

8. We, therefore, direct the respondent No.1 to reschedule the elections to its Executive Body/Governing Council keeping in mind the orders passed by the Supreme Court of India in SLP (C) No.1404 of 2025 and from the date of fresh notification for the said elections they will be completed keeping in mind the timeline prescribed by the Coordinate Bench in the order dated 16.02.2026.

9. At this stage, Shri Pathak says that notification for rescheduled elections will be issued within 24 hours.

10. Shri S.K. Singh, learned member of the Bar has also contented that the orders of Hon'ble the Supreme Court have to be complied in letter and spirit by all the Bar associations in the State of Uttar Pradesh.

11. So far as this Public Interest Litigation is concerned, it relates to the ensuing elections to the Lucknow Bar Association. As regards, the other Bar associations, they are also bound by the dictum of Hon'ble the Supreme Court as and when any cause of action arises where any such Bar association are not following the dictum of Hon'ble the Supreme Court then remedy as prescribed under the law can be availed.

12. As regards the contention of Shri G.L. Yadav that there are only 210 women members in the Lucknow Bar Association, therefore, prescription of 30% reservation for women is not justified, firstly, we do not find any such material having been annexed with the application for intervention to establish that there are only 210 members, secondly, even otherwise, the percentage of reservation has not been fixed by us but by Hon'ble the Supreme Court, therefore, we cannot possibly modify the same. We are bound by orders passed by Hon'ble the Supreme Court just as the Bar Associations are bound. We do not find any merit in the contention of intervenor.

13. We, **dispose of** this petition at the admission stage itself as this is hardly a case where any counter affidavit is required from any of the contesting parties especially in view of what has been stated by learned Counsel for respondent No.1 and the fact that rest of the respondents are the High Court and District & Sessions Judge,

Lucknow. The rescheduling of the elections shall take place positively within one week from today. The application for intervention is also disposed of.

14. A copy of this judgment be forwarded to District and Sessions Judge, Lucknow.

**April 17, 2026**  
-Piyush-

**(Manjive Shukla,J.) (Rajan Roy,J.)**