ITEM NO.41 COURT NO.3 SECTION IV-A

SUPREME COURT OF INDIA RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s).1404/2025

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 08-01-2025 in WP No.35836/2024 passed by the High Court of Karnataka at Bengaluru]

DEEKSHA N AMRUTHESH

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF KARNATAKA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

FOR ADMISSION

IA No. 23442/2025 - INTERVENTION APPLICATION

Date: 28-01-2025 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SURYA KANT

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE NONGMEIKAPAM KOTISWAR SINGH

For Petitioner(s) Mrs. Lakshmy Iyengar, Sr. Adv.

Mr. Amruthesh. N. P, Adv.

Mr. Harshith. S, Adv.

Mr. Tanmay Mehta, Adv.

Ms. Divya Swami, AOR

For Respondent(s) Mr. Kapil Sibal, Sr.Adv.

Mr. Anil C.Nishani, Adv.

Mr. T.G. Ravi, Adv.

Mr. Kapil Sibal, Sr.Adv.

Mr. Anu B., AOR

Mr. Manesha Singh, Adv.

Mr. Vaibhav Chowdhary, Adv.

Mr. Bibhuti Krishna, Adv.

Mr. Udaya Holla, Sr.Adv.

Mr. Ninad Laud, Adv.

Mr. Sahil Tagotra, Adv.

Dr. Ravi Shankar, Sr.Adv.

Mrs. Ranu Purohit, Adv.

Mr. Yashas RK, Adv.

Mrs. Niharika Singh, Adv.

Ms. Jayaa Kothari, Sr.Adv.

Ms. Anindita Pujari, Sr.Adv.

- Ms. Aparna Mehrotra, Adv.
- Mr. Shaileshwar Yadav, Adv.
- Ms. Laxmi, Adv.
- Mr. Raghav Gupta, Adv.
- Mr. Hitendra Nath Rath, Adv.
- Ms. Nalina Mayegowda, Sr.Adv.
- Mr. Priyadarshi Banerjee, Adv.
- Ms. A.Reddy, Adv.
- Mr. Rishabh Singhle, Adv.
- Mr. Aarlin Moncy, Adv.
- Mr. Sujoy Chatterjee, Adv.
- Mr. Sanjay Nuli, Sr. Adv.
- Mr. K. V. Muthu Kumar, AOR
- Mr. Nanda Kumar K.B., Adv.
- Ms. Akhila Wali, Adv.
- Mr. Akshay Ravi, Adv.
- Ms. Sarita Kanwar, Adv.
- Mr. Anil Kumar R., Adv.
- Mr. Darpan K.M., Adv.
- Mr. KBS Manian, Adv.
- Mr. Ashok Bannidinni, AOR
- Mr. Thyagaraj, Adv.
- Mr. Gnanesh H Kempanna, Adv.
- Mr. Sunil M.V.v, Adv.
- Ms. Betsara Mylliemngap, Adv.
- Mr. Agam Sharma, Adv.
- Mr. Ajay Kadkol, Adv.
- Mr. H.Chandra Sekhar, Adv.
- Ms. Rekha Sekhar, Adv.
- Mr. Faeek-Ul-Farooq, Adv.
- Ms. Ranu Purohot, Adv.

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

- 1. On an oral mentioning being made by learned counsel for the applicant(s), I.A. No. 23659/2025 in SLP(C)No. 1404/2025 is taken on Board with other Interlocutory Applications.
- 2. These applications for intervention are at the instance of Girish Kumar C.S., Vivek Subba Reddy, Santosh TC, Vivek Subba Reddy and Muniyappa Gowda. They seek modification of the order dated 24.01.2025, in terms whereof the post of `Treasurer' in the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru has been exclusively earmarked

for women candidates and, in addition, their 30% representation in the Governing Council has also been provided.

- 3. The applicants have pointed out that some of them (male advocates) have already filed nominations for the post of `Treasurer' for the coming election.
- 4. We have heard S/Shri Kapil Sibal, learned Senior Counsel and other learned Senior Counsel representing the intervenors as well as the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru besides the learned Senior Counsel, representing the women members of the Bar.
- 5. During the course of hearing, Shri Kapil Sibal, learned Senior Counsel, representing the intervenors, fairly states that while the post of `Treasurer' will remain exclusively earmarked for the women candidates, the Advocates' Association seeks to create one additional post to enable the male candidates, who are in the race for the post of `Treasurer', to shift to that newly created post or any other post.
- 6. Having regard to the fact that the order dated 24.01.2025 came to be passed only a few days before the scheduled date of election and, meanwhile, the General Body of the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru don't have sufficient time to meet and create additional posts, we deem it appropriate to invoke our powers under Article 142 of the Constitution and issue the following additional directions in continuation of the order dated 24.01.2025:
 - (i) One more post of `Vice-President' shall be deemed to have been created in the Advocates' Association, Bengaluru to be filled through the ensuing elections.
 - (ii) The male candidates, who have filed nominations for the post of `Treasurer', namely, the post which is now exclusively earmarked for the women candidates, shall be granted one opportunity either to switch over their nominations from the post of `Treasurer' to the newly created post of `Vice-President' and/or any other than the post of `Treasurer'. It goes without saying that those who do not want to contest will be at liberty to withdraw their

nominations.

(iii) Similarly, in the light of 30% post of Councilors having been exclusively earmarked for the women candidate, the strength of Councillors is ordered to be increased as follows:

- (a) City Civil Court: 12+3 = 15
- (b) Mayo Hall: 5+2 = 7
- (c) Magistrates' Court: 5+2 = 7
- (d) High Court: 7+2 = 9
- 7. The High-Powered Committee and the Chief Returning Officer shall conduct the elections accordingly, keeping in view the increased strength of office bearers and Councillors of the Governing Council.
- 8. It will be appreciated if the election process can be concluded within three weeks.
- 9. The nominations for the newly created post of `Vice-President' of the Advocates' Association, for the post of `Treasurer' of the Advocates' Association and for the newly added posts of `Councillors' of the Governing Council, be invited within one week.
- 10. Wherever the Regulations governing the elections to different posts of Advocates' Association, Bengaluru provide minimum eight years' or any other experience at Bar as an eligibility condition for contesting election, such eligibility condition shall be adhered to.
- 11. The order dated 24.01.2025 stands clarified/modified to the extent indicated above.
- 12. The applications stand disposed of in the above terms.
- 13. Tag with SLP (C) No.1910/2025.