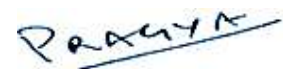


SUGGESTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SUPREME COURT BAR ASSOCIATION ON THE REPORT OF JUSTICE L. NAGESHWAR RAO

We have gone through the report of Justice L. Nageshwar Rao regarding reforms in the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) elections. Our Suggestions on the recommendations are as follows:

- Members with 30 years of membership in the SCBA and who were voters atleast 7 times in the last 14 years should be included in the revised categories of eligibility to vote. Accordingly, Clause B, sub-clause (iv) of Paragraph 64 should be amended.
- The categories at subclause (i) to (iii) are accepted, subject to be condition that the 50 appearances required should have at least 75% physical appearances in Court and only a maximum of 25% can be virtual appearances. The physical appearance is to be verified from the Proximity Card entry of the day on it is claimed. The virtual entry is to be verified to see if the person had actually joined the hearing in virtual mode. The software in the Supreme Court Registry should be directed to be aligned for the said purposes. Until the software is upgraded, physical entry should be verified using the proximity card data.
- Entry into the Supreme Court premises and the use of the Proximity Card should also be considered for voting eligibility, provided that members have entered the Court premises at least 60 times in a year and have at least 20 appearances in that year. Similarly, voting rights for Chamber allottees should also be on the basis of at least 20 appearances in that year.
- Regarding the recommendation concerning eligibility to contest for various posts in the SCBA, we are of the view that:
 - Candidates for President must have at least 20 lead appearances in reported judgments in the last 10 years;

- Candidates for Vice-President must have at least 10 lead appearances in reported judgments in the last 10 years;
 - Candidates for Secretary must have at least 15 lead appearances and 60 proximity card entries in the year immediately preceding the election excluding Registrar Courts;
 - Candidates for Joint Secretary, Treasurer, and Joint Treasurer must have at least 30 appearances and 60 proximity card entries in the year immediately preceding the election excluding Registrar Courts;
 - Candidates for Senior Executive Members must have 25 appearances and 60 proximity card entries and Executive Members at least 25 appearances and 60 proximity card entries in the year immediately preceding the election excluding the appearances of Registrar Courts for Executive Members.
- The suggestion of the Committee with regard to the tenure of Executive committee, as enumerated in Paras 52 and 60 read with Para 64(G)(i), are acceptable to the Executive Committee.
 - Sub-clause (F) of Para 64, relating to disqualifications for contesting elections, is salutary and should therefore be implemented rigorously.
 - All five suggestions contained in sub-clause (G) of Para 64, under the heading Miscellaneous Recommendations, should be implemented. It should further be provided that the decision of the Election Committee on any matter concerning the SCBA elections shall be final.



PRAGYA BAGHEL
Hony. Secretary