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HYDERABAD, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026.

NOTIFICATIONS BY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS Etc.,

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JUDICIAL NOTIFICATION

HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA

NOTIFICATION No.25/SO/2026, ISSUED FRAMING NEW GUIDELINES FOR DESIGNATION OF ADVOCATES AS SENIOR ADVOCATES BY THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA.

NOTIFICATION NO. 25/SO/2026

R.O.C.No.2161/SO/2023-

In supersession of the existing guidelines on the subject, the High Court for the State of Telangana frames the following guidelines for designating Advocates as Senior Advocates, under Section 16(2) of the Advocates' Act, 1961 (Central Act 25 of 1961):

GUIDELINES FOR DESIGNATION OF SENIOR ADVOCATES

BY

THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA, 2026

1. These Guidelines shall be called "Guidelines for Designation of Senior Advocates by the High Court for the State of Telangana, 2026".

2. All matters relating to the designation of Senior Advocates in the High Court for the State of Telangana shall be dealt with by a Permanent Committee to be known as "Committee for Designation of Senior Advocates".

3. The Committee for Designation of Senior Advocates shall consist of:

(a)	Chief Justice of High Court for the State of Telangana	Chairperson
(b)	Two senior-most Judges of the High Court for the State of Telangana	Members

4. The Committee shall meet whenever exigencies require.

5. The Committee shall have a Permanent Secretariat. The composition of the Secretariat will be decided by the Chief Justice of High Court for the State of Telangana in consultation with the members of the Committee.

6. The Secretariat of the Committee shall initiate the process for designation of Senior Advocate at least once every year by inviting applications from Advocates for designation as Senior Advocates.

7. The Notice inviting applications from Advocates shall be published on the official website of the High Court for the State of Telangana. In addition, intimation will also be given to the Telangana High Court Advocates' Association and the Bar Council of the State of Telangana.

8. At least twenty-one days' time shall be given to applicants to submit their applications (as per Annexure-'A') or in the manner as directed by the competent authority at the relevant time.

9. The conditions on which Advocates shall be eligible for designation as Senior Advocates are:

(i) As on the date of Notification, the Applicant must be in the rolls of Bar Council of the State of Telangana;

(ii) At least

(a) ten years' standing as an Advocate; or

(b) ten years' combined standing as an Advocate and as a District and Sessions Judge in the High Court for the State of Telangana (period from 2019 – till date of Notification) and in the erstwhile

High Court at Hyderabad (period from 2014 to 2018) or as a Judicial Member of any Tribunal in the State of Telangana whose qualification for eligibility for such appointment is not less than that prescribed for appointment as a District Judge.

- (iii) Practice mainly in the High Court for the State of Telangana.

Note: Applicant-advocates having domain expertise of practicing before specialized Tribunals may be given concession with regard to the extent of appearances in the High Court for the State of Telangana.

- (iv) The total practice years for consideration of the application shall be calculated as under :

Practice Years "A" + Remaining Balance Years "B" = Ten Years

Practice Years "A" = "Current year –(minus) 2018 from High Court for the State of Telangana or the Courts in the State of Telangana

and

remaining balance years "B" in the erstwhile High Court at Hyderabad or the Courts under the erstwhile High Court at Hyderabad.

- (v) Attainment of the age of 45 years, unless the age limit is relaxed by the Full Court.

- (vi) The application of the applicant-Advocate to designate him/her as a Senior Advocate has not been rejected by the High Court for the State of Telangana, within a period of two years, or the said application has not been deferred by High Court for the State of Telangana within a period of one year, immediately preceding the date of notice inviting applications from the Advocates.

10. On receipt of applications from Advocates, the Secretariat will compile relevant data and information with regard to the reputation, conduct and integrity of the advocate(s) concerned including the information/data furnished by concerned Advocate(s) in the prescribed format. Information may also be collected by the Secretariat from such source(s), as may be decided by the Committee.
11. The Secretariat will publish the proposals received for designation on the official website of the High Court for the State of Telangana and invite suggestions/views of other stakeholders on the proposals for designation.
12. At least fifteen days' time shall be given to other stakeholders to give their suggestions/views on the proposed designation.
13. On compilation of the database and such additional information as is collected pursuant to the directions of the Committee, the Secretariat shall put up the proposals before the Full Court.
14. The Full Court will examine each application in the light of the data provided by the Secretariat and make its overall assessment on the basis of ability, standing at the Bar or special knowledge or experience in law of the candidates, considering the following:

Ability: It will include very sound knowledge of law and especially the branches of law in which the Advocate is practicing. The ability will also include, apart from sound knowledge of law, skills of advocacy, which are required to effectively conduct a case. Writing articles and commentaries on law will be part of ability. Capacity to rationally critique judicial decisions will be a facet of ability.

Standing at the Bar: Some of the qualities which give an advocate a standing at the Bar are as follows:

- (a) He/She is always fair while conducting cases before the Courts.
- (b) His/Her behaviour with the Judges and other members of the Bar is respectful.
- (c) He/She maintains decorum while conducting cases before the Court.
- (d) He/She always acts first as an officer of the Court and, thereafter, a mouthpiece of his/her client.
- (e) He/She follows the highest standards of professional etiquette and ethics.
- (f) He/She acts as a mentor to the Junior Advocates.
- (g) He/She does pro bono work.
- (h) He/She carries respect in the legal fraternity.
- (i) He/She does possess honesty and integrity.

The above list is only illustrative in nature, and not exhaustive.

Special Knowledge of Law: An Advocate may be said to be having special knowledge or experience in law if in a particular branch of law, he has acquired expertise; for example, Arbitration, Insolvency and Bankruptcy, Company Law, Intellectual Property Law, Tax Laws etc.

No criminal antecedents: An Advocate has not been convicted by a competent court of law and should not have been punished for an offence involving moral turpitude or contempt of court or should not have been punished by any State Bar Council/Bar Council of India for any act of misconduct.

15. The applications of all candidates found to be eligible by the Permanent Secretariat along with relevant documents submitted by them shall be placed before the Full Court.

16. Even if an Advocate deserving of a designation does not apply for designation, on the basis of the discussion, the Full Court may recommend his/her designation de hors an application in a deserving case, subject to his/her consent.
17. The decision-making on designation of Advocates will be by consensus. However, if that is not possible, the decision will be made on the basis of majority view. Voting by secret ballot will be resorted to in an exceptional situation, for reasons to be recorded.
18. All cases which are not favourably considered by the Full Court shall be considered after the expiry of two years from the date of the decision of the Full Court by following the procedure applicable at that time.
19. All cases deferred by the Full Court for being designated as Senior Advocate shall not be considered until the expiry of one year from the date of the decision of the Full Court.
20. In the cases which are not favourably considered or deferred by the Full Court as per Paras 18 and 19 above, the Advocate may apply afresh in terms of the procedure applicable on the date of the fresh application after the expiry of prescribed period.
21. The final decision of the Full Court will be communicated individually to all the applicants.
22. The Full Court may review its decision to designate a person as a Senior Advocate and recall the conferment of designation if the Advocate is found guilty of conduct which according to the Full Court disentitles him to designation. The Full Court would give an opportunity of a hearing before any such action is taken.
23. All questions relating to interpretation and/or application of these Guidelines shall be referred to the Chief Justice of High Court for the State of Telangana whose decision shall be final. The Chief Justice of High Court for the State of Telangana may issue directions for the removal of difficulties either in general terms or in a particular instance as the exigencies may require.

Annexure - 'A'

**APPLICATION-CUM-CONSENT LETTER
SUBMITTING TO THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
FOR DESIGNATION OF SENIOR ADVOCATE**

1. Name of the Applicant Advocate:
(As per SSC/10th Memo, Proof to be enclosed.
Should be same in enrollment certificate, if any change
Gazette to be enclosed)

Please affix recent
passport sized
colour photo

2. Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy) : ____/____/____
(As per SSC/10th Memo, Proof to be enclosed)

3. Age (as on 01st January of the "Notification Year") : ____ Years ____
Months

4. Address of the Applicant Advocate (Any one address proof to be enclosed):
(Please fill the exact postal address including Pin Code)

Correspondence to be made to : **Office / Residence** (Strike off) whichever is not
applicable)

Office :

Residence :

5. Contact Details:

Land Line Phone Number : _____

Mobile Phone Number (s) : _____

Email Id : _____

6. Educational / Professional qualifications (*Copies of Certificates to be enclosed*):

7. Enrollment details (*Copy of Enrollment Certificate to be attached*):

Enrollment as Advocate on (dd/mm/yyyy) : ____/____/____

Enrollment Number : _____

Bar Council, where registered : _____

8. Whether the applicant worked in the capacity of District and Sessions Judge or as a Judicial Member of any Tribunal in the State of Telangana whose qualification for eligibility for such appointment is not less than that prescribed for appointment as a District Judge?

Yes / No

If answer is yes,

If District Judge:No of years worked under High Court for the State of Telangana : _____
(period from 2019 – till date of Notification)No of years worked under erstwhile High Court at Hyderabad : _____
(period from 2014 to 2018)

If Judicial Member of any Tribunal in the State of Telangana:

Tribunal Name : _____

Period : _____

9. Number of Years of Practice from the date of Enrollment (*Copy of Certificate of Practice issued by the Bar Council to be attached*):

Total _____ Years _____ Months.

High Court : _____ Years _____ Months

District Courts : _____ Years _____ Months

Tribunals : _____ Years _____ Months

10. Courts, where the applicant is practicing/ has practiced (*Court-wise period may be indicated*):

Court Name	From	To
High Court for the State of Telangana		

11. Tribunals, where the applicant has specialized practice (*Applicable to those practicing before the Tribunals. Tribunal-wise period may be indicated*):

Name of the Tribunal	From	To

12. Whether the applicant is a member of the “Telangana High Court Advocates’ Association”? (*Tick whichever is applicable. If answer is “yes”, a Copy of Association Membership to be attached*).

YES / NO

13. Net Professional Income per annum (*Copies of Last 3 Years Income Tax Returns filed before the Income Tax Department to be attached*):

_____ Lakhs.

14. Number of Reported Judgments (excluding orders that do not lay down any principle law): (*Formats L-1 & L-2 to be submitted*):

	No. of Reported Judgments as Lead Arguing Counsel:	No. of Reported Judgments as Assisting Counsel:
High Court for the State of Telangana		
Hon’ble Supreme Court or other High Courts		
District Courts / Labour Courts in the State of Telangana		
Tribunals		
Total		

15. Number of Unreported Judgments (excluding orders that do not lay down any principle law): *(Formats L-3 & L-4 to be submitted):*

	No. of Unreported Judgments as Lead Arguing Counsel:	No. of Unreported Judgments as Assisting Counsel:
High Court for the State of Telangana		
Hon'ble Supreme Court or other High Courts		
District Courts / Labour Courts in the State of Telangana		
Tribunals		
Total		

16. Pro Bono/ Amicus Curiae work done by the applicant: *(Formats L-5(i) & L-5(ii) to be submitted):*

	Pro Bono Cases	Amicus Curiae
High Court for the State of Telangana		
Hon'ble Supreme Court or other High Courts		
District Courts / Labour Courts in the State of Telangana		
Tribunals		
Total		

17. Whether the applicant is a first-generation lawyer? *(Tick whichever is applicable).*

YES / NO

18. Academic Articles/ Books published, experience of Teaching Assignments in the field of Law, Guest Lectures delivered in law schools or professional institutions connected with law (*Format L-6 to be submitted*):

No. of Academic Articles : _____

No. of Teaching Assignments : _____

No. of Academic Books : _____

No. of Guest Lectures : _____

19. Nature of Practice: _____

(Civil, Criminal, Constitutional, Taxation, Labour, Company, Service etc.)

20. Field of Law – Domain Expertise (*In which the applicant has specialization/ expertise*):

(Such as Constitutional Law, Inter-State Water Disputes, Criminal Law, Arbitration Law, Corporate Law, Family Law, Human Rights, Public Interest Litigation, International Law, Law relating to Women)

21. Whether the applicant has applied earlier to the erstwhile High Court of Andhra Pradesh/erstwhile High Court at Hyderabad/ High Court for the State of Telangana, for designating him/her as a Senior Advocate:

YES / NO

If Yes, Furnish the following details in which he/she has applied:

Notification No. : _____

Date of Notification: _____

22. Whether the applicant has applied earlier to any other High Court, for designating him/her as a Senior Advocate:

YES / NO

If Yes, Furnish the following details in which he/she has applied:

Name of the High Court : _____

Notification No. : _____

Date of Notification : _____

23. Whether any FIR has ever been lodged against the applicant:

YES / NO

If Yes, Furnish the following details:

FIR No. : _____

Name of the Police Station : _____

District/ Commissionerate : _____

Status of FIR : _____

24. Whether the applicant is a party to any Criminal Case:

YES / NO

If Yes, Furnish the following details:

Case No. : _____

Name of the Court : _____

Status of the Case : _____

25. Whether any proceedings were initiated or are pending against the applicant before Bar Council of India or State Bar Council:

YES / NO

If Yes, Furnish the following details:

SR No. : _____

Name of the Bar Council : _____

Status of the Proceedings : _____

26. General Status of Health: _____

27. Any other relevant information:

DECLARATION

I, _____, Advocate, bearing with
Enrollment No. _____ at Bar Council of the State of
Telangana hereby give consent for being designated as Senior Advocate.

I hereby declare that the information furnished above is true and correct to
the best of my knowledge and belief. No material information is concealed
or suppressed therefrom. I understand that furnishing of false information or
suppression of any factual information would render me unfit from being
designated as Senior Advocate.

Date: ____/____/____

Signature of the Applicant-Advocate

Format L-1

(See Sl. No. 14 of the Application)

AS LEAD ARGUING COUNSEL

LIST OF REPORTED JUDGMENTS (EXCLUDING ORDERS NOT LAYING
DOWN ANY PRINCIPLE OF LAW)**In matters before the High Court for the State of Telangana**

S. No.	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the Supreme Court and other High Courts

S. No.	Court(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the District Courts / Labour Courts / Tribunals

S. No.	Court(s) / Tribunal(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

Format L-2

(See Sl. No. 14 of the Application)

AS ASSISTING COUNSEL

LIST OF REPORTED JUDGMENTS (EXCLUDING ORDERS NOT LAYING
DOWN ANY PRINCIPLE OF LAW)**In matters before the High Court for the State of Telangana**

S. No.	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the Supreme Court and other High Courts

S. No.	Court(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the District Courts / Labour Courts / Tribunals

S. No.	Court(s) / Tribunal(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

Format L-3

(See Sl. No. 15 of the Application)

AS LEAD ARGUING COUNSEL

LIST OF UNREPORTED JUDGMENTS (EXCLUDING ORDERS NOT
LAYING DOWN ANY PRINCIPLE OF LAW)

In matters before the High Court for the State of Telangana

S. No.	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the Supreme Court and other High Courts

S. No.	Court(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the District Courts / Labour Courts / Tribunals

S. No.	Court(s) / Tribunal(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

Format L-4

(See Sl. No. 15 of the Application)

AS ASSISTING COUNSEL

**LIST OF UNREPORTED JUDGMENTS (EXCLUDING ORDERS NOT
LAYING DOWN ANY PRINCIPLE OF LAW)****In matters before the High Court for the State of Telangana**

S. No.	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the Supreme Court and other High Courts

S. No.	Court(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

In matters before the District Courts / Labour Courts / Tribunals

S. No.	Court(s) / Tribunal(s)	Citation / Case Number	Cause Title and Subject Matter	Decided on	Legal formulation advanced by the applicant.

Format L-5 (i)

(See Sl. No. 16 of the Application)

List of matters in which appeared as Pro-Bono

S.No.	Court(s)/ Tribunal(s)	Citation/ Case Number	Cause Title	Decided on	Reportable / Unreportable

Format L-5 (ii)

(See Sl. No. 16 of the Application)

List of matters in which appeared as Amicus Curiae

S.No.	Court(s)/ Tribunal(s)	Citation/ Case Number	Cause Title	Decided on	Reportable / Unreportable

Format L-6

(Sec Sl. No. 18 of the Application)

Details of academic articles/books published, experience of teaching assignments in the field of law, guest lectures delivered in law schools or professional institutions connected with law.

S. No.	Topic of published academic		Experience details in law schools or professional institutions (with names) connected with law		Any other relevant details
	Articles	Books	Teaching Assignment(s)	Guest Lectures	

**INSTRUCTIONS TO BE FOLLOWED BY THE ADVOCATES
WHILE APPLYING FOR DESIGNATION OF SENIOR ADVOCATE**

1.	Advocates are requested to scrupulously follow these instructions while submitting the Application and the Prescribed Formats (L-1 to L-6).
2.	At the time of submission of the Application, the following should be attached: (i) Filled-in and properly signed Application-cum-consent letter (ii) Filled-in Formats L-1 to L-6 (iii) Recent passport size colour photograph; and (iv) Photostat copies of Relevant Certificates/Documents mentioned in the Application.
3.	The following should be submitted in the CDSA Secretariat: (i) 4 Sets of the Application along with its attachments in the shape of a Paper Book, duly tagged/spiral & indexed. (ii) Full Coloured and Clearly Scanned copy of Application along with its attachments duly indexed in one single file (.pdf format) (iii) One recent passport size colour photograph (name of the applicant should be written on its back side).
4.	Data/Information relating to reported and unreported judgments in matters argued as lead arguing/assisting counsel, pro bono/amicus curiae, publication work (articles/books/teaching assignments/guest lectures) should be provided in the prescribed formats L-1 to L-6 which form part of Application.
5.	List of citations of reported and unreported judgments in matters argued as lead counsel/ assisting counsel should be furnished in chronological order. The citations should be of judgments made reportable by the Supreme Court/High Courts/ Tribunals and are available in their official reports.
6.	(i) Name of the applicant should tally with his/her name as mentioned in his/her enrolment certificate. Abbreviated name shall NOT be accepted. (ii) If there is a difference in name mentioned in SSC/10 th Certificate and Enrollment Certificate, necessary Gazette also to be attached.
7.	Request to accept application beyond the last date indicated in the notice, shall NOT be entertained in any case.

Hyderabad,
19-09-2026.

(Sd/-),
Registrar General.