

(d) Issue a writ of mandamus directing the Respondents to reserve 50% of seats to Women in the wards as well as the offices of the President and Vice-President."

As soon as the case was taken up for consideration, learned counsel for the petitioner made a request that his client may be permitted to withdraw the writ petition.

We reluctantly accept the request of the learned counsel and grant leave to the petitioner to withdraw the writ petition.

However, keeping in view the background facts and the orders passed by the High Court and this Court, we consider it imperative to direct Chief Secretary, State of Karnataka and all officers subordinate to him to comply with the directions given by State Election Commission, Karnataka in the matter of holding elections to local bodies and extend full co-operation to it. We also direct that no officer of the State Government or any other functionary shall make an attempt to frustrate the process initiated by the State Election Commission for holding and completing the election for the local bodies in accordance with the mandate of Article 243U of the Constitution.

The Registry is directed to communicate this order to Chief Secretary, State of Karnataka by fax by tomorrow, i.e., 14.02.2013.

| (Parveen Kr.Chawla)
| Court Master
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| | (Phoolan Wati Arora)
| | Court Master
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