



**HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT ALLAHABAD
LUCKNOW**

PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (PIL) No. - 12700 of 2019

Siddhartha Shukla

.....Petitioner(s)

Versus

State Of U.P. Thru Chief Secretary And Anr.

.....Respondent(s)

Counsel for Petitioner(s) : Satya Narain Shukla, Sridhar Awasthi
Counsel for Respondent(s) : C.S.C., Adv Gen, R.S.Upadhyा, Ripu Daman Shahi, Sarvendra Kumar Gupta

Along with :

1. Writ - C No. 10066 of 2024:

Mrs. Puneeta

Versus

State of U.P. Thru. Prin. Secy. Deptt. of Revenue Lko. and another

2. Writ - C No. 1685 of 2025:

Amita Maurya

Versus

State of U.P. Thru. Prin. Secy. Deptt. of Revenue, Lko and 9 others

3. Writ - C No. 6514 of 2025:

Smt. Seema Verma @ Smt.seema and another

Versus

State of U.P. Thru. Prin. Secy. Deptt. of Revenue and another

4. Public Interest Litigation (pil) No. 986 of 2025:

Poulomi Pavini Shukla and another

Versus

State of U.P. Thru. Prin. Secy. Deptt. of Revenue Lko. and another

Court No. - 1

HON'BLE RAJAN ROY, J.

HON'BLE ABDHESH KUMAR CHAUDHARY, J.

1. Supplementary Counter affidavit and Rejoinder affidavit filed today in PIL No.986 of 2025 are taken on record.

2. We have heard Shri Siddhartha Shukla, petitioner appearing in person in PIL No.12700 of 2019, Shri Skand Bajpai in Writ C Nos. 10066 of 2024, 1685 of 2025 and Ms. Poulomi Pavini Shukla, petitioner appearing in person in PIL No.986 of 2025.

3. In essence, these petitions raise a challenge to provisions of U.P. Revenue Code, 2006 insofar as they, as alleged, discriminate women in the matter of successions to agricultural holdings.
4. The enactment in question being a State act we had called upon the State to file its affidavit. An affidavit was earlier filed in PIL No.12700 of 2019, that is in 2021, and another affidavit has been filed in PIL No.986 of 2025. The affidavit is woefully lacking in necessary averments on the question of constitutionality and legality of the provisions under challenge. Only legislative history of the provision has been given. Apart from it, in paragraph 7 it has been stated that a sub committee of the Cabinet was instituted in 2018 under the Chairmanship of the Parliamentary Affairs Minister to provide equal rights to unmarried, married and widowed daughters in agricultural land under the U.P. Revenue Code, 2006, as amended from time to time. As no meeting of the sub committee was held, a decision could not be taken in the matter. It has been further stated that the process of reconstituting the sub committee of the Cabinet is currently under way.
5. Ms. Poulomi Pavini Shukla informed that after constitution of this committee some minor amendments were made in the relevant provisions, incorporating transgenders as successors to such agricultural holding, but no amendment has been inserted with regard to the subject matter in issue, as referred herein-above.
6. Let another affidavit be filed by none else than Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary (Revenue) specifically indicating as to whether the Government is serious about the reference to the sub committee of the Cabinet about the rights relating to unmarried, married and widowed daughters in agricultural land, if so, how long will it take to reconstitute the committee and approximately how long the committee will take to submit its report. Further, what is the stand of the State Government with regard to constitutionality of the provisions under challenge. This should be specifically spelled out in the affidavit. We grant two weeks and no more time for filing of the said affidavit. The Additional Chief Secretary/ Principal Secretary (Revenue) would be better advised to look into the matter herself as we will not grant any

further opportunity.

7. List on February 02, 2026 amongst first ten cases of the day.

8. If the State wishes to oppose the writ petition on the constitutionality of provisions under challenge, then, it is open for it to file a better affidavit detailing the grounds of defence and material, if any, in support thereof.

9. We also request Shri M.A. Khan, learned Senior Advocate to assist us in the issues involved in this matter.

10. Shri Apoorva Tewari, Advocate also proposes to assist the Court in the matter. Let the name of Shri Apoorva Tewari, Advocate be shown in the cause list when the case is next listed.

(Abdhesh Kumar Chaudhary,J.) (Rajan Roy,J.)

January 12, 2026

Arnima