



MADHAVI DIVAN

Madhavi Goradia Divan is a Senior Advocate practicing in the Supreme Court of India. She held the position of Additional Solicitor General in the Supreme Court of India from December 2018 to June 2023 and is only the third woman to be appointed to this position. She was educated at Cambridge University where she was a Cambridge Commonwealth Scholar. She has argued cases on a range of subjects which include constitutional law, media law, commercial law and environment law. Madhavi Divan is the author of a book on media law titled *Facets of Media Law* (Eastern Book Company), now in its third edition. The book is widely used by practitioners and media persons and is a recommended text book in several law schools across India. She is also the co-author of *Halsburys Laws of India – Environment*, 2003 (Butterworths). She contributed to the seminal publication *Courts of India – Past to Present*, published by the Supreme Court of India in 2016 and was Chief Editor of the *Indian Advocate*, a publication by the Bar Association of India.

Madhavi Divan has represented the Government of India in several landmark constitutional cases in the Supreme Court which include the Triple Talaq case, the NJAC case on judges' appointments, and the entry tax case. She has represented the Government of India/IBBI in several constitutional challenges to the vires of the IBC, including *Swiss Ribbons Pvt. Ltd. v Union of India* (2019) 4 SCC 17, *Pioneer Urban Land & Infrastructure Ltd. v Union of India* (2019) 8 SCC 416, *Manish Kumar v Union of India* 2020 SCC Online SC 384, and *Anil D. Ambani v UOI*. She has also argued some landmark cases on competition law including *Rajasthan Cylinders & Containers Ltd. v Union of India* (2020) 16 SCC 615 and *Amazon Seller Services (P) Ltd. v. Competition Commission of India*, (2021) 4 Kant LJ 504: 2021 SCC OnLine Kar 12626.

Madhavi Divan was entrusted with the task of framing the Government of India's response to petitions by Muslim women challenging the practice of the triple talaq. The case culminated in a landmark judgment titled *Shayara Bano vs. Union of India*: (2017) 9 SCC 1, in which a Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court delegitimised triple talaq.

Madhavi Divan has also been the recipient of several awards recognizing her contributions to the legal sphere. She was awarded the “Woman Lawyer of the Year Award 2017-18” conferred by Legal Era at Mumbai, the “Excellence Award 2018: Honouring Distinguished Service & Contribution to Media & Constitution Laws” at the CXO & GC Leadership Summit, New Delhi, “Woman Lawyer of the Year 2019” by Business Legal World and was most recently awarded the “Capital Foundation National Award 2022” for her outstanding contribution to Advocacy and Legal Scholarship by the Capital Foundation Society in New Delhi.