



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION NO.7512 OF 2023

Vinit Anilkumar Taral

Aged 20 years, Occ : Student,

Residents of 1696/A, F-5, Sujata Park,

Galli No. 12, Jaisingpur

Tal. Shirol, Dist. Kolhapur-416101

...Petitioner

Versus

1. State Of Maharashtra  
Through its Secretary, Tribal  
Development Department, Mantralaya,  
Mumbai-400032.

2. Scheduled Tribe Certificate Scrutiny  
Committee, Pune division, Pune,  
Through its Member Secretary,  
having its office at Kapil Towers,  
C-Wing, near RTO Office, Pune -1  
Dist. Pune.

3. Sub Divisional Officer,  
Ichalkaranji Division, Ichalkaranji  
Dist. Kolhapur.

...Respondents

WITH  
WRIT PETITION NO.7513 OF 2023

Vivek Anilkumar Taral

Aged 20 years, Occ : Student,

Residents of 1696/A, F-5, Sujata Park,

Galli No. 12, Jaisingpur

Tal. Shirol, Dist. Kolhapur-416101

...Petitioner

*Versus*

1. State Of Maharashtra  
Through its Secretary, Tribal  
Development Department, Mantralaya,  
Mumbai-400032.
2. Scheduled Tribe Certificate Scrutiny  
Committee, Pune division, Pune,  
Through its Member Secretary,  
having its office at Kapil Towers,  
C-Wing, near RTO Office, Pune -1  
Dist. Pune.
3. Sub Divisional Officer,  
Ichalkaranji Division, Ichalkaranji  
Dist. Kolhapur.

...Respondents

...

Adv. Chintamani Kamlakar Bhangoji for the Petitioners.

Adv. N. M. Mehra, AGP for Respondent Nos. 1 to 3 in WP/7512/2023.

Adv. P. J. Gavhane, AGP for Respondent Nos. 1 to 3 in WP/7513/2023.

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**CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE &  
ASHWIN D. BHOBE, JJ.**

**DATE : 22<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER, 2024**

**ORAL JUDGMENT (Per Ravindra V. Ghuge, J.) :-**

1. **Rule.** Rule made returnable forthwith and heard finally by  
the consent of the parties.

2. The Petitioners have put forth prayer clause (a), as under :-

*“(a) This Hon’ble Court be pleased to issue Writ of Certiorari and or any other Writ, Order or Direction in the nature of Certiorari thereby quashing and setting aside the impugned order dated 18<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 passed by the Respondent no.2 Committee and order dated 11<sup>th</sup> August, 2022 passed by the Respondent No. 3 Competent Authority, with further direction to the Respondent No. 3 to issue Caste Certificate in favour of petitioner as belonging to Koli Mahadev, Scheduled Tribe.”*

3. In identical circumstances, we have recently delivered a judgment on 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 2024 in Writ Petition No. 14646 of 2024 ***(Rohit Uttam Mane vs. State of Maharashtra And Ors)*** and a connected Petition. Siblings were before us in those two Petitions. Their Grandfather and the biological brother had been granted the Tribe Certificate of Koli Mahadev. Yet, the SDO as well as the Scrutiny Committee declined to grant the Tribe Certificate on the ground that there was insufficient evidence. In several such matters, we have not only quashed the orders of the SDO and its Committee Members, but have also imposed nominal cost of Rs. 2,500/- each.

4. In the present case, in addition to the family tree on record,

the learned Advocate for the Petitioners has prepared an extensive family tree and has tendered it to the Court which is marked as 'X' for identification. It is pointed from page No. 24 that the father of these two Petitioners (siblings), namely Anilkumar, has been granted a Koli Mahadev Scheduled Tribe Certificate.

5. In view of the above, we have no hesitation in directing Respondent No. 3 to issue Koli Mahadev Schedule Tribe Certificates to both the Petitioners, within a period of 30 days from today. The Certificates to be issued to these Petitions would carry the correct spelling of Koli Mahadev. The impugned orders passed by the SDO as well as by the Committee, stand quashed and set aside.

6. If the Petitioner's father or either of the Petitioners approach the Competent Committee under The Maharashtra Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Special Backward Category (Regulation of Issuance and Verification of) Caste Certificate Act, 2000 for seeking a Validity Certificate, this order would not influence the Committee and a proper verification exercise shall be carried out by the Committee as is prescribed under the Act and in the light of the law laid down by the

Hon'ble Supreme Court in *Maharashtra Adiwasi Thakur Jamat Swarakshan Samiti vs. The State of Maharashtra and others, Civil Appeal No.2502/2022 decided on 24.03.2023, AIR 2023 SC 1657*.

7. Akin to the orders passed earlier, in this matter also, we are imposing nominal cost of Rs. 2500/- each to be paid by Respondent No. 3 SDO Ichalkaranji and the three members of the Committee Respondent No.2, to each of the Petitioners, within a period of 30 days from today.

8. Rule is made absolute in the above terms.

(ASHWIN D. BHOBE, J.)

(RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)