

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CONTEMPT PETITION NO. 132 OF 2026
IN
WRIT PETITION NO. 4450 OF 2025**

Pravin Vishnu Dhumal & Anr.Petitioners

Versus

Ranjit Singh Deol & Anr.Respondents

**AND
CONTEMPT PETITION NO. 141 OF 2026
IN
CONTEMPT PETITION NO. 740 OF 2025**

Subhangi Mahesh Borade & Anr.Petitioners

Versus

Ranjit Singh Deol & Anr.Respondents

Mr. Akshay Karlekar, for Petitioners.

Mr. Omkar Chandurkar, Addl. GP. a/w Mr. Aditya R. Deolekar, AGP for State.

Mr. P. P. Kakade, Addl. GP. a/w. Mr. V. G. Badgajar, AGP and Mrs. P. M. Joshi Deshpande, AGP for State.

Mr. Ashwin Kapadnis, for Respondents/ZP.

Dr. Smita Desai, Section Officer, School Education Department Mantralaya Mumbai.

Mr. Hari Shinde, Assistant Section Officer, School Education Department, Mantralaya Mumbai.

Mr. Naikade Sanjay, Education Officer Pune.

Mr. Anjinkya Kharat, Superintendent Pay Unit, Pune, officers present in Court.

**CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE &
ABHAY J. MANTRI, JJ.
DATE : 05th MARCH, 2026**

P.C. :-

1. The learned AGP has taken instructions and is informed to state that the orders of this Court have not been obeyed. However, he clarifies that the disobedience is not deliberate. He tenders a flow chart indicating how the Respondent-State Authorities have proceeded to deal with the various stages, in their endeavour to comply with the order of the Writ Court. We find that the flow chart does not carry any dates. The same is taken on record and marked as ‘X-1’. In the absence of dates, we find the flow chart to be an empty formality.

2. The learned AGP submits, on instructions, that there are 30 sanctioned posts. Nine teachers had resigned about a decade ago, leaving 21 teachers. Two teachers have been selected through the Pavitra Portal, leaving 19 teachers. Insofar as one teacher is concerned, certain discrepancies have been found in the Aadhaar Card, resulting in a mismatch. The learned AGP further submits that the salaries for the month of February 2026 would be deposited in the accounts of the teachers by 15.03.2026. Thereafter, regular monthly payments would be made without any break. Insofar as the arrears are concerned, the learned AGP submits that a rough

estimate has been tendered by the Management for about Rs. 15 Crores and odd.

3. The learned Advocate for the Petitioners submits that the Petitioners have been informed by the Management that the exact calculations would be tendered to Respondent Nos. 3 and 4 by Monday, 9th March, 2026. The learned AGP submits that upon receiving the proper calculations by 9th March 2026, the arrears would be deposited in the accounts of these Teachers, on or before 02/04/2026.

4. The Contempt Petitioners before us are in the backdrop of the earlier round of Contempt Petitions. In the face of these second Contempt Petitions, we would have been justified in issuing notice under the provisions of the Contempt of Courts Act, to the concerned Respondents and could have directed them to remain present in the Court Hall on each date of hearing. Since the disobedience is plainly admitted and, prima facie, we find that the Secretary of Education, Dr. Ranjit Singh Deol, is making efforts to ensure compliance of the order of this Court, we refrain from issuing notice at this stage. However, we are not inclined to dispose

of these two Petitions at this stage.

5. List these Petitions on **10th April 2026**, for recording of compliance.

6. We make it clear that if the above timelines are not adhered to, and if there is a violation of even a single condition recorded herein above, the Petitioners would be at liberty to circulate these Petitions for initiating proceedings for Contempt of Court against the Respondents.

(ABHAY J. MANTRI, J.)

(RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)