

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

WRIT PETITION NO.15714 OF 2023

Pandurang Abhimanyu Patil & Anr.Petitioners

Versus

The Secretary, All India Shri
Shivaji Memorial Society (AISSMS) & Ors.Respondents

WITH

WRIT PETITION NO.2107 OF 2024

Hemangi Deepak ShindePetitioner

Versus

The Secretary, All India Shri
Shivaji Memorial Society (AISSMS) & Ors.Respondents

Mr. Vaibhav Kulkarni for the Petitioners in both Petitions.
Mr. Shantanu Patil i/b. Mr. Shrikrishna Ganbavale for Respondent
Nos.1 and 2.

Mr. B.V. Samant, Addl. GP a/w. Ms. D.S. Deshmukh, AGP for
Respondent – State in WP/15714/2023.

Mr. A.C. Bhadang, AGP for the Respondent – State in
WP/2107/2024.

CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE

&

ASHWIN D. BHOBE, JJ.

DATE : 19th DECEMBER, 2025

P.C. :-

1. On 20th December, 2023, Mr. Ganbavale, the learned
Advocate, sought time to file an affidavit in reply. Time was granted
upto 6th February, 2024. However, no reply was filed. Thereafter, the

matter was listed, yet no reply was filed. On 6th March, 2024, the matter was heard, and the Court was informed that the next date in a similar proceeding before the Hon'ble Supreme Court was fixed on 10th April, 2024. Accordingly, the matter was adjourned. Despite this, no reply was filed. The matter was thereafter listed on 29th April, 2024. Even on that date, no reply was filed. The Registry recorded on 29th August, 2024, 19th September, 2024, and 16th December, 2024, that the Respondents had not filed their affidavit in reply.

2. Today, on 19th December 2025, the learned Advocate representing the Respondents submits that Mr. Ganbavale is not available. He, however, concedes that the affidavit in reply has still not been filed for 21 months resulting in stalling of the hearing in this matter.

3. Only Respondent Nos.3, 4, and 6, have filed their affidavits in reply. We could have proceeded with the matter for hearing without the affidavits in reply of the remaining Respondents. However, as a last chance, and despite the serious

objection raised by the learned Advocate for the Petitioners, we permit Respondent nos. 1 and 2, to file their affidavit in reply on or before 9th January, 2026, subject to payment of costs of Rs. 25,000/- to be deposited with the Registry. If the costs are not deposited along with the affidavit in reply, the Registry shall not accept the reply.

4. List these Petitions for hearing on 21st January, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

5. The parties are at liberty to tender their synoptical notes of submissions along with case law with index and pagination, on the date of hearing in this matter.

(ASHWIN D. BHOBE, J.)

(RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)