

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

WRIT PETITION NO. 15506 OF 2025

International Spirits And
Wines Association of IndiaPetitioner

Versus

The State of Maharashtra Thr.
The Secretary And Anr.Respondents

Mr. Darius Khambata, Senior Advocate a/w Mr. Rohan Shah, Senior Advocate, Adv. S. Rajan, Ms. Kanika Birje, Mr. Mohammed Anajwalla, Mr. Darshan Bora, Ms. Anchal Mundada for the Petitioner.

Ms. Neha S. Bhide, GP a/w Ms. S. D. Vyas Addl. GP, Ms. G. R. Raghuwanshi, AGP for Respondents-State.

**CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE
&
HITEN S. VENEGAVKAR, JJ.**

DATE : 23rd APRIL, 2026

P.C. :-

1. The learned Senior Advocate has tendered the proposed amendment to the Court. Copies are served upon the colleague Advocates. A party is sought to be arrayed as a Co-Petitioner. One paragraph is sought to be entered at Page No. 4.

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2. In view of the above, and since the litigating parties to this proceeding do not oppose the same, the amendment is allowed. Addition be carried out within a period of seven working days. Re-verification is dispensed with.

3. Those Respondents who have already filed their affidavits in reply, are at liberty to enter their additional affidavits in reply and those who have not yet filed their affidavits in reply, can enter their affidavits in reply, both on or before 21st May, 2026. The Registry is directed to accept the amendment during vacation. Thereafter, the Petitioner would carry out corrections in pagination, if required, by arranging the affidavits/additional affidavits etc., date-wise in continuation with the pagination of the Petition paper book in order to avoid overlapping of pagination. Let this exercise be completed on or before 12th June, 2026.

4. The ad-interim order granted earlier, would continue until further orders. The application for registration filed in December 2025, should have been scrutinized and processed in these last four months. This clearly amounts to disobedience of the order of this Court. However, for the present, we would not take it

further, since the statement has already been recorded in our earlier order dated 23rd December, 2025 and the Order dated 12th March, 2026, that the application would be processed.

5. Hence, since the learned counsel for the Department is unable to make the statement as regards the timeline, we direct that the ad-interim order shall be implemented within 15 days from today, failing which, we would consider the disobedience as Contempt of Court. Needless to state, the application has to be processed notwithstanding the pendency of this Petition and we record that no equities would be created in favour of the Petitioners, if the Applications are processed.

(HITEN S. VENEGAVKAR, J.) (RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)