

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY

ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION NO.2750 OF 2019

Bombay Hawkers Association

... Petitioner

V/s.

Chairperson, Town Vending
Committee & Ors.

... Respondents

WITH

WRIT PETITION NO.766 OF 2021

WITH

WRIT PETITION NO.3608 OF 2025

WITH

SUO MOTU WRIT PETITION NO.1 OF 2023

High Court On Its Own Motion

... Petitioner

V/s.

State of Maharashtra & Ors.

... Respondents

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION NO.666 OF 2024

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION NO.782 OF 2024

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO.23233 OF 2024

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO.21142 OF 2024

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO.22832 OF 2024

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO.1242 OF 2025

WITH

INTERIM APPLICATION NO.621 OF 2024

WITH

**INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO.22809 OF 2024
WITH
INTERIM APPLICATION (L) NO.7056 OF 2024
WITH
WRIT PETITION NO.1262 OF 2023
WITH
PUBLIC INTEREST LITIGATION (L) NO.11793 OF 2025**

Goregaon Merchants Association ... Petitioner

V/s.

The State of Maharashtra & Ors. ... Respondents

Mr. Jamshed Mistry, Amicus in all matters.

Mr. Ashish U. Dube, represented Suo Motu Writ Petition No.1 of 2023.

Mr. Ranveer Chapekar a/w. Adv. Yogendra M. Koli i/by Mohd. Ashraf for the Petitioner in WP/766/2021 and WP/2750/2019.

Mr. Ram Singh for the Petitioner in WP/3608/2025.

Mr. Amar Gharte, for the Applicant in IA/782/2024 and IA/666/2024.

Ms. Gayatri Singh, Senior Advocate i/by Adv. Kaustubh Gidh for the Applicants in IAL/22809/2024 and 22832/2024 and for Respondent Nos.5, 11, 12 in SMP(L)/1/2023.

Ms. Namrata Vinod a/w. Adv. Ravikumar Kamble i/by S. Mahomedbhai & Co. for BBA in IA/621/2024.

Mr. Bahraiz Irani a/w. Ms. Afrin Dalal, Mr. Anosh Irani, Mr. Amit Padwal, Ms. Afreen Bano, Ms. Shane Santos for the Petitioners in PIL(L)/11793/2025.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Varsha Sawant for the State-PIL(L)/11793/2025.

Mr. Mohit Jadhav, Addl G.P. for Respondent-State in WP/2750/2019.

Ms. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Mr. Suraj Gupte, A.G.P., for State in WP/3608/2025.

Mr. Chaitanya Chavan a/w. Adv. Adarsh Vyas, Adv. K.H. Mastakar for the Respondent-BMC in PIL(L)/11793/2025.

Mr. K.H. Mastakar for the Respondent-BMC in WP/766/2021 and WP/3608/2025.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Rita Joshi, A.G.P. in IAL/7056/2024 SMP/1/2023.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Anupamaa Pawar A.G.P. in IA/666/2024.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Vrushali Kabre, A.G.P. in

IAL/21142/2024.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Jyoti Chavan Addl. G.P., in IAL/22809/2024.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Usha Rahi, A.G.P. in IA/621/2024.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Mr. Suraj Gupte, A.G.P., IAL/22832/2024.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Madhura Deshmukh, A.G.P. in IAL/1242/2025.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Mr. Suraj Gupte, A.G.P., IAL/23233/2024.

Smt. Anjali Helekar, G.P. a/w Smt. Sheetal Malwankar, A.G.P. in IA/782/2024.

Mr. Anil Shewale, Asst. Supt. Of License Dept., present.

Mr. Anil Laxman Kate (S.L), present in court.

Mr. Vishwanath Chavan, Operation Office, C.P. Office, Mumbai.

Mr. Suryakant Kharat, Sr. PI, Goregaon Police Station, Mumbai.

**CORAM : A. S. GADKARI AND
KAMAL KHATA, JJ.**

DATE : 10th June 2026

P.C.:-

1) Mr. Dube, appearing in person informs this Court that, after 6th May, 2026, as a citizen of India, he collected certain information which according to him was shocking.

1.1) He produced before us a photocopy of document titled as 'Bunch 15 Mumbai Municipal Corporation, License Department, Hawkers (Survey – 2014)'. Referring to it, he submitted that, the persons mentioned at Serial Nos.706 and 714 are not hawkers but in fact are shop owners in Goregaon West region. These persons have by submitting certain incorrect documents procured hawkers licenses from the Corporation.

1.2) If the information given by Mr. Dube is correct, then it certainly raises a great concern not only for the BMC but also for the State of

Maharashtra.

1.3) Upon a query put to Mr. Dube, he submitted in that regard that, he is ready and willing to place on record his statement and give such information to the local Police Station.

1.4) Smt. Helekar learned Government Pleader on instructions from Mr. Suryakant Kharat, Senior PI, Goregaon Police Station submitted that, if Mr. Dube appears before Goregaon Police Station today at 5.00 pm., his statement will be recorded and a preliminary inquiry as contemplated under Section 173(3) of Bhartiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 will be conducted within stipulated period and a report will be submitted to this Court.

1.5) The learned Government Pleader on instructions assured the Court that, the said inquiry will be supervised and monitored by the Assistant Commissioner of Police. The said statement is accepted.

2) Mr. Chavan, learned Advocate appearing for the BMC submitted that, as far as compliance of paragraph No.1.1 of Order dated 6th May, 2026 was concerned, the BMC will give wide publication of the e-portal/email address and WhatsApp number on which the citizens can lodge their complaints/grievances against illegal hawking in six leading local newspapers namely, (i) Times of India, (ii) Loksatta, (iii) Maharashtra Times, (iv) Mumbai Samachar (Gujarati vernacular), (v) Dainik Bharat and (vi) Nav Bharat. The said publication/advertisement will be published in

the editions on 15th June, 2026. The said statement is accepted.

2.1) As far as compliance with paragraph No.1 of Order dated 6th May, 2026 is concerned, he submitted that the BMC Officers are in process of contacting the said 99,435 hawkers including their mobile phones and it may take further three weeks more to complete the said exercise.

3) The Registry is directed to produce papers of Interim Application (L) No.8953 of 2025 along with the present Petition on next occasion.

3) At the request of learned Government Pleader, stand over to 30th June, 2026.

(KAMAL KHATA, J.)

(A.S. GADKARI, J.)