

JVS.

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION**

WRIT PETITION NO. 2823 OF 2024

JAYANT
VISHWANATH
SALUNKE

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JAYANT VISHWANATH
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Mathews J. Nedumpara	}	Petitioner
Versus		
The High Court of Bombay & Ors.	}	Respondents

Mr. Mathews Nedumpara, Petitioner in-person.

Mr. Samarth Jaidev with Mr. Netaji Gawade i/b.
M/s.Sanjay Udeshi & Co., Advocates for Respondent No. 1.

Ms. Jyoti Chavan, Additional Government Pleader with
Mr.Himanshu Takke, AGP for Respondent No. 2-State.

**CORAM: SHREE CHANDRASHEKHAR, C.J. &
GAUTAM A. ANKHAD, J.**

DATE: 8th MAY 2026

P.C.:

This writ petition is pending since 2023. On 12th January 2026, we passed the following order: -

“This writ petition was called out in the morning but no one appeared on behalf of the petitioner.

2. *In the order dated 2nd May 2023, a coordinate Bench of this Court after hearing the petitioner in-person recorded that the Bombay High Court is equipped and the facilities are in place to conduct hybrid/virtual hearings at the Principal seat and the Benches at Nagpur and Aurangabad and the High Court of Bombay at Goa. It was only for the purpose of taking instructions for providing facility of virtual hearings at various Debt Recovery Tribunals in the State, that the hearing of this writ petition was adjourned to 8th June 2023.*

3. *Today, before this matter was taken up, at the commencement of the Court proceeding, Mr. Mathews J. Nedumpara appeared in person and made a grievance that the writ petitions filed by him are not being listed.*

4. *Quite apparently, an incorrect statement for whatsoever may be the reason was made by the petitioner in-person in the Court. This writ petition was listed on 8th June 2023, 12th July 2023, 2nd August 2023, 1st November 2023 and 19th December 2023.*

5. It was on 19th December 2023 that upon mentioning of this matter, a liberty was granted to the petitioner to amend the writ petition within one week. Thereafter, the matter appeared on 2nd January 2024, 3rd January 2024, 28th February 2024, 25th April 2024, 18th July 2024, 30th July 2024 and 13th August 2024. After more than 14 months, the writ petition was amended and the direction to the petitioner was issued on 9th September 2024 to supply a copy of the amended writ petition to the respondents.

6. Thereafter, this writ petition has been listed on 25th September 2024, 8th October 2024, 3rd January 2025, 3rd February 2025, 16th April 2025, 24th April 2025, 30th April 2025, 29th July 2025, 26th September 2025 and 10th December 2025. It would appear from a glance at the order dated 3rd February 2025 that the petitioner was represented through a learned counsel who sought leave to amend the writ petition.

7. The amendment so granted was not carried out and upon mentioning of the matter on 16th April 2025, time for carrying out amendment was extended by one week. On 24th April 2025, a similar order was again passed by this Court. It further appears that till 30th April 2025 a copy of the amended writ petition was not served upon the respondents. This writ petition came on Board on 29th July 2025 when a detailed order was passed by this Court. The matter was listed on 26th September 2025 and 10th December 2025 but could not be taken up for hearing on account of paucity of time, but at the same time, we may indicate that the petitioner did not make any request on that day for early hearing of this writ petition.

8. After the recess, the petitioner or anyone on his behalf does not appear.

9. Post the matter on 16th February 2026.

2. The petitioner, who appears in-person has filed this writ petition seeking the following reliefs: -

“(a) To issue a writ in the nature of mandamus or any other appropriate writ or order or direction, directing the respondents, particularly, the High Court of Judicature at Bombay so too the various courts and tribunals subordinate to it, so too the Debt Recovery Tribunals in the state of Maharashtra to make available online hearing facilities as well in addition to physical hearing in terms of the judgement of the Supreme Court in the Swapnil Tripathi’s case/‘The High Court of Bombay Rules for Video Conferencing 2022’;

(b) To issue such other and further orders and directions which this Hon’ble Court may deem to fit to grant in facts and circumstances of the case.”

3. Mr. Mathews Nedumpara, the petitioner appearing in person takes us through the order passed in Writ Petition No. 1587 of 2015 and in particular the paragraph nos. 49 to 56, the order dated 16th January 2017 in SLP (C) No. 35164 of 2016, the order dated 3rd May 2018 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1158 of 2017 and the order dated 13th January 2023 in Writ Petition (Civil) No. 1259 of 2019 and submits that live streaming of the Court proceedings shall be in the interest of justice. The petitioner appearing in person has vehemently argued that this is in public interest that this writ petition is allowed and directions are issued to all Tribunals including the Debt Recovery Tribunals in the State of Maharashtra to make available online hearing facility.

4. Mr. Samarth Jaidev, the learned counsel for the respondent no. 1 and Ms. Jyoti Chavan, the learned Additional Government Pleader appearing for respondent no. 2-State have opposed this writ petition. They have brought to our notice an order dated 25th June 2025 in Public Interest Litigation No. 106 of 2023 by which the Public Interest Litigation seeking a declaration that virtual hearing is a fundamental right under Article 21 of the Constitution of India was disposed of, recording certain directions.

5. In the interregnum, facilities for virtual hearings of the Court proceedings have been provided and Rules have been framed for Video Conferencing. At the same time, we have also come across instances in which the litigants and counsels have misused this facility.

6. Having regard to the nature of directions sought in this writ petition, we are not inclined to entertain the prayers made in this writ petition. Writ Petition No. 2823 of 2024 is dismissed.

[GAUTAM A. ANKHAD, J.]

[CHIEF JUSTICE]