



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

WRIT PETITION NO. 5461 OF 2026

RAJENDRA SHIVPRASAD PANDIT AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA THROUGH ITS COMMISSIONER FOR
COOPERATION AND OTHERS

...
Advocate for the Petitioners : Mr. D. S. Bagul
AGP for Respondents-State : Mr. A. R. Kale

...

CORAM : AJIT B. KADETHANKAR, J.

Date : 2ND June, 2026

PER COURT :-

1. Mr. Bagul, the learned counsel for the petitioners, submits that being aggrieved by the order dated 21.05.2026 passed by respondent No. 3 – The District Deputy Registrar (Co-operative Societies), Dhule, under Section 81(5)(b) of the Maharashtra Co-operative Societies Act, 1960, the petitioners have preferred Writ Petition No. 7982 of 2026. Vide an order dated 21.05.2026, this Court had protected the petitioners by directing the respondents not to take any coercive action against them.

2. Mr. Bagul further submits that, subsequent to the inquiry report, proceedings under Section 88 of the Act of 1960 have been initiated against the petitioners by the authorities. He argues that such recovery or fixation of liability under Section 88

could not have been undertaken based on an impugned audit report that is already under challenge. He adds that the matter is now listed before the authority on 08.06.2026 for final disposal.

3. In view of the above, issue notice to the respondents, returnable on 17.06.2026.

4. Mr. Kale, the learned AGP, waives service of notice on behalf of respondent Nos. 1 to 4.

5. The petitioners are at liberty to serve respondent Nos. 5 and 6 by any permissible mode of private service.

6. Till the returnable date, the proceedings against the petitioners under Section 88 of the Act of 1960 pending before respondent No. 3 shall not be finally concluded.

7. It is clarified that the authority may proceed with the hearing of the matter and the parties are at liberty to advance their respective arguments.

(AJIT B. KADETHANKAR, J.)