



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

WRIT PETITION NO. 917 OF 2025

Lotan Maharu Chaudhari

VERSUS

The State Of Maharashtra Through Its Secretary And Others

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Mr. V. V. Deshmukh, Advocate for the Petitioner

Ms. S. S. Joshi, AGP for Respondents/state

Mr. M. S. Shah, Advocate for Respondent nos.5 and 6

Mr. V. D. Hon Sr. Adv a/w Mr. S. S. Kote i/b Mr. A. V. Hon,
Advocate for Respondent nos.7 to 10

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CORAM : MANISH PITALE &
Y.G. KHOBRAGADE, JJ.

DATED : 03RD SEPTEMBER, 2025

ORDER :-

1. We have heard learned Advocates for the parties. By an order dated 20.01.2025, this Court granted *ad interim* order in terms of prayer clause 'F', as a consequence of which, salaries from the grant payable to respondent nos.7 to 10 have been effectively stayed.

2. Although, initially we were a little perplexed as to how the petitioner, as a 'whistle-blower', could maintain the present petition, after having considered the documents on record, particularly orders dated 05.08.2022 and 27.10.2023, passed in Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022 and Civil Application

No.7871 of 2023, in Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022, we find that the present petition is required to be heard alongwith Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022. It is particularly necessary in the light of observations made in paragraph no.3 of the order dated 27.10.2023, passed in Civil Application No.7871 of 2023 in Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022. It is also a matter of record that the petitioner herein is respondent no.5 in Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022.

3. We find *prima facie* substance in the contentions raised on behalf of the petitioner that despite specific observations made in the said order passed by this Court in Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022, the respondent no.3 – the Education Officer (Secondary), Zilla Parishad, Jalgaon continued to seek legal opinions and eventually took steps to disburse salary to respondent nos.7 to 10 from the grant, despite observations made in the orders passed by this Court.

4. List this Writ Petition alongwith Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022 on 01.10.2025. The *Interim* relief granted on 20.01.2025 shall continue to operate until further orders.

5. In the meanwhile, respondent No. 3 – the Education Officer (Secondary) shall file reply affidavit within three

weeks from today.

6. Since Writ Petition No.8134 of 2022 pertains to an even year, the petitioner in this petition is directed to take appropriate steps on the administrative side for clubbing the Writ Petitions.

[Y.G. KHOBRADE, J.]

[MANISH PITALE, J.]