

**HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU**

**CM Nos. 2689 and 2690 of 2026 in
WP(C) No. 2354/2025**

Vishal Sharma

.....Applicant/Petitioner

Through: Mr. C.M. Koul, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. A.R. Bhat, Advocate

Vs

Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board Katra & Ors.

.....Non-Applicants/Respondents

Through: Mr. Adarsh Sharma, Standing Counsel
for R-1 and 2

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAHUL BHARTI, JUDGE
ORDER
(05.05.2026)

- 01.** The petitioner being in status of a serving Junior Engineer in the employment of respondent No. 1 came forward with the institution of present writ petition thereby challenging tentative seniority list of Junior Engineers (Civil) as obtaining on **01.01.2023** in which context, the petitioner claims that he has a right to seniority over the respondents No. 3 and 4 who, though appointed on the same date as Junior Engineers (Civil), are younger in age to the petitioner and also the qualification of the respondents No. 3 and 4 is that of a diploma holder as against the petitioner's engineering qualification as being a degree holder.
- 02.** This Court, in terms of an order dated **01.09.2025**, came up with a direction unto the respondents not to operate

the tentative seniority list with respect to the petitioner as well as the respondents No. 3 and 4.

- 03.** The writ petition is still awaiting response/reply from the respondents' end.
- 04.** Mr. Adarsh Sharma, learned Standing Counsel for the respondent No. 1 and 2 enters his appearance.
- 05.** Today, two applications **CM Nos. 2689 and 2690 of 2026** are listed.
- 06.** The main case is said to be listed on **04.07.2026**.
- 07.** This Court orders the preponement of the main case from **04.07.2026 to 15.05.2026**.
- 08.** Let the abovesaid two applications come up with the main case for consideration on the next date of hearing.
- 09.** In the meantime, the respondents No. 1 and 2 to come up with the reply to the writ petition and also to the two applications.
- 10.** Copies of the two applications be provided to Mr. Adarsh Sharma, learned Standing Counsel for the respondents No. 1 and 2.
- 11.** List on **15.05.2026** with liberty to mention.

(RAHUL BHARTI)
JUDGE

JAMMU
05.05.2026
SUNIL