

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

[R C BUSINESS SOLUTIONS VS. DEPUTY FOREST
CONSERVATOR AND DIRECTORS OFFICE AND ANOTHER]

02.02.2026

(VIDEO CONFERENCING / PHYSICAL HEARING)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B M SHYAM PRASAD

ORAL ORDER

Sri B S Sachin, the learned counsel for the petitioner,
is heard on the grant of *ad interim* order.

The petitioner is aggrieved by the first respondent's
order dated 15.09.2025 [Annexure-A]. The first respondent,
by this order, has debarred the petitioner from participating
in the future tenders for two years along with the decision to
forfeit the EMD. Sri B S Sachin, submits, amongst others,
the following.

[a] The petitioner is issued with multiple show
cause notices, and each of these notices
state that the cause for the proceedings is
the petitioner's failure to deposit ESI, EPF
and the other statutory amounts

[b] However, the decision is based on a Report
that the petitioner has not deposited the
ESI and EPF in time, and this is

notwithstanding the fact that the delay in remitting the amount is because of the delay in the petitioner receiving the payable amount.

The petitioner could avail the remedy under Section 16 of the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act, 1999 but in view of the assertion that the reason for initiation of the proceedings is different from the reason on which the petitioner is ultimately debarred and that the delay is also because of the delay in the remittances under the contract, the interim order is granted as prayed for to be in force till the next date of hearing but with liberty to the respondents to complete the pleadings and seek vacating.

Sri B R Ravindranath, a learned Additional Government Advocate, is called upon to accept notice for the respondents.

The office is directed to re-list this petition on **20.02.2026.**

(B M SHYAM PRASAD)
JUDGE