

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

[P.K.BHARATH KUMAR VS. STATE OF KARNATAKA AND OTHERS]

26.02.2026

(VIDEO CONFERENCING / PHYSICAL HEARING)

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

ORAL ORDER

The petitioner is aggrieved by the third respondent directing a fresh enquiry under Section 25 of the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960.

Sri Deviprasad Shetty, the learned counsel for the petitioner, submits that the Joint Registrar of Co-operative Societies [JRCS] could not have ordered for re-enquiry once the competent authority who had authorized a person to hold enquiry had accepted the enquiry report with the recommendation that an *Administrator* must be appointed under Section 27A of the Act.

Sri A Anil Kumar Shetty, the learned counsel for the sixth respondent, refuting the afore assertion, also proposes to contend that stay of the re-enquiry would be infructuous because the petitioner has participated in such enquiry. In rejoinder, Sri Deviprasad Shetty does not dispute this

contention, and in fact he submits that the petitioner has filed response in such enquiry.

However, this Court must observe that if indeed the third respondent's order dated 21.11.2025 [*Annexure-D*] is the culmination of the proceedings under Section 25 of the Act which would only enable an order under Section 27A of the Act by the Government, the JRCS could not have exercised jurisdiction to hold the re-enquiry as this question relates to the jurisdiction. Hence interim order is granted staying all further proceedings in the re-enquiry directed by the JRCS in terms of the order dated 21.11.2025 [*Annexure-D*], but with liberty to the respondents to complete the pleadings and seek vacating.

The office is directed to re-list this petition on **17.03.2026.**

(B M SHYAM PRASAD)
JUDGE

AN/-

List No.: 1 Sl No.: 14