



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 25TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B M SHYAM PRASAD

WRIT PETITION NO. 5124 OF 2026 (GM-TEN)

BETWEEN:

M/S MANTHAN TIMBERS AND VENNERS
PROPRIETORSHIP FILRM
REP BY ITS PROPRILETOR
SHARATH B P
S/O B S PARAMESH
AGE ABOUT 46 YEARS
R/A NO 25, ADHICHUMNCAHNAGIRI ROAD
GOURI KOPPALU
VIDYANAGAR, HASSAN 573 202.



...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. H PAVANA CHANDRA SHETTY., ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
REPRESENTED BY ITS
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY AND
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY,
DEPARTMENT OF FOREST,
ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT,
M.S. BUILDING, 4TH FLOOR,
DR. AMBEDKAR VEEDHI,



- BANGALORE-560 001.
2. PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR
OF FORESTS, (HEAD OF FOREST FORCE),
'ARANYA BHAVAN', 18TH CROSS,
MALLESHWARAM,
BANGALORE-560 003.
 3. THE KARNATAKA STATE
FOREST INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
UNDERTAKING) NO. 45A,
2ND FLOOR, NEW TIMBER YARD LAYOUT
MYSORE ROAD, BENGALURU-560 026
REPRESENTED BY
THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF
FORESTS AND REGIONAL MANAGER.
 4. KARNATAKA FOREST DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION LTD
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
UNDERTAKING) OFFICE OF
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
KFDC LTD., NEAR RTO OFFICE
SHIVAMOGGA-577 201
REPRESENTED BY ITS
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.
 5. THE MYSORE PAPER MILLS LIMITED
(A GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
UNDERTAKING) MILLS PAPER TOWN,
BHADRAVATHI
SHIVAMOGGA DISTRICT - 577 302.
 6. SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT,



FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE,
UNION OF INDIA,
INDIRA PARYAVARAN BHAWAN
JORBAGH ROAD,
NEW DELHI-110 003.

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI.B. RAVINDRANATH., AGA FOR R1 AND R2;
SRI. MURUGESH V CHARATI., ADVOCATE FOR R3
AND R4; SRI. PRASHANTH B R., ADVOCATE FOR
R5; SMT. B.G. NAYANA TARA., CGC A/W
SRI. H. SHANTHI BHUSHAN., DSGI FOR ROR R6)

THIS WP IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227
OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO 1. TO
QUASH THE IMPUGNED SHORT-TERM E-TENDER
NOTIFICATION PUBLISHED BY THE 5TH RESPONDENT /
THE MYSORE PAPER MILL LTD., (A GOVERNMENT OF
KARNATAKA UNDERTAKING) PAPER TOWN,
BHADRAVATHI THROUGH ITS BEARING NO. E-PORTAL
NO. MPML/2025-26/ SE 0047 VIDE DATED 05.02.2026
PRODUCED AS ANNEXURE-A.

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR ORDERS, THIS
DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

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



ORAL ORDER

The petitioner is aggrieved by the Short-Term e-Tender Notification [*the e-Tender Notification - Annexure-A*] published by the fifth respondent. The petitioner has also filed another petition in W.P.No.15551/2024, and the petitioner's case is premised in the assertion that the fifth respondent has issued the e-Tender Notification notwithstanding the pendency of the earlier petition in W.P.No.15551/2024.

With Sri H. Pavana Chandra Shetty, the learned counsel for the petitioner, emphasizing the above, this Court called upon Sri D.R. Prashanth, the learned counsel for the fifth respondent, to respond to the assertion that the fifth respondent could not have floated the e-Tender Notification during the pendency of the earlier petition. Sri D.R. Prashanth was categorical that if the Tender Notification challenged in W.P.No.15551/2024 relates to *forest*



land, the e-Tender Notification is not related to that or any forest land. As such, this Court called upon the fifth respondent to file an affidavit observing that there must be a clear and unequivocal stand.

The Director of the fifth respondent has filed an affidavit, and the material part of the affidavit reads as under:

5. *I state that, the Details of Tender Notification No. MPML/2025-26/SE-0047 is as follows:-*

" Short term Tender for extracting, debarking, loading into truck and transportation of Acacia Hyb, pulpwood from the various plantations existing within the jurisdiction of MPM Divisions (Sagara, Thirthahalli,) to M/S. Grasim Industries, Kumarapattanam, Harihara, from the areas as detailed in the schedule annexed during 2025-26 season."

I state that, the area involved in the above Tender dated 04.02.2026 invited by the Respondent No.5 for extracting Acacia Hyb, pulpwood is in Non-Forest Land. (Not included in Forest Lease land as per the Govt. order vide No. FEE/121/FLL/2015 DTD.20-11-2020).

6. *Further I state that, the area involved in the Extracting of trees in Tender Notification No. MPML/2023-24/SE0002 dated 12.07.2023 and*



the Tender notification No. MPML/2025-26/SE-0047 dated 02.05.2026 are situated in different areas.

The afore statement of fact squarely addresses the petitioner's grievance and persuades this Court to opine that the e-Tender Notification is for the areas that are not part of the Tender Notification impugned in the earlier writ petition. As such, the petition stands disposed of with liberty to the petitioner to prosecute the earlier petition in W.P.No.15551/2024.

Sd/-
(B M SHYAM PRASAD)
JUDGE

SA