

WP NO. 5584/2026 (GM - RES)

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

[DR BHASKAR N VS. STATE OF KARNATAKA AND ANOTHER]

23.02.2026

(VIDEO CONFERENCING / PHYSICAL HEARING)

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

ORAL ORDER

Mr. Venkatesh P. Dalwai, the learned counsel for the petitioner, is heard on the petitioner's grievance with the first respondent's order under Section 17A of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The first respondent has permitted the petitioner's prosecution for an alleged misfeasance as the Commissioner, Mangalore Urban Development Authority [*the Authority*]. The first respondent has referred to the Work Order issued to a Contractor on 02:07.03.2018 for a sum of Rs.7,72,48,234/- for completion before 2022-23 and 83% of this amount being released even without completion of 20% of the work allotted.

Mr. Venkatesh P. Dalwai submits that it cannot be disputed that the petitioner was working as a Commissioner of the Authority during two tenures between 03.04.2018 and 08.06.2018 and between 18.10.2021 and 21.06.2023 and that during this period, no amount has been released to the Contractor.

In consideration of these submissions, and because the first respondent's impugned order does not refer to the petitioner's tenure with the Authority, the interim order is granted as prayed for to be in force under further orders but with liberty to the respondents to complete their pleadings and seek vacating.

Mr. Aditya Diwakara, a learned Additional Government Advocate, is called upon to accept notice for the first respondent. Mr. Venkatesh S. Arabatti, a learned Standing counsel for the second respondent, subject to entrustment otherwise, is called upon to accept notice.

Mr. Venkatesh P. Dalwai shall ensure copies of the petition/annexures are served on the chambers of Mr. Venkatesh S. Arabatti forthwith.

The office is directed to re-list this petition on **09.04.2026.**

(B M SHYAM PRASAD)
JUDGE