



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 24TH DAY OF APRIL, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R DEVDAS

WRIT PETITION NO. 6025 OF 2026 (KLR-RR/SUR)

BETWEEN:

1. SMT JAYAMMA
W/O LATE LAKSHMAIAH
AGED ABOUT 65 YEARS
2. SRI. VENKATARAVANAPPA. N. M.
S/O MUNISWAMY
AGED ABOUT 77 YEARS

BOTH ARE R/A NEELATURU VILLAGE,
YELDURU HOBLI,
SRINIVASPURA TALUK,
KOLAR DISTRICT - 563 135.

...PETITIONERS

(BY SRI. L VENKATARAMA REDDY., ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
KOLAR,
KOLAR DISTRICT - 563 101.
2. THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER
KOLAR SUB-DIVISION,
KOLAR DISTRICT - 563 101.





3. THE TAHSILDAR
SRINIVASPUR TALUK,
SRINIVASPURA,
KOLAR DISTRICT - 563 135.

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SMT.B.P.RADHA., AGA)

THIS WP IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 & 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO QUASH ANNEX-E VIDE MR T2/2025-26 DATED 12.09.2025 AND ANNEX-F i.e., RTC OF THE YEAR 2025-2026 ISSUED BY THE R3 AND DIRECT THE R1 TO 3 TO FOLLOW THE RULE OF LAW WHILE CHANGING THE REVENUE ENTRIES WITH RESPECT TO THE PETITIONERS AND ETC.,

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

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE R DEVDAS

ORAL ORDER

On 06.03.2026, the following order was passed:

"Learned Additional Government Advocate takes notice for all the respondents.

Learned counsel for petitioners is directed to serve copies of the petition along with annexures on the learned Additional Government Advocate.



This is yet another case where the grievance of the petitioners is that immediately after the orders are passed by the Assistant Commissioner under the provisions of Sections 4 & 5 of the Karnataka Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (Prohibition of Transfer of Certain Lands) Act, 1978 (for short, 'PTCL Act'), the revenue entries have been mutated in favour of the original grantee without even waiting for the appeal period to lapse. This Court, taking note of several such instances, directed the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, in W.P. No.950/2026, while disposing of the writ petition on 19.01.2026 that the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, shall take note of the observations made by this Court in the matter of changes made in the revenue records pursuant to the orders passed by the Assistant Commissioner. This Court had directed that a circular shall be immediately issued by the Principal Secretary directing all the Tahsildars in the State that no such action shall be taken in the matter of change in the revenue entries consequent to the orders passed by the Assistant Commissioners resuming and restoring the lands in favour of the original grantees.

No information is made available to this Court regarding the circular being issued by the Principal Secretary or action taken to rectify the technical



error that is being committed to change the mutation entries automatically after the orders are passed by the Assistant Commissioner. This Court had directed that if provision is made such that automatically the mutations are restored pursuant to the orders passed by the Assistant Commissioner under the provisions under the PTCL Act, the same would be illegal, since the orders are not passed by the Assistant Commissioner under the provisions of the Karnataka Land Revenue Act, 1964, more particularly, Chapter V of the Act.

Re-list this matter on 16.03.2026 to enable the learned Additional Government Advocate to place on record the action taken by the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department.

In the meanwhile, there shall be an ad-interim order of stay of Annexures-E & F, i.e., mutation order bearing No.MR.T2/2025-26 dated 12.09.2025, till the next date of hearing.”

Thereafter, the matter was adjourned on 08.04.2026 and 16.04.2026 at the request of the learned Additional Government Advocate.



2. Today, the learned Additional Government Advocate submits that the Principal Secretary Revenue Department is on leave for two weeks till 30.04.2026. The learned Additional Government Advocate further submits that in the order dated 19.01.2026, this Court had also directed the Deputy Commissioners to pass orders of stay in respect of the orders passed by the Assistant Commissioner so that revenue entries will not be changed immediately after the orders are passed by the Assistant Commissioner till a decision is rendered by the appellate authority i.e. the Deputy Commissioner. Since a positive direction is given by this Court that the Deputy Commissioners shall pass an order of stay, the Principal Secretary is finding it difficult to issue such directions to the Deputy Commissioners to pass orders of stay.

3. The said order dated 19.01.2026 passed in W.P.No.950/2026 is clarified as under:

"The Deputy Commissioners shall consider the interim applications of prayer for stay and pass



orders in accordance with law so that revenue entries will not be changed immediately after the orders are passed by the Assistant Commissioner till a decision is rendered by the appellate authority."

4. However, having regard to the concerns expressed by this Court and calling upon the Principal Secretary to issue a circular directing all the Tahsildars in the State that no such action shall be taken in the matter of change in the revenue entries consequent to the orders passed by the Assistant Commissioner, no action has been taken by the Principal Secretary although, he is convinced that such an action should have been taken forthwith. On this aspect of the matter, there is no explanation sought to be offered by the learned Additional Government Advocate.

5. On the face of it, inaction on the part of the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department amounts to contempt of the orders passed by this Court. Though this writ petition is partly allowed, while setting aside the



impugned mutation entry in M.R. No.T2/2025-26 dated 11.09.2025, at Annexure-E, with a direction to restore the mutation entry as it was prior to the passing of the impugned mutation order, nevertheless, liberty is reserved to the petitioners and the petitioner in W.P.No.950/2026 to take contempt action against the Principal Secretary, Revenue Department, for disobedience of the orders passed by this Court.

Sd/-
(R DEVDAS)
JUDGE

KLY
CT: JL