



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, AT DHARWAD

DATED THIS THE 25TH DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2026

PRESENT

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.I.ARUN

AND

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B. MURALIDHARA PAI

WRIT PETITION NO. 101188 OF 2026 (S-KAT)

BETWEEN:

SHRI. DEEPAK MANE S/O. RAJARAM,
AGED ABOUT 50 YEARS,
(PRESENTLY WORKING ON DEPUTATION AS A
FDA IN THE OFFICE OF
DISTRICT REGISTRAR BELAGAVI)
R/O. HANUMAN NAGAR, BELAGAVI – 590 019.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. UPADHYE ARAVIND, ADV.)

AND:

1. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA,
R/BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY,
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
M. S. BUILDING,
DR. B. R. AMBEDKAR VEEDHI,
BENGALURU – 560 001.
2. THE UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVT.
REVENUE DEPARTMENT,
(DISASTER MANAGEMENT,
REGISTRATION & STAMPS),
M.S.BUILDING, DR.
B.R. AMBEDKAR VEEDHI,





BENGALURU – 560 001.

3. THE HON'BLE UPA LOKAYUKTA
REPRESENTED BY ITS REGISTRAR,
M. S. BUILDING, DR AMBEDKAR VEEDHI,
BENGALURU – 560 001.
4. THE ADDITIONAL REGISTRAR OF ENQUIRIES-9,
KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA,
REP. BY ITS REGISTRAR,
KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA,
M.S.BUILDING, BENGALURU – 560 001.

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. SHARAD V. MAGADUM, ADV. FOR R1 & R2;
SRI. SRINIVAS B. NAIK, ADV. FOR R3 & R4)

THIS WRIT PETITION IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO, GRANT THE FOLLOWING RELIEF/S. TO ISSUE A WRIT OF CERTIORARI, OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE WRIT, ORDER OR DIRECTION IN THE NATURE OF A WRIT, QUASHING THE ORDER DATED 09.02.2026 PASSED BY THE HON'BLE KARNATAKA STATE ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, BELAGAVI BENCH, IN APPLICATION NO.10195/2026 (ANNEXURE-A), AS THE SAME IS ILLEGAL, ARBITRARY AND CONTRARY TO THE LAW, AND GRANT THE INTERIM RELIEF AS SOUGHT FOR IN THE APPLICATION.NO.10195/2026 BEFORE THE HON'BLE TRIBUNAL AND ETC.,

THIS WRIT PETITION, COMING ON FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

CORAM: THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.I.ARUN
AND
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B. MURALIDHARA PAI



ORAL ORDER

(PER: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.I.ARUN)

1. Aggrieved by the order dated 09.02.2026, passed in Application No.10195 of 2026 by the Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal, Belagavi (for short "the Tribunal"), whereby the interim prayer of the petitioner has been rejected, the present petition is filed.

2. The petitioner was working as a First Division Assistant in the Office of the Sub-Registrar, Hukkeri, and was serving as the in-charge Sub-Registrar on the relevant date. On the said date, a sale deed was registered in respect of an agricultural property, wherein the nature of the soil was shown as "Maradi" instead of "Kariyari". Though the consideration was on the lower side, the document got registered. On the allegation that, such registration caused loss to the State exchequer, the proceedings have been initiated against the petitioner. In this regard, an order dated 09.12.2025 was passed by the second respondent, whereby the inquiry against the petitioner was entrusted to the Lokayukta, and thereafter, the fourth respondent framed the articles of charges and issued to the same to the petitioner herein. The petitioner has challenged both



the decision of the Government to entrust the matter to the Lokayukta and the articles of charges framed by the fourth respondent.

3. The Tribunal, on the ground that there is *prima facie* material against the petitioner and that the matter requires to be enquired into, has refused to pass an interim order staying the order of entrustment of enquiry by the second respondent to the Lokaayukta and the articles of charges framed by the fourth respondent.

4. Aggrieved by the same, the present writ petition is filed.

5. Admittedly, there is an allegation made against the petitioner. If found to be true, the petitioner is liable to be proceeded against. For the purpose of ascertaining whether the allegations made against the petitioner are true or not, the matter has been entrusted to the Lokayukta and, based on the *prima facie* material made available against the petitioner, the fourth respondent has framed articles of charges. It is always open for the petitioner to defend his case in the enquiry initiated against him.



6. For the aforementioned reasons, we do not see any error in the order passed by the Tribunal and the writ position is accordingly ***dismissed***.

7. It is hereby clarified that the Tribunal shall dispose of the pending applications, if any, before it without being influenced by any observations made hereinabove.

Sd/-
(M.I.ARUN)
JUDGE

Sd/-
(B. MURALIDHARA PAI)
JUDGE