



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, AT DHARWAD
DATED THIS THE 24TH DAY OF MARCH, 2026
BEFORE
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK S. KINAGI
WRIT PETITION NO. 102122 OF 2026 (GM-POLICE)

BETWEEN:

1. SHREE. GAJANAN MITRA MANDALI (R)
AT NEAR BUS STAND,
TQ. KUMA, UTTAR KANNADA 581343
R/BY ITS PRESIDENT
PADMANABHA VENKATRAMANA KUMTA
AGE 39 YEARS, OCC. BUSINESS
R/O NEAR BUS STAND
TQ. KUMTA, UTTAR KANNADA 581343

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. SOURABH HEGDE, ADV)

AND:

1. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA
R/BY ITS SECRETARY, HOME DEPARTMENT,
VIDHAN SOUDHA, BANGALORE 560001
2. SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE
KARWAR DISTRICT (UTTAR KANNADA)
KARWAR 581301
3. CIRCLE POLICE INSPECTOR
KUMTA, DIST. KARWAR
(UTTAR KANNADA) 581343
4. THE SUB INSPECTOR OF POLICE
KUMTA POLICE STATION
KUMTA, DIST. KARWAR 581343

...RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. T. HANUMAREDDY, AGA FOR RESPONDENTS)

Digitally signed by
VIJAYALAKSHMI
M KANKUPPI
Location: HIGH
COURT OF
KARNATAKA



THIS WP IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 & 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA, PRAYING TO,

A. WRIT OF MANDAMUS DIRECTING THE RESPONDENTS TO ENABLE THE PETITIONER TO CARRY-OUT THE RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES IN PURSUANCE OF ORDER IN WP NO.100702/2022 (GM-POLICE) DATED 18.02.2022 VIDE ANNEXURE-A.

B. WRIT OF MANDAMUS DIRECTING THE RESPONDENTS NO.2-4 NOT TO REMOVE THE CCTV CAMERAS ALONG WITH DVRS INSTALLED IN THE PREMISES OF THE PETITIONER VIDE ANNEXRUE-C.

C. ISSUE ANY ORDER AS THIS HON'BLE COURT DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING IN 'B' GROUP, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

ORAL ORDER

(PER: THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHOK S. KINAGI)

1. The petitioner is before this court seeking the following prayer:

"WHEREFORE, it is most humbly prayed that this Hon'ble court may be pleased to issue:

a. Writ of Mandamus directing the Respondents to enable the Petitioner to carry-out the recreational activities in pursuance of order in W.P. No.100702/2022 (GM-POLICE) dated 18.02.2022 vide ANNEXURE-A.



b. Writ of Mandamus directing the Respondents No.2-4 not to remove the CCTV cameras along with DVRs installed in the premises of the Petitioner vide ANNEXRUE-C.

c. Issue any order as this Hon'ble Court deems appropriate."

2. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned AGA appearing for the respondents.

3. The petitioner-Society registered under the provisions of the Karnataka Registration of Societies Act, 1960, has filed this petition seeking a direction to the respondents not to insist upon the petitioner to obtain licence either under the Karnataka Police Act, 1963 or under the provisions of the Licensing and Controlling of Places of Public Amusements Orders, 1970 for permitting its members to play skill games.

4. The learned counsel for the petitioner and the learned Additional Government Advocate in unison would submit that this subject petition could also be disposed of with similar directions wherein this Court has been disposing of similar petitions with certain liberty to the local police and directions to the associations concerned to take necessary measures to ensure



that its members are not allowed to play any games with stakes or to make profit or gain out of the games played.

5. In the light of the aforesaid submission and the issue being covered, I deem it appropriate to dispose the subject petition in similar terms as rendered by the Co-ordinate Bench of this Court in Writ Petition No.100702/2022 disposed on 18.02.2022. Accordingly, this Court proceeds to pass the following:

ORDER

(i) The petitioner shall install CCTV cameras at the places of access to its members and also at all the places, wherein game(s) is/are played by the members within a period of six weeks. The CCTV footage of atleast prior 15 days' period shall be made available by the petitioner to the jurisdictional police, as and when called upon to do so.

(ii) The petitioner shall issue identity card(s) to all its member(s), which shall be produced by the member(s), when called upon by the concerned police, during the raid(s), surveillance, etc.

(iii) The petitioner shall not allow any non-member(s) or the guest(s) of the member(s), to make use of its premises for



the purpose of playing any kind of game(s) or recreational activities.

(iv) The petitioner shall not permit any activity by any of its member(s), by indulging in acts of amusement, falling within the definition of Sections 2(14) & 2(15) of the Act and shall not permit any game(s) of chance as per Explanation (II) of Sub-section (7) of Section 2 of Karnataka Police Act, 1963. The member(s) shall not be allowed to play any kind of game(s) with stakes or make any profit or gain out of the game(s) played.

(v) The petitioner shall put proper mechanism in place and shall ensure that no game(s) is played in any unlawful manner by the member(s). If the jurisdictional police find the game(s) played is/are contrary to any law and in violation of the settled practice, it is open to them to taken action against the petitioner and the offenders, in accordance with law.

(vi) The jurisdictional police shall have liberty to visit premises periodically and/or on receipt of any information about any unlawful activity being carried on in the petitioner's premises.



(vii) The respondents are directed not to interfere with the lawful recreational activities carried on by the members of the petitioner's Club/Association.

(viii) It is made clear that this order would not come in the way of the jurisdictional police invoking the provisions of the Act and taking action in accordance with law, if the member(s) of the petitioner is/are found to have indulged in any unlawful or immoral activities.

SD/-
(ASHOK S. KINAGI)
JUDGE

VB
CT: BSB
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 61