

**MFA NO. 100827/2026 (GW)**

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT DHARWAD**  
[SMT SHANKUNTALA ALIAS MADHUMATI  
KEREMATTIHALLI VS. SHRI MAHADEV S/O  
HANUMANTHAPPA BHIMAKKANAVAR AND ANOTHER]

23.04.2026

(VIDEO CONFERENCING / PHYSICAL HEARING)

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

**ORAL ORDER**

(PER: HON'BLE MR JUSTICE B.M.SHYAM PRASAD)

The dispute in the present appeal is over the custody of a young girl between those who are responsible for her. The young girl is with the father [*the respondent*]. The appellant [*the mother*], who has lost in the proceedings before the Family Court for the guardianship, has filed an application for visiting the child during the pendency of the appeal.

The parties and the minor child are present as directed by this Court, and this Court has interacted separately with the parents and the child in the presence of the learned counsels on record for the parties. This Court must record that the parents are willing, notwithstanding their differences and multiple proceedings between them, for the

child to meet the mother in a neutral place such as the office of the concerned District Legal Services Authority under supervision, but this Court, on conversation with the child, must opine that the child, at this stage, is vexed with the thought of accompanying the mother, and that any insistence on the child visiting the mother or asking her to spend time alone with the child may not serve mutual interests and the interest of the child as well.

Therefore, deferring orders in this regard, the respondent is called upon to consider organizing a conversation with Dr. Swapna A. Pandurangi [*a child Counsellor*] at Dharwad, and file a report into this Court by the next date of hearing.

The Office is directed to relist this appeal on **04.06.2026.**

**(B.M.SHYAM PRASAD)**  
**JUDGE**

**(SHIVASHANKAR AMARANAVAR)**  
**JUDGE**

KMS  
List No.: 3 Sl No.: 22