

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CIVIL APPEAL NO(S). OF 2025
[@ SLP (C) No. 5730 OF 2025]

SUNIL MOTIRAMJI INGLE

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

DISTRICT DEPUTY REGISTRAR COOPERATIVE
SOCIETY AKOLA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. This appeal arises out of the order dated 12.02.2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay in Writ Petition No. 638 of 2025 whereby the High Court dismissed the writ petition with costs *qua* the appellant herein.
3. Heard learned counsel appearing on behalf of the appellant and respondents.
4. It is not necessary to delve deep into the facts of the case, except to state that show cause notices dated 08.01.2025 and 20.01.2025 issued to the appellant (Chairman, Agricultural Produce Market Committee (APMC)) by the District Deputy Registrar (DDR) on the basis of the enquiry report dated 07.01.2025, led to the Order of Disqualification dated 30.01.2025. It is important to mention that the appellant had in fact challenged the enquiry report dated 07.01.2025 in a revision petition dated 24.01.2025 before the

Divisional Joint Registrar, which is said to be pending.

5. Aggrieved by the Order of Disqualification dated 30.01.2025, passed on the basis of the enquiry report dated 07.01.2025, particularly when the revision petition against the said report was pending, the appellant filed a Writ Petition before the High Court.

6. It is important to mention that the High Court was considering the Writ Petition of the appellant along with another petitioner (respondent no. 14 herein, Deputy Chairman, APMC) who was similarly disqualified by the Order dated 31.01.2025. The High Court allowed the Writ Petition by holding that, (a) the DDR could not have relied on the enquiry report as challenge to the said report was pending, and (b) no opportunity was granted to the writ petitioners. While allowing the Writ Petition of the co-petitioner, the case of the appellant was distinguished and dismissed on the basis of a fact which did not form part of the proceedings before the High Court. The fact being that the appellant had in the meanwhile ceased to be a member of the APMC as his Gram Panchayat got converted to a Municipal Corporation.

7. Learned counsel for the appellant submitted that the alleged fact of conversion of appellant's Gram Panchayat to a Municipal Corporation will not have any effect on his membership to the Managing Committee of the APMC. He would also submit that the appellant being an agriculturist would continue to be a member.

8. Having considered the matter in detail, we are of the opinion that in the proceedings commencing with the complaint dated 07.10.2023, followed by the enquiry report dated 07.01.2025, the show cause notices, the pendency of the revision petition dated

24.01.2025, all culminating in the order of the DDR dated 31.01.2025, there was no distinction whatsoever between the case of the appellant and respondent no. 14. In this view of the matter, we are of the opinion that the High Court could not have distinguished the appellant's case on the basis of a subsequent fact, which was not even enquired in detail.

9. In view of the above, we set aside the Order and Judgement passed by the High Court and direct that the appellant's case should be heard along with that of respondent no. 14, as per the directions of the High Court in paragraph 12(iii). We also make it clear that the DDR can take into account the subsequent fact of appellant's Gram Panchayat being converted to a Municipal Corporation, and pass such order as it deems fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case.

10. With these directions the appeal stands allowed to the extent indicated above.

.....J.
[PAMIDIGHANTAM SRI NARASIMHA]

.....J.
[ALOK ARADHE]

NEW DELHI;
FEBRUARY 03, 2026

ITEM NO.22

COURT NO.6

SECTION III

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s). 5730/2025
[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 12-02-2025
in WP No. 638/2025 passed by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay
at Nagpur]

SUNIL MOTIRAMJI INGLE

Appellant(s)

VERSUS

DISTRICT DEPUTY REGISTRAR COOPERATIVE
SOCIETY AKOLA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

[FOR FINAL DISPOSAL]

IA No. 53218/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED
JUDGMENT

IA No. 55604/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 53219/2025 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING O.T.

IA No. 55602/2025 - PERMISSION TO FILE ADDITIONAL
DOCUMENTS/FACTS/ANNEXURES

Date : 03-02-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PAMIDIGHANTAM SRI NARASIMHA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ALOK ARADHE

For Appellant(s) : Mr. Nishant Ramakantrao Katneshwarkar, Adv.
Mr. Satyajit A. Desai, Adv.
Mr. Shashank Upadhyay, Adv.
Mr. Sachin Singh, Adv.
Mr. Pratik Kumar Singh, Adv.
Mr. Parth Johri, Adv.
Mr. Sanchit Agrahari, Adv.
Mr. Madhur Duggal, Adv.
Ms. Anagha S. Desai, AOR

For Respondent(s) : Mr. Pravin Ashok Nemade Patil, Adv.
Dr. Amardeep Gaur, Adv.
Mr. Surendra Kumar, Adv.
M/s V. Maheshwari & Co., AOR

Mr. Nitin Lonkar, Adv.
Mr. Siddharth Dharmadhikari, Adv.
Mr. Aaditya Aniruddha Pande, AOR
Mr. Shrirang B. Varma, Adv.

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The Civil Appeal stands allowed to the extent indicated in the Signed Order.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(KAPIL TANDON)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(NIDHI WASON)
ASSTT. REGISTRAR(NSH)

(Signed Order is placed on the file)