



IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, AT DHARWAD

DATED THIS THE 5TH 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. 100635 OF 2026 (S-KAT)

BETWEEN:

SHRI IRANNA S/O RAYAPPA KARADI,
AGE. 35 YEARS, OCC. WORKING AS
VILLAGE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER,
AT: KITTUR, DIST. BELAGAVI-591 115,
R/O. AT POST: KALABHAVI,
TQ. KITTUR, DIST. BELAGAVI-591 115.

... PETITIONER

(BY SRI M.S. BHAGWATH, SENIOR ADVOCATE FOR
SRI SABEEL AHMED DARVESHU, ADVOCATE
APPEARED THROUGH V.C.)

AND:

1. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA,
REP. BY REVENUE SECRETARY,
BENGALURU-590 001.
2. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,
BELAGAVI-590 001.
3. THE TAHASILDAR,
KITTUR, DIST. BELAGAVI-591 102.

... RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI G.K. HIREGOUDAR, PGA, ACCEPTS NOTICE FOR R1 TO R3)

THIS WRIT PETITION IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227
OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA, PRAYING TO WRIT OF CERTIORARI
OR ANY OTHER ORDER OR DIRECTION QUASHING THE IMPUGNED
ORDER DATED 27.01.2026 PASSED BY KARNATAKA STATE
ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL AS PER ANNEXURE-B IN APPLICATION
NO.10128/2026 IN THE INTEREST OF JUSTICE AND EQUITY AND ETC.



THIS WRIT PETITION IS COMING ON PRONOUNCEMENT AND THE SAME HAVING BEEN HEARD AND RESERVED FOR ORDER ON 30.01.2026, THIS DAY, **B. MURALIDHARA PAI J.**, MADE THE FOLLOWING:

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

CAV ORDER

(PER: THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE B. MURALIDHARA PAI)

1. The applicant in Application No.10128/2026 before the Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal, Belagavi (in short 'KAT') has maintained this petition praying for a Writ of Certiorari or any other order or direction, quashing the impugned order dated 27.01.2026 passed therein and to issue any other appropriate writ or order or direction which deems fit to grant by this Court in the facts and circumstances of the case.

2. The applicant is a permanent government servant working as Village Administrative Officer in the Revenue Department, presently posted at Kitturu in Belagavi District. He is the President of the Karnataka State Government Employees Association, Taluka Unit Channamma Kitturu (in short, 'the Association') for the period 2024 to 2029. On 14.12.2025, Respondent No. 2 issued an order deputing the applicant to Shinnur Village in Nippani Taluk for a period of one year with



immediate effect. Aggrieved by this, the applicant approached the KAT praying to quash the deputation order. In the said proceeding he also sought interim protection by staying the operation of the deputation order. The KAT, vide its order dated 27.01.2026, declined interim relief mainly on the ground that the transfer guidelines for 2025-26 were not applicable to deputation and directed issuance of emergent notice to the Respondents. In these circumstances, the applicant has approached this Court.

3. Admittedly, the Government of Karnataka issued guidelines for the transfer of government servants during 2025-26 vide G.O.No.Si.Aa.Su.E.14 Se.Nou.Va 2025, Bengaluru dated 12.05.2025. Guideline No.8(5) stipulates that if a government servant is an office-bearer of the Karnataka State Government Employees Association, he shall not be transferred until the end of his term of office. Undisputedly, the applicant was elected President of the Karnataka State Government Employees Association, Taluka Unit Channamma Kitturu on 28.10.2024, with tenure from 2024 to 2029. Thus, based on the aforesaid Government Order, the applicant enjoys immunity from transfer till the end of his term as President of the Association.



4. The order dated 14.12.2025 passed by Respondent No. 2 reads as follows:

: ಆದೇಶ :

ಓದಲಾದರಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶ್ರೀ ಈರಣ್ಣ ಕರಡಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಆಡಳಿತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ತಹಶೀಲ್ದಾರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕಿತ್ತೂರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಸದರಿಯವರನ್ನು ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಬೇರೆ ತಾಲೂಕಿಗೆ ನಿಯೋಜನೆ ಮೇಲೆ ನಿಯೋಜಿಸುವಂತೆ ಕೋರಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ.

ಮಾನ್ಯ ಶಾಸಕರು, ಚೆನ್ನಮ್ಮನ ಕಿತ್ತೂರ ವಿಧಾನಸಭಾ ಕ್ಷೇತ್ರ ರವರ ಕೋರಿಕೆಯ ಪ್ರಯತ್ನ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಆಡಳಿತದ ಹಿತದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ ಶ್ರೀ ಈರಣ್ಣ ಕರಡಿ, ಗ್ರಾಮ ಆಡಳಿತ ಅಧಿಕಾರಿ ತಹಶೀಲ್ದಾರ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ ಕಿತ್ತೂರ ಇವರನ್ನು ನಿಪ್ಪಾನಿ ತಾಲೂಕಿನ ಕೊನ್ನುರ ಸಾಜಾಗೆ ಒಂದು ವರ್ಷದ ಅವಧಿಗೆ ಮಾತ್ರ ನಿಯೋಜನೆ ಮೇಲೆ (ಕಾರ್ಯಾರ್ಥವ್ಯವಸ್ಥೆಯ) ನಿಯೋಜಿಸಿ ಆದೇಶಿಸಿದೆ.

ಈ ಆದೇಶ ತಕ್ಷಣದಿಂದ ಜಾರಿಗೆ ಬರುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/-

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಬೆಳಗಾವಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.

5. A plain reading of the above extract shows that Respondent No. 2 passed the order at the request of the MLA of Channamma Kitturu Assembly Constituency stating it to be in the interest of the general public and for proper administration. The order further specifies that the deputation is for one year with immediate effect. Further, the record shows that the KAT declined interim protection to the applicant on the ground that



the government guidelines for transfer of government servants for 2025-26 were inapplicable to deputation orders.

6. Sri M.S. Bhagawan, learned Senior Counsel appearing for Sri Sabeel Ahmed Darveshu, learned Advocate for the Petitioner, relying on the decision in ***Sri U.D. Krishnakumar Vs The Director General and Inspector General of Police and Others*** [W.P. No. 22550/2025 (S-KSAT) DD 24.09.2025], vehemently submitted that the transfer guidelines dated 12.05.2025 apply even to deputation orders, as they involve movement of a government servant from one headquarters to another. He urged that the deputation violates the G.O. dated 12.05.2025, entitling the applicant to interim protection pending disposal of his application before the KAT, as the materials prima facie disclose violation of binding transfer guidelines.

7. Per contra, Sri G.K. Hiregoudar, learned Principal Government Advocate, strenuously submitted that the impugned order is merely a deputation order passed by Respondent No. 2 in view of administrative exigencies and public interest. He contended that it cannot be termed a transfer and does not violate the transfer guidelines.



8. In the aforesaid decision, the Co-ordinate Bench of this Court considered whether the General Transfer Guidelines dated 25.06.2024 applicable to order of deputation. While answering this, the Court held as under:

"18. A combined reading of the above would mean that unless there is a change of office or change of headquarters, transfer or deputation would not take place. Deputation is nothing but transfer; however, it would be from one department to another department.

19. In the light of the above discussion, we are of the considered view that the transfer guidelines laid down under the Government Order dated 25.06.2024 and subsequent Government Order dated 12.05.2025 would be applicable to cases of deputation also, subject to Rule 50 of KCSRs and relevant Government Orders issued from time to time governing deputation of government servants."

9. The facts and circumstances narrated above prima facie indicate that the deputation/transfer of the applicant from his present posting at Kitturu to Shinnur Village in Nippani Taluk disregards the transfer guidelines in G.O.No.Si.Aa.Su.E.14 Se.Nou.Va 2025, Bengaluru dated 12.05.2025. The impugned action by Respondent No. 2 being ex facie contrary to these guidelines, and the balance of convenience overwhelmingly favouring the applicant, denial of interim protection pending



disposal of his application before the KAT would render it infructuous.

10. In the result, this Court proceeds to pass the following:

ORDER

- i) The writ petition is allowed.
- ii) The operation and execution of Order No. Kra. Kumsha/ Sibbandi-03/viva-13/2025-26 dated 14.12.2025 issued by Respondent No. 2 is stayed pending disposal of Application No. 10128/2026 before the Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal, Belagavi.
- iii) The Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal, Belagavi is directed to dispose of Application No. 10128/2026 at the earliest.

**Sd/-
(M.I.ARUN)
JUDGE**

**Sd/-
(B. MURALIDHARA PAI)
JUDGE**