

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD

WRIT PETITION NO. 8180 OF 2015

Vivek Pandurang Joshi .. **Petitioner**
Versus
Maharashtra State Electricity
Distribution Company Ltd. (MSEDCL),
Through its Managing Director
and another .. **Respondents**

Mr. S. S. Thombre, Advocate for the Petitioner.
Miss Harshita Manglani h/f Mr. Anil S. Bajaj,
Advocate for Respondents.

CORAM: S. V. GANGAPURWALA &
S. M. GAVHANE, JJ.

DATE: 12th September, 2018

PER COURT :

1. Heard Mr. S.S. Thombre, learned Counsel for the petitioner and Mr. A.S. Bajaj, learned Counsel for the respondents.

2. The facts giving rise to the instant petition are identical in all respects to the facts of the decided group of matters i.e. W.P. No.4045 of 2015 (Subhash s/o Babulal Jaiswal Vs. Managing Director, MSEDCL & others), and companion matters, decided on 06.10.2016 and as such, instant

petition can be disposed of by issuing similar directions, as have been issued in the aforesaid group of petitions.

3. In view of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of State Bank of India and others Vs. Neelam Nag, reported in 2016 (8) SCALE 826 and for the reasons recorded in the judgment delivered by Division Bench of this Court in W.P. No.4758 of 2014 and companion matters, decided on 23.09.2015, this petition stands disposed of with following directions:

(I) We direct the Court, dealing with the Criminal charges against the petitioner, to conclude the proceedings as expeditiously as possible, and preferably within a period of one year from the date of this order.

(II) The interim order, granting stay to the ongoing disciplinary proceedings, shall remain in force for a period of one year from the date of this order.

(III) In case the charge sheet is not filed or belatedly filed, the interim order, granting stay to the ongoing disciplinary proceedings in such case, shall remain in force for a period of one year from the date of this order and the disciplinary proceedings initiated against the petitioner in those proceedings shall be resumed and concluded by the Inquiry Officer thereafter.

(IV) We hope and trust that the trial Court will take effective steps to ensure that the witnesses are served, appeared and examined accordingly.

(V) The petitioner, who is accused in criminal case, shall cooperate with the trial Court for early disposal of criminal proceedings.

(VI) In case, the trial is not completed within a period of one year from today,

despite the steps which the trial Court has been directed to take, the disciplinary proceedings, initiated against the petitioners shall be resumed and concluded by the Enquiry Officer.

(VII) We make it clear that the interim orders staying ongoing disciplinary proceedings shall, in that case, stand vacated upon expiry of a period of one year from the date of this order.

(VIII) Registry may communicate this order to the concerned Court where the criminal prosecution against the petitioner is pending.

4. Writ Petition stands disposed of accordingly.

No costs.

[S. M. GAVHANE, J.]

[S. V. GANGAPURWALA, J.]

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