

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD
WRIT PETITION NO. 4376 OF 2021**

Sujata D/o Rajabhau Kadam ... Petitioner.

Versus

The State of Maharashtra
and others ... Respondents.

....

Mr. S.M. Vibhute, Advocate for the Petitioner.
Mr. P.K. Lakhotiya, A.G.P. for Respondents / State.

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**CORAM : S.V. GANGAPURWALA AND
SHRIKANT D. KULKARNI, JJ.**

DATE : 11th MARCH, 2021

PER COURT:-

1. Heard.
2. The issue involved in the present writ petition is no longer *res-integra* and is decided by this Court vide order dated 14.8.2014 in Writ Petition No.4536 of 2014 and other connected Writ Petitions.
3. In view of the above, we also follow the same course.
4. For the reasons recorded above, view taken by the Scrutiny Committee deserves to be upheld. However, in the facts and circumstances, we proceed to issue certain directions in addition to the directions issued by the Scrutiny Committee, as follows.

- a) The petitioner, may approach the concerned Scrutiny Committee for issuance of photostat copy of the caste/tribe certificate produced by him for verification, within a period of four months from today. The Scrutiny Committee, on receipt of such application, issue attested/authenticated copy of the caste/tribe certificate produced by petitioner for verification to the Committee.
- b) The petitioner, on receipt of photostat copy of the caste/tribe certificate, shall approach the concerned Sub Divisional Officer/competent authority with an application for issuance of caste/tribe certificate within a period of six weeks, thereafter.
- c) In the event earlier caste certificate had been issued by the Executive Magistrates, it would be open for the petitioner to tender an application to the Sub Divisional Officer of the concerned Division and such officer shall entertain the application and shall issue caste certificate in the prescribed proforma on verifying attested/authenticated photostat copy of the earlier caste certificate.
- d) The concerned Sub Divisional Officer/Competent Authority, on receipt of the application of the petitioner, together with attested/authenticated photostat copy of the caste/tribe certificate issued earlier, shall proceed to issue caste/tribe certificate in prescribed proforma certifying tha petitioner belong to 'Koli Mahadev', Scheduled Tribe. The Sub Divisional Officer/Competent Authority shall issue certificate within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of the application.

e) On receipt of Tribe certificate, the petitioner, shall approach the concerned Scrutiny Committee with a proposal in prescribed proforma requesting the Scrutiny Committee to verify the Tribe Certificate and consider his application for issuance of validity certificate. The petitioner shall approach the Scrutiny Committee within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt of the caste certificate from the competent authority.

f) On receipt of the proposal from the petitioner, the Scrutiny Committee shall proceed to verify the caste/tribe certificate and take appropriate decision after following procedure prescribed under law in respect of issuance of validity certificate, as expeditiously as possible and preferably within a period of one year from the date of receipt of the proposal/application.

g) The Scrutiny Committee shall accept the proposal directly and shall not refuse to accept the proposal on the ground that same has not been routed through proper channel, either employer or educational institution.

5. The Writ Petition is disposed of. No costs.

(SHRIKANT D. KULKARNI)
JUDGE

(S.V. GANGAPURWALA)
JUDGE

S.P Rane