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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION
WRIT PETITION NO.8742 OF 2021**

Dipak Pradhan

... Petitioner

Versus

The Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar
Haveli and Daman and Diu and Ors.

... Respondents

Mr. Balkrishna D. Joshi, for Petitioner.

Mr. Saurabh Kshirsagar h/f Mr. Hiten Venegaonkar, for Respondents.

**CORAM: S.J. KATHAWALLA &
MILIND N. JADHAV, JJ.**

DATE: 8th DECEMBER, 2021

P.C.:

1. The grievance of the Petitioner is that by an order dated 20th September, 2021, he was removed from the Office of Vice President of District Panchayat of Dadra and Nagar Haveli. The Petitioner has challenged the said order before the Administrator of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu and the same is pending. Adjournments are sought and obtained by the other side in the said Appeal. However, pending the Appeal, the Joint Secretary (PRI) – Respondent No.4 has passed an order dated 2nd December, 2021 fixing the date for election of Vice President of District Panchayat on 16th December, 2021.

2. Since the Petitioner has filed a statutory appeal which is pending since 18th October, 2021 and since the other side has applied for and obtained adjournments therein, grave and irreparable harm, loss, damage, injury and prejudice will be caused

to the Petitioner if without his appeal being heard, the election is conducted and is replaced by a new Vice President of District Panchayat. In view thereof, we pass the following order :

(i) The Administrator of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu, shall hear the Petitioner and dispose of the Appeal within a period of four weeks from today.

(ii) Status quo as of today shall be maintained in the meantime, qua the Office of the Vice President of District Panchayat.

(iii) All contentions of the parties are kept open.

(iv) The Writ Petition is accordingly disposed of.

(MILIND N. JADHAV, J.)

(S.J.KATHAWALLA, J.)