

Niti

IN THE HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY AT GOA

WRIT PETITION NO.371 OF 2022

MARIA VANDA GOMES
AND 10 ORS.

... PETITIONERS

Versus

STATE OF GOA THR.
CHIEF SECRETARY AND
8 ORS.

... RESPONDENTS

Mr. P. Talaulikar, Advocate for the Petitioners.

**Mr. P. Arolkar, Additional Government Advocate for
Respondent Nos.1 to 6.**

**CORAM: M. S. SONAK &
BHARAT P. DESHPANDE, JJ.**

DATE : 21st SEPTEMBER 2022

ORAL ORDER : (Per M.S. Sonak, J.)

1. Heard Mr. Talaulikar for the petitioners and Mr. P. Arolkar, learned Additional Government Advocate for Respondent Nos.1 to 6.

2. The petitioners seek constitution of a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to investigate into the matters of affairs of respondent no. 8 – Society.

3. Mr. Arolkar points out that pursuant to the three FIR's registered charge-sheets have been filed in two matters and the third

matter is being investigated into by the Economic Offences Cell (EOC).

4. Considering the above statement, we do not think that any case has been made out for directing constitution of SIT.

5. Mr. Talaulikar then submits that the Registrar of Co-operative Societies (RCS) should be directed to take appropriate steps in the matter of investigation and mismanagement of the affairs of respondent no.8 – Society. He points out to certain documents at pages 52 & 53 of the paperbook. Based on the same, he submits that the RCS must take further steps.

6. To our query as to whether the petitioners have filed any complaint before the RCS, Mr. Talaulikar submits that no such complaints have been filed. In any case, we grant the petitioners' liberty to file a detail complaint before the RCS. Further, we direct the RCS to look into petitioners' complaint and dispose of the same in accord with law as expeditiously as possible.

7. We clarify that we have not gone into the merits of the rival contentions because we feel that these matters must in the first instance, be looked into by the RCS.

8. With the above liberty and directions, this petition is disposed of. There shall be no order for costs.

BHARAT P. DESHPANDE, J.

M. S. SONAK, J.

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HALDANKAR

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