

Urmila Ingale

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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY  
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

**CONTEMPT PETITION NO. 53 OF 2022  
IN  
CONTEMPT PETITION NO. 293 OF 2021  
IN  
WRIT PETITION NO. 19 OF 2021**

Vilas s/o Dinkar Bhat .. Petitioner  
Vs.  
The State of Maharashtra and ors. .. Respondents

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Mr. Anita Gavkar i/b Mr. Sushant Yeranwar, for Petitioner.  
Mr. B. V. Samant, AGP for Respondent -State.  
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**CORAM : DIPANKAR DATTA, CJ &  
M. S. KARNIK, J.**

**DATE : FEBRUARY 25, 2022**

**P.C. :**

1. This contempt petition alleges deliberate and willful violation of the order dated December 1, 2021 passed by a co-ordinate Bench of this Court in Contempt Petition No. 293 of 2021, arising out of the Writ Petition No. 19 of 2021. The operative direction contained in the said order dated December 1, 2021 is quoted below.

" In view of the submissions of learned counsel and in view of the order of the Division Bench dated 22nd October, 2020 passed in writ petition stamp no. 92627 of 2020, respondent No. 2-Scrutiny Committee, Pune, is directed to decide the claim, if not decided till date, as

expeditiously as possible and not later than six weeks from today. With these directions the contempt petition is disposed of."

2. Mr. Samant, learned AGP representing the contemnor submits that in compliance with the order dated December 1, 2021, the Caste Scrutiny Committee (hereafter "the Committee", for short) has passed an order dated December 23, 2021 invalidating the petitioner's caste status.

3. In view of such order passed by the Committee, the same affords the petitioner fresh cause of action to initiate legal proceedings.

4. Granting liberty to initiate appropriate proceeding, the contempt petition is disposed of. No costs.

**(M. S. KARNIK, J.)**

**(CHIEF JUSTICE)**