

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
BENCH AT AURANGABAD**

912 WRIT PETITION NO.11320 OF 2023

MEENA SAHEBRAO SONAWANE
VERSUS
THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA THROUGH THE SECRETARY AND OTHERS

...
Advocate for Petitioner : Mr. Yogesh Bolkar h/f. Sonar Anudeep Dilip
AGP for Respondents/State : Mr.P.K. Lakhotiya
...

**CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE &
Y.G. KHOBRADE, JJ.**
DATE : 10th October, 2023

PC. :-

1. The Petitioner seeks to challenge the grant of validity certificate to Respondent No.5 who has defeated the Petitioner recently in an election. The Petitioner has already preferred an application dated 19.06.2023 before the competent scrutiny committee challenging the grant of the validity certificate to Respondent No.5. This application would be covered by Section 7(1) of the Maharashtra Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified Tribes (Vimukta Jatis), Nomadic Tribes, Other Backward Classes and Special Backward Category (Regulation of Issuance and Verification of) Caste Certificate Act, 2000.

2. In view of the above, **this petition is disposed off.** Let the Respondent No.2-Committee follow the due procedure laid down in law and by granting an adequate opportunity of hearing to the Petitioner as well as Respondent No.5, consider the application within the contours of Section 7 of the Act of 2000. Let this exercise be completed within 12 months from today.

[Y.G. KHOBRADE, J.]

[RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.]