



(1)

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

58 WRIT PETITION NO. 1976 OF 2024

**RAJESH NAMDEO CHAUDHARI AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA THROUGH ITS
SECRETARY AND OTHERS**

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Mr E. S. Murge, Advocate for Petitioners;
Mr S. V. Hange, A.G.P. for Respondent Nos.1 to 4
Mr P. S. Patil, Advocate for Respondent No.5

**CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE
AND
R. M. JOSHI, JJ.**

DATE : 20th February, 2024

PER COURT:

1. It is undisputed that several orders in similar matters have been passed by this Court. While disposing off the Petitions, we have permitted the Employer to carry out a verification exercise and, thereafter, initiate appropriate steps. There is no recovery order against the Petitioners, since the monetary benefits are yet to be granted.
2. In view of the above, **this Writ Petition is disposed off**, on the following terms:-

(2)

(i) Respondent No.5/Social Welfare Officer, Zilla Parishad, Nandurbar, shall scrutinize the records of all these Petitioners and the places, at which they are deployed for performing their duties, within a period of eight weeks.

(ii) Those cases, which do not suffer from any legal impediment after verification, shall be cleared by Respondent No.5 and the salary benefits, to which they are entitled to, in the light of the one-step pay-scale made available to the employees working in the tribal and PESA areas, shall be paid, along with their arrears, as well as their current salaries, within a period of four weeks, thereafter.

(iii) After scrutiny, if any of these Petitioners, on the basis of their records, are found to be ineligible, Respondent No.5 would issue notices to each of such Petitioners, so as to enable them to appear and address him.

(iv) After such hearing, which shall be completed within four months from today, Respondent No.5 shall pass appropriate orders, within the said period, and grant benefits of one-step pay-scale only to those candidates, who are found to be eligible.

(3)

(v) Those Petitioners, who suffer adverse orders after the above stated exercise is completed, would be at liberty to avail of a statutory remedy, as is permissible in law.

(R. M. JOSHI, J.)

(RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)

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