

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

WRIT PETITION NO. 16687 OF 2024

Ramdas s/o Devaji Shinde & Ors. ... Petitioners

versus

The State of Maharashtra & Ors. ... Respondents

....

Mr.C.K.Bhangoji with Mr.E.S.Murge for the Petitioners.

Ms.Sulbha Chipade, AGP for the Respondent -State.

....

CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE

&

ASHWIN D. BHOBE, JJ.

DATE : 18TH NOVEMBER, 2024

P.C.:

1. All the Petitioners claim to be identically placed as they have received the District Award as Best Teacher, prior to the introduction of the Government Resolution dated 4th September, 2018. This position has been interpreted by this Court to mean that the District Teacher Award should actually be announced and the concerned Teacher be declared as selected for the same, prior to 4th September, 2018, when a new Government Resolution was introduced thereby discontinuing the benefit of the additional increment to a District Awardee Teacher. This Court has interpreted the same to be applicable prospectively.

2. The learned Advocate for the Petitioners has placed on record an order dated 27th February, 2023 passed by this Court at Aurangabad in Writ Petition No.2296 of 2023 (Rameshwar Bhanudas Salunke (Died) Through Its Lrs Kantabai Rameshwar Salunke Versus The State of Maharashtra and Others) and connected matters. In the said case, the decision of this Court dated 24th September, 2019 in Writ Petition No. 11700 of 2019 (Vishnu Sahebrao Khandagale and others Vs. The State of Maharashtra and others) was followed.

3. In view of the above, **this Writ Petition is disposed off** by issuing the similar directions as were issued in the orders referred to hereinabove, which read as under :

(a) The Respondent - Zilla Parishad, after confirming that the Petitioners are the District Awardee Teachers and are awarded such certificates prior to 4th September, 2018, shall consider the cases of the Petitioners for additional increment as is provided under the Government Resolution dated 12th December, 2000.

(b) The same shall be considered on its own merits, expeditiously and preferably within a period of six (6) months.

(ASHWIN D. BHOBE,J.) (RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)