



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

WRIT PETITION NO. 1402 OF 2025

BHALERAO VILAS RAMDAS AND OTHERS

VERSUS

**THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA THROUGH THE
SECRETARY AND OTHERS**

...

Shri Shinde Balaji S., Advocate for the Petitioners.

Shri R.K. Ingole, AGP for Respondent Nos.1 to 6/State.

...

CORAM : MANGESH S. PATIL

&

PRAFULLA S. KHUBALKAR, JJ.

DATE : 30th January, 2025

Per Court :-

We have heard both the sides, the learned Advocate for the petitioners and the learned AGP.

2. Both the sides are *ad idem* that the prayers in the petition can be considered in the light of the directions issued by this Court in several similar matters including in the matter of ***Shivaji Kashinath Burke and others Vs. The State of Maharashtra and others*** in Writ Petition No.11642/2024 dated 17.10.2024.

3. We dispose of the Writ Petition in following terms :-

[a] The impugned action of stoppage of one-step pay scale initiated by the respondents is quashed and set aside.

[b] The Education Officer (Secondary), Zilla Parishad, Ahilyanagar (Ahmednagar) respondent No.5 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 (8) weeks.

[c] 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 the arrears, as well as their current salaries, within a period of four (4) weeks thereafter.

[d] 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.

[e] After such hearing, which shall be completed within four (4) months from today, respondent No.5 shall pass appropriate orders and grant benefits of one-step pay-scale to

those candidates, who are found to be eligible.

[f] 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.

kps

(PRAFULLA S. KHUBALKAR, J.) (MANGESH S. PATIL, J.)