

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

WRIT PETITION NO. 19182 OF 2024

Audumbar Vasant Patil

... Petitioner

versus

The State of Maharashtra & Ors.

... Respondents

Mr.Dilip B. Shinde with Mr.Mohan C. Kumbhar for the Petitioner
Mr.V.M.Mali, AGP for the Respondent-State.

**CORAM : RAVINDRA V. GHUGE &
ASHWIN D. BHOBE, JJ.**

DATE : 10TH MARCH, 2025

P.C. :-

1 Considering the order that we intend to pass, we are not required to advert to the entire submissions of the learned Advocate for the Petitioner and the learned AGP.

2. Suffice it to say that the learned AGP has been informed in writing by Smt.V.D.Birhari, the learned Assistant Charity Commissioner-II, Sangli Region, Sangli vide communication dated 10th March, 2025 that more than 200 cases are pending, which are between five years to ten years old. There are 217 contested cases and 838 uncontested cases. She has one Bench Clerk and the Stenographer is available only for two and half days

in a week. Copy of the said communication is taken on record and marked as 'X' for identification. Therefore, this Petition could be considered for granting a timeline for deciding oldest pending Change Reports.

3. The Petitioner is one person who claims to be the Chairman amongst many other persons who also claim to be the Chairman of the same trust. The dispute is writ large.

4. On the issue of *locus standi*, we could have dismissed this Petition. However, without getting into the locus of the Petitioner and keeping the said issue open to be considered in an appropriate case, we are only looking at the issue of one Change Report filed in 1998, bearing No. 354 of 1998, which is pending, as is conveyed by the learned Advocate.

5. In view of the above and without touching the issue of maintainability of this Petition on the ground of locus of the Petitioner, **this Writ Petition is disposed off.**

6. We request the learned Assistant Charity Commissioner-II, Sangli Region, Sangli to deal with the oldest

Change Reports at the earliest. The 1998 Change Report be taken up first and thereafter, the pending old Change Reports in the bracket of ten years to twenty years and five years to ten years be taken up for adjudication.

7. Let the 1998 Change Report be decided, on or before 30th September, 2025.

8. All the concerned would cooperate.

9. We record that this order shall not be cited in any proceeding to indicate that this Court has recognized the status of the present Petitioner. His locus is under a doubt and the said issue is kept open.

(ASHWIN D. BHOBE, J.)

(RAVINDRA V. GHUGE, J.)