Sr. No. 122

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU

WP(C) No. 3659/2026

Preeti Khajuria .....Appellant/Petitioner(s)

Through :- Mr. Jagpaul Singh, Advocate.

v/s

UT of J&K and others .....Respondent(s)

Through :- Ms. Chetna Manhas, Advocate vice
Mrs. Monika Kohli, Sr. AAG.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY PARIHAR, JUDGE

ORDER
20.11.2026

1. It is the specific case of the petitioner that she has been granted a temporary licence for the sale of liquor after participating in the e-auction process under the J&K Excise Policy 2026-2027, with respect to the liquor vend situated at Hiranagar, MC Ward No. 1, Kathua. In terms of the said licence, the petitioner was required to furnish the requisite property certificate for operating the said vend.

2. It is submitted that despite having approached the Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, for issuance of the said property certificate, the same has not been issued. The petitioner apprehends that respondent No. 2-Excise Commissioner, J&K, may discontinue the liquor vend on account of her inability to furnish the property certificate.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner further submits that this petition may be disposed of by directing respondent No. 3-Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, to treat the instant petition as a

representation and decide the same at the earliest, so as to enable the petitioner to produce the requisite property certificate, as the case may be.

4. Learned counsel for respondent No. 2 expresses no objection to the aforesaid prayer, however, it is argued that since the liquor vend was allotted to the petitioner in April 2026, she remained silent since then and now, when the financial year is about to conclude in a month or two, she has come up with the instant petition only with a view to drag the proceedings.

5. Be that as it may, this petition is taken up for consideration at the admission stage, and the same is disposed of, with a direction to Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, to treat this writ petition as a representation and proceed to consider and decide the same. The requisite property certificate is required to be issued by the Deputy Commissioner in exercise of the powers vested in him under the rules. Once the petitioner has applied for issuance of such a certificate, it is the corresponding obligation of the Deputy Commissioner to issue the same in a time-bound manner and not to make the petitioner suffer.

6. Keeping the aforesaid aspect in view, this petition is ***disposed of*** in the aforesaid manner by directing respondent No.3- Deputy Commissioner, Kathua, to consider the representation and decide the same within two weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order, by passing a speaking order. Till then, the respondents shall not disturb the status of the petitioner. In case, the petitioner fails to

furnish the said certificate, the respondents shall be at liberty to proceed in accordance with law.

7. Petition is thus, ***disposed of.***

(Sanjay Parihar)
Judge

JAMMU
20.11.2026
Diksha

HIGH COURT
सत्यमेव जयते
OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH