



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

WRIT PETITION NO. 2339 OF 2026

Sharad Sonaji Sahajrao And Anr
VERSUS
The State Of Maharashtra And Others

Mr. A. L. Kanade, Advocate for petitioners
Mr. A. B. Girase, GP for respondent-State

**CORAM : Smt. Vibha Kankanwadi &
Hiten S. Venegavkar, JJ.**

DATE : 05th March, 2026

PER COURT :-

1. The present petition is filed seeking a direction to respondents to decide proposals dated 24.06.2008 and 25.11.2019 for regularization of Gairan land in the name of the petitioner in the light of Government Resolution dated 28.11.1991.

2. Since respondents No.1 to 4 are represented by the learned GP, we are inclined to dispose of this petition by issuing appropriate directions.

3. We find that in **Writ Petition No. 5099 of 2024 (Nandkishor s/o Dhonduji Salwe Vs. The State of Maharashtra & Ors.)**, a Division Bench of this Court on 25.07.2024, referred to the said government resolutions and thereupon directed the concerned Collector

to consider the claim of the petitioner therein for regularization of land by passing a speaking order strictly in accordance with law.

4. In that view of the matter, we are of the opinion that this Court cannot consider the prayer for regularization directly and it would be necessary for the Collector i.e. respondent No.2 to consider the claim of the petitioners in accordance with law.

5. In view of the above, respondent No. 2 – District Collector is directed to consider and decide the proposals dated 24.06.2008 and 25.11.2019 submitted by the petitioners for regularization of the Gairan land, in view of the Government Resolution dated 28.11.1991, strictly in accordance with law, as expeditiously as possible and preferably within a period of four months from the date of this order.

6. Learned GP relies on Public Interest Litigation No.127 of 2022 and companion matters at the Principal Seat, wherein certain directions have been issued to the Collectors in respect of Gairan lands. We have not made any observations in our orders passed in the earlier writ petitions i.e. Writ Petition No.10286 of 2025 decided on 25.09.2025, Writ Petition No.8264 of 2025 decided on 23.07.2025 and Writ Petition No.5099 of 2024 decided on 25.07.2025. It is the only point for which we are relegating the matter directing respondent No.2/Collector to consider

the representation and the claim. Even in the decision in Public Interest Litigation No. 127 of 2022, it has been directed that jurisdictional Collectors shall issue notice to the petitioners as well as the unofficial respondents, the interveners and every other person who may be in occupation of the Government land/ Gairan land to carry out a survey to ascertain the encroachment on the subject lands, to give opportunity of hearing to all the parties and to submit documents in support of their claims. Therefore, this exercise is then required to be undertaken in the present matter also by respondent No.2.

7. In the result, we dispose of the writ petition with no observations but with a direction to the Collector to decide the proposals dated 24.06.2008 and 25.11.2019, and it would be appropriate that the Collector also take into consideration the observations made by this Court while disposing of the aforementioned petition i.e. **Writ Petition No.5099 of 2024 (Nandkishor s/o Dhonduji Salwe Vs. The State of Maharashtra & Ors.)** (supra).

(Hiten S. Venegavkar, J.)

(Smt. Vibha Kankanwadi, J.)

B. S. Joshi