

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

947 WRIT PETITION NO. 2725 OF 2026

**GAJANAN PRABHAKAR CHANDEWAD
VERSUS
THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA THROUGH ITS SECRETARY
TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT DEPT AND ANOTHER**

...
Mr. Chandrakant Thorat, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mrs. Chaitali Choudhari, A.G.P. for respondents-State.
...

**CORAM : SANDIPKUMAR C. MORE AND
ABASAHEB D. SHINDE, JJ.**

DATED : 12 MARCH 2026.

Oral order (Per Abasaheb D. Shinde, J.) :

1. Heard.
2. The proposal of the petitioner for verification of his tribe claim of belonging to "Koli Mahadev" Scheduled Tribe is pending with respondent No.2 Scrutiny Committee since 29.11.2022 and therefore the petitioner is seeking direction to decide the said tribe claim expeditiously.
3. Since the petitioner is an elected Sarpanch and time to submit validity certificate is likely to expire, he needs the validity certificate.
4. In that view of the matter, we direct respondent No.2 Scrutiny Committee to decide the tribe claim of the petitioner as expeditiously as possible and preferably by the end of

September 2026, on its own merits and in accordance with law.

5. With this direction, writ petition stands disposed of.

(ABASAHEB D. SHINDE)
JUDGE

(SANDIPKUMAR C. MORE)
JUDGE