

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

951 WRIT PETITION NO. 3108 OF 2026

SATISH CHINDHAJI SONUNE
VERSUS
THE STATE OF MAHARASHTRA THROUGH ITS SECRETARY
AND OTHERS

...
Mr. Deepak Choudhari, Advocate for the petitioner.
Mrs. M.N. Ghanekar, A.G.P. for respondents-State.
...

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

DATED : 24 MARCH 2026.

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

1. Heard.
2. The tribe claim of the petitioner of belonging to "Koli Malhar" Scheduled Tribe is pending before the respondent Scrutiny Committee since 15.09.2025. In the meantime, the employer of the petitioner has issued show-cause notice on 26.02.2026 calling upon the petitioner to submit tribe validity certificate, failing which services of the petitioner would be brought to an end.
3. Considering the same, we direct the respondent Scrutiny Committee to decide the tribe claim of the petitioner as expeditiously as possible and in any case within a period of 8 months from today.

4. Till the tribe claim of the petitioner is decided, the employer of the petitioner shall not take any coercive action against the petitioner on the ground that petitioner has failed to submit the tribe validity certificate.
5. Needless to state that the protection granted by this court will operate only till the tribe claim of the petitioner is decided and the petitioner would not claim any equities.
6. With this direction, writ petition stands disposed of.

(ABASAHEB D. SHINDE)
JUDGE

(SANDIPKUMAR C. MORE)
JUDGE