



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

904 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 25 OF 2025

WALMIK GOPINATH AGHADE AND OTHERS

VERSUS

**THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA**

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. N. S. Salunke

...

WITH

CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3602 OF 2026

IN ARB/25/2025

...

AND

...

905 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 26 OF 2025

VITTHAL RAMRAO THENGDE AND OTHERS

VERSUS

**THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA**

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. N. S. Salunke

...

WITH

CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3612 OF 2026

IN ARB/26/2025

...

AND

...

906 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 27 OF 2025

VINOD KANHAIYALAL BHARUKA AND OTHERS

VERSUS

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Nitin S. Salunke

...

WITH

**CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3604 OF 2026
IN ARB/27/2025**

...

AND

...

**907 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 28 OF 2025
VIJAY SHARAD CHANDRATIKE AND OTHERS**

VERSUS

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. N. T. Tribhuwan

...

WITH

**CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3614 OF 2026
IN ARB/28/2025**

...

AND

...

**908 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 29 OF 2025
ASHOK NAMDEV MISAL AND OTHERS**

VERSUS

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. U. B. Bondar

...

WITH
CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3610 OF 2026
IN ARB/29/2025

...

AND

...

909 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 30 OF 2025
RAJU HIRAMAN RATHOD AND OTHERS

VERSUS

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Rajendra D. Sanap

...

WITH
CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3608 OF 2026
IN ARB/30/2025

...

AND

...

910 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 31 OF 2025
VIJAY SHARAD CHANDRATIKE AND OTHERS

VERSUS

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

...

WITH
CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3603 OF 2026
IN ARB/31/2025

...

AND

...

911 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 32 OF 2025
KHANIJABI SHAIKH SIRAJ AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA

...
Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. N. T. Bhagat

...
WITH
CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3605 OF 2026
IN ARB/32/2025

...
AND

...
912 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 33 OF 2025
MUNISH RATANLAL SHARMA AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANOTHERS

...
Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Rajesh H. Mewara

...
WITH
CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3599 OF 2026
IN ARB/33/2025

...
AND

...
913 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 34 OF 2025
SATYANARAYAN DATTARAM PATIL AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND OTHERS

...
Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Ms. Mayuti G. Kasturkar

...

WITH

CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3600 OF 2026
IN ARB/34/2025

...

AND

...

914 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 35 OF 2025

YADNYAVIR ANANDRAO KAVADE

VERSUS

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANR.

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Rohit Sarvadnya

...

WITH

CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3606 OF 2026
IN ARB/35/2025

...

AND

...

915 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 36 OF 2025

ASHABAI PRALHAD KOLHE AND ANOTHER

VERSUS

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANR.

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Nandkishor U. Yadav

...

WITH

CIVIL APPLICATION NO. 3601 OF 2026
IN ARB/36/2025

...

AND

...

916 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 37 OF 2025

SATISH BUDHAJIRAO SHINDE AND ANR.

VERSUSTHE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANR.

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Rajesh H. Mewara

...

AND

...

917 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 38 OF 2025

SUBHASH RAMCHANDRA AGRAWAL AND OTHERS

VERSUSTHE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANR.

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Ms. Mayuri G. Kasturkar

...

AND

...

918 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 39 OF 2025

SACHIN SUMATILAL JAVHERI AND OTHERS

VERSUSTHE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANR.

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Akshay D. Kulkarni

...

AND

...

919 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 40 OF 2025
DILIP AMBADAS VETAL AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANR.

...
Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. U. B. Bondar

...

AND

...

920 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 41 OF 2025
SUSHILABAI RAGHUNATH JANJAL AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANOTHER

...
Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Rohit S. Sarvadnya

...

AND

...

921 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 42 OF 2025
SHILA SUBHASH AGRAWAL AND OTHERS
VERSUS
THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND OTHERS

...
Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad
Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate
Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. U. B. Bondar

...

AND

...

922 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 44 OF 2025
VISHWANATH MURGAPPA SINGARE AND OTHERS

VERSUS

**THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANOTHER**

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Krushna S. Solanke

...

AND

...

923 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 45 OF 2025
KALPANA SHANKAR UBALE AND OTHERS

VERSUS

**THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANOTHER**

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Krushna S. Solanke

...

AND

...

924 ARBITRATION APPLICATION NO. 47 OF 2025
SHAMIYODDIN WALIYYODDIN HASHMI

VERSUS

**THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL HIGHWAY AUTHORITY OF
INDIA AND ANR.**

...

Advocate for Applicant : Mr. Ajit Baburao Gaikwad

Advocate for Respondent No.1 : Mr. S. J. Rahate

Advocate for Respondent No.2 : Mr. Avinash R. Borulkar

...

CORAM : ARUN R. PEDNEKER, J.

DATE : 27.03.2026

PER COURT:

1. Heard.
2. The Arbitration Applications are filed for extension of the mandate under Section 29-A of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act.
3. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of **Jagdeep Chowgule Vs. Sheela Chowgule and others, dated 29.01.2026**, relying upon the Judgment of Chief Engineer (NH) PWD (Roads) Vs. BSC&C and C JV, 2024 SCC OnLine SC 1801, has observed that the power under Sub-Section 29A of the Arbitration Act vests in the Court as defined in Section 2(1)(e) of the Arbitration Act. It is the principal Civil Court of original jurisdiction in a district which includes a High Court provided the High Court has ordinary original civil jurisdiction.
4. This Court in case of **National Highway Authority of India and others Vs. Suresh Pardharinath Matre and others, MANU/MH/2637/2026 : Arbitration Appeal No.10 of 2026 with connected matters, dated 18.03.2026** has taken a view that Section 29-A of the Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996 has no application to the arbitration proceedings initiated under Section 3(G)(5) of the National Highways Act, 1956. This court in the case

of Suresh Matre (supra) has observed at Paragraph No.49, as under:

"49. This Court for the reasons discussed above, holds that Section 29A of the Act, which provides for a time limit for the conclusion of arbitration proceedings extension of mandate of Arbitrator, reduction of fees of arbitrator and for substitution of the arbitrator, would not apply to an arbitrator appointed under Section 3G(5) of the National Highways Act."

5. In view of the above, all the Applications are disposed of with direction to the Arbitrator to decide the pending Arbitration Applications expeditiously.

6. In view of disposal of the Arbitration Applications, the interim Civil Applications are also disposed of.

[ARUN R. PEDNEKER, J.]

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