

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION**

WRIT PETITION NO.5278 OF 2025

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Ashok Janrao & Ors. .. Petitioners
Vs.
State of Maharashtra & Ors. .. Respondents

**WITH
INTERIM APPLICATION NO.9360 OF 2025
IN
WRIT PETITION NO.5278 OF 2025**

Ajay Mahadev Harsulkar .. Applicant
Vs.
Ashok Janrao & Ors. .. Respondents

In the matter between :

Ashok Janrao & Ors. .. Petitioners
Vs.
State of Maharashtra & Ors. .. Respondents

**WITH
WRIT PETITION NO.58 OF 2026**

Yogendra V. More .. Petitioner
Vs.
State of Maharashtra & Ors. .. Respondents

**WITH
WRIT PETITION NO.9200 OF 2025**

Darshan Govardhan Thube .. Petitioner
Vs.
State of Maharashtra & Ors. .. Respondents

**WITH
WRIT PETITION NO.5486 OF 2025
AND
WRIT PETITION NO.61 OF 2026**

...

Mr. Sachin Thorat, Mr. Nitin Gaware Patil, Mr. Mohan

Gawade & Mr. Dhananjay K.Bhosale, Advocates for the Petitioner in WP/5278/2025

Mr.Omprakash Kashid (through VC), Advocate for the Applicant in IA/9360/2025

Mr. Vinod Joshi a/w Mr.S.D.Deshpande, Advocates for the Petitioner in WP/58/2025

Mr. Vikrant Khare a/w Mr. Siddharth Gharat & Mr. Anirudh Rote, Advocates for the Petitioner in WP/9200/2025

Smt. Neha S. Bhide, GP a/w Mr. B. V. Samant, Addl. GP, Mr.Kedar B. Dighe, Addl. GP & Smt. P. J. Gavhane, AGP for the State - Respondent No. 1

Mr. Ashutosh M. Kulkarni a/w Mr. Vipul Raut, Advocates for Respondent No. 2 - MPSC in WP/5278/2025, WP/5486/2025, WP/9200/2025 & WP/58/2026

Dr. Milind Sathe, Senior Advocate a/w Mr. Rahul Nerlekar, Advocates for Respondent No. 3-High Court

None for the Petitioners in WP/5486/2025 & WP/61/2026

CORAM : SHREE CHANDRASHEKHAR, CJ & GAUTAM A. ANKHAD, J.

DATE : 14th JANUARY 2026

P.C. :

It is stated at the Bar that 43 candidates who have qualified for the post of Civil Judge Junior Division and Judicial Magistrate First Class in the recruitment process of 2022 conducted pursuant to the Advertisement No.26 of 2023 have been given appointment letters. Whether or not all those 43 selected candidates have tendered their joining is not specifically stated by the learned counsels for the petitioners. They have, however, submitted that the list of selected candidates falling within the prescribed norms pursuant to the Recruitment Process-2023 is required to be revised in view of the fact that the 43 candidates selected in the Recruitment Process-2022

have been included in the select list for the Recruitment Process-2023.

2. Accepting the statements made at the Bar by the learned counsels for the petitioners, we direct that the Maharashtra Public Service Commission shall publish a list of candidates who shall be called for the interview as per the extant rules and norms and of course if they are qualifying the benchmark. It is, however, made clear that all the newly added candidates from the Recruitment Process-2023 shall be provisionally permitted to participate in the interview for the post of Civil Judge Junior Division and Judicial Magistrate First Class and the final decision shall rest with the High Court. Those newly added candidates shall not claim any equity on whatsoever ground even if they secure highest cumulative marks. On this understanding and with a rider that if any selected candidate in the Recruitment Process-2022 has not tendered joining the number shall decrease accordingly.

3. Writ Petition No.5278 of 2025 along with Interim Application No.936 of 2025, Writ Petition Nos.9200 of 2025 and 58 of 2026 stand disposed of in the aforesaid terms.

4. Post Writ Petition Nos.5486 of 2025 and 61 of 2026 on 28th January 2026.

[GAUTAM A. ANKHAD, J.]

[CHIEF JUSTICE]