IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 27TH DAY OF APRIL, 2026

PRESENT

THE HON'BLE MR. VIBHU BAKHRU, CHIEF JUSTICE

AND

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE C.M. POONACHA

WRIT PETITION NO. 13278 OF 2026 (GM-MM-S)

BETWEEN:

1. M/S. SGR STONE CRUSHERS
REGISTERED UNDER
PARTNERSHIP ACT, 1932
NO. 61, MUNIYUR
TURUVEKERE TALUK
TUMKUR DISTRICT - 572 104
REPRESENTED BY PARTNER
SRI K.V. NAGESH
AGED ABOUT 56 YEARS

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI D.L.N. RAO, SENIOR ADVOCATE FOR
SRI ANIRUDH ANAND, ADVOCATE &
SRI AISHWARYA BHIMALLI B.,ADVOCATE)

Digitally signed by VEERENDRA KUMAR K M
Location: High Court of Karnataka

AND:

1. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES
(MSME, MINES AND TEXTILE)
VIKASA SOUDHA
DR. AMBEDKAR VEEDHI
BANGALORE - 560 001

2. THE STATE OF KARNATAKA
REPRESENTED BY ITS SECRETARY

DEPARTMENT OF FOREST
ECOLOGY AND ENVIRONMENT
ROOM NO.442, 4TH FLOOR
GATE NO. 2, M.S. BUILDING
BANGALORE - 560 001

3. THE PRINCIPAL CHIEF
CONSERVATOR OF FOREST
ARYAN BHAVAN
18TH CROSS, MALLESHWARAM
BANGALORE - 560 003

4. THE DEPUTY CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS
TUMKUR DIVISION
KARNATAKA FORESTS DEPARTMENT
TUMKUR - 572 104

5. THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF MINES AND GEOLOGY
KHANIJA BHAVAN
SPOORTHI LAYOUT, BADDIHALLI
RING ROAD, TUMKUR - 572 104

6. DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
MINI VIDHANA SAUDHA
TUMKUR
KARNATAKA - 572 101

…RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI K.S. HARISH, GOVERNMENT ADVOCATE)

THIS WRIT PETITION IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO ISSUE A WRIT IN THE NATURE OF CERTIORARI, OR ANY OTHER WRIT, OR DIRECTION TO QUASH THE ORDER BEARING No. GBDI/Unitu/Quarry-926/Suspension/2025-26/7938 DATED 12.03.2026 VIDE ANNEXURE-J AND ETC.

THIS PETITION, COMING ON FOR PRELIMINARY HEARING, THIS DAY, ORDER WAS MADE THEREIN AS UNDER:

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. VIBHU BAKHRU, CHIEF JUSTICE
and
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE C.M. POONACHA

ORAL ORDER

(PER: HON'BLE MR. VIBHU BAKHRU, CHIEF JUSTICE)

1. The petitioner has filed the present petition, *inter alia,* impugning a notice dated 12.03.2026, whereby the Deputy Director of Mines and Geology (respondent No.5), suspended the quarrying and transportation activities in respect of quarry lease QL-926 granted to the petitioner. The said notice is issued pursuant to a letter dated 06.03.2026 issued by the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Tumakuru (Territorial) Division (respondent No.4) reporting that the land to an extent of 49.00 hectares in Sy.No.09 of Pandithanahalli village, Kasaba East Hobli, Tumakuru Taluk, is recorded as forest land and is required to be treated as forest. .

2. It is further stated in the notice that no part of the said land can be diverted for any other activity without the permission of the Central Government under the provisions of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

3. The petitioner has been granted quarrying lease in QL No.926, over an area of land measuring 2 acres 20 guntas which also falls within Sy.No.9 of Pandithanahalli village, Tumakuru Taluk. In the said context, the Deputy Conservator of Forests has directed that the quarry lease and the crusher licence granted to persons in the said land be cancelled.

4. The learned Additional Government Advocate submits that on the very same day a show cause notice dated 12.03.2026 was issued calling upon the petitioner to show cause as to why the lease (QL 926) not be cancelled. Thus, the petitioner has full opportunity to raise all contentions before the Deputy Director, Department of Mines and Geology in response to the said show cause notice.

5. In view of the above we do not consider it apposite to entertain the present petition at this stage. However, since the mining activity has been interdicted, we request the concerned officer to dispose of the proceedings initiated by the show cause notice dated 12.03.2026 in a time bound manner. If the petitioner files its response to the said show cause notice within a period of two weeks from date, we request that the same be disposed of within a period of two weeks thereafter.

6. The writ petition is disposed of with the above observations.

Sd/-
(VIBHU BAKHRU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

Sd/-
(C.M. POONACHA)
JUDGE

KMV
List No.: 2 Sl No.: 13