HC-KAR

NC: 2026:KHC:64290
WP No. 36426 of 2024

CNR: KAHC010736612024

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 19TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE T.P.VIVEKANANDA

WRIT PETITION NO. 36426 OF 2024 (GM-RES)

BETWEEN:

SMT MANJULA K
W/O. L S HARISH
AGED ABOUT 50 YEARS
R/AT NO.2661, 1ST FLOOR, 3RD MAIN
3RD CROSS, B BLOCK
SS LAYOUT,
DAVANAGERE - 577 004.

...PETITIONER

(BY SRI. ANANDA K S.,ADVOCATE)

Digitally signed by PAVITHRA B
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

AND:

1. STATE OF KARNATAKA
   REPRESENTED BY ITS CHIEF SECRETARY
   VIDHANA SOUDHA
   BENGALURU - 560 001.

2. THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
   DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN
   AND CHILD EMPOWERMENT
   OF DIFFERENTLY ABLED AND SENIOR CITIZEN
   3RD GATE, GROUND FLOOR,

M.S. BUILDING,
DR. B.R. AMBEDKAR VEEDHI,
BENGALURU - 560 001.

3. THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER
FVGQ 2MV,
DAVANAGERE-HARIHAR ROAD KARUR,
DAVANGERE - 577 002.

4. THE DIRECTOR INTEGRATED CHILD PROTECTION SOCIETY,
VISHWESHWARAIAH KENDRA,
CHIKKA GOPURA, 3RD FLOOR
DR. AMBEDKAR VEEDHI
BENGALURU - 560 001.

…RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. M. SRINIVAS KUMAR, HCGP FOR R1 TO R4 AND R6
SRI. MANISARATHY, ADVOCATE FOR
SRI. B.V. VIDYULATHA, ADVOCATE FOR R5)

THIS WP IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TOQUASH ANNX-A THE ORDER DTD 09.10.24 PASSED BY R2 SPECIFICALLY PERTAINING TO PETITIONER.

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

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE T.P.VIVEKANANDA

ORAL ORDER

The petitioner is before this Court calling in question the Government Order dated 08.10.2024 at Annexure-H, whereby the Child Welfare Committee of Davanagere District was suspended on the basis of certain allegations, which are reflected in the impugned order.

2. It is seen from the order at Annexure-H that the Child Welfare Committee was constituted for Davanagere District for a period of three years pursuant to the Government Order dated 26.09.2017. Though the term of the Child Welfare Committee came to an end upon expiry of three years from 2017, the very same Committee was continued to function until the year 2024. It was in the year 2024 that the impugned order suspending the Committee was passed on the basis of several allegations, more particularly, against the petitioner to the effect that she, being a member of the Child Welfare Committee, had also practised as counsel for

the District Legal Services Authority, on account of which she could not dedicate the required amount of time to discharge her functions as a member of the Child Welfare Committee.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that, if the Government intended to constitute a new Committee by issuing a fresh notification after the expiry of the term of office of the Child Welfare Committee, it was well within the powers of the State to do so. However, in order to constitute a new Committee, fastening the allegations against the petitioner was uncalled for.

4. It is the submission of learned counsel that, much prior to the order dated 08.10.2024, the Government had issued a notification for the appointment of new members of the Child Welfare Committee for Davanagere District, pursuant to which a new Committee was constituted in the year 2025.

5. Now, the grievance of the petitioner is limited to the allegations made in the impugned order suspending the Committee. It is submitted that the contents of the impugned order would become a stigma on the petitioner, who is a practising counsel at Davanagere District and she seeks to expunge the observations made against her in the impugned order.

6. Noticing the dates and events relating to the appointment and constitution of the Child Welfare Committee and the term of office of the said Committee, as also the subsequent constitution of a new Committee in the year 2025, the prayer in the writ petition to quash the order at Annexure-H would not survive for consideration, since, on account of the constitution of a new Committee, the order suspending the earlier Committee, on any ground whatsoever, need not be adjudicated at this juncture.

7. Since it is the case of the petitioner that, before passing the impugned order of suspension of the Committee at Annexure-H, no prior notice was issued to the petitioner and no explanation was sought from her regarding the allegations made, this Court is of the opinion that the observations made against the petitioner in the impugned order at Annexure-H are required to be set at naught. Accordingly, the observations made in the impugned order as against the petitioner is concerned, are expunged.

8. With the aforesaid observations, the writ petition is ***disposed of.***

Sd/-
(T.P.VIVEKANANDA)
JUDGE

SMC
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 13