HC-KAR
NC: 2026:KHC:61409
WP No. 33364 of 2026
CNR: KAHC010739002026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU

DATED THIS THE 4TH DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2026

BEFORE

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

WRIT PETITION NO. 33364 OF 2026 (GM-RES)

BETWEEN:

1. KATURI SRINIVAS
S/O KATURI SUBBARAO,
AGED ABOUT 40 YEARS,
MANAGING PARTNER OF
M/S SAHASRA ENTERPRISES,
R/AT HOUSE NO.4-9-101,
PLOT NO.54, STREET NO.3, HM T-NAGAR,
NACHARAM, UPPAL, PO I.E. NACHARAM,
DIST MEDCHAL- MALKAJGIRI
TELANGANA-500076

2. M/S. SAHASRA ENTERPRISES
A PARTNERSHIP FIRM,
REP. BY ITS MANAGING PARTNER
SRI. KATURI SRINIVAS,
PRESENTLY OFFICE AT BUILDING NO. R/058,
AADARSH LAYOUT, BEHIND HESCOM,
KUSUGAL ROAD, HUBBALLI,
DHARWAD-580023

...PETITIONERS

(BY SRI. VIKRAM HUILGOL, SENIOR ADVOCATE FOR
SRI. MANE SHIVAJI HANMANTAPPA.,ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. UNION OF INDIA BY
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAILWAY BOARD),
RAIL BHAWAN, RAISINA ROAD, NEW DELHI

REP. BY ITS CHAIRMAN AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,
CIVIL ENGINEERING (G),
RAILWAY BOARD, MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS,
ROOM NO. 156-C, RAIL BHAWAN,
RAISINA ROAD, NEW DELHI 110001

3. UNION OF INDIA BY
SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY,
RAIL SOUDHA, GADAG ROAD,
HUBBALLI 580020,
REP. BY ITS GENERAL MANAGER

4. THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
(CONSTRUCTION), SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY,
NO. 18, MILLERS ROAD,
BENGALURU 560006

5. CENTRE FOR RAILWAY INFORMATION SYSTEMS
(CRIS), CHANAKYAPURI,
NEW DELHI - 110021,
REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR

…RESPONDENTS
(BY SRI. K. ARAVIND KAMATH, CGC FOR R1 TO R5)

THIS WP IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 & 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA PRAYING TO QUASHING THE RAILWAY BOARD'S ORDER NO. 2026/WORKS- III/CBL/10/M/S SAHASRA ENTERPRISES (3542742) DATED 07.10.2026 ISSUED BY THE RESPONDENT NO.2 INSOFAR AS IT BANS BUSINESS DEALINGS WITH THE PETITIONERS NO.1 AND 2 AND THEIR ALLIED/SISTER CONCERNS AND FIRMS/PARTNERS (ANNEXURE-A).

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

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE C.M. POONACHA

ORAL ORDER

The present petition is filed seeking for the following reliefs:

> *"a) Issue a Writ of Certiorari or any other appropriate writ, order or direction quashing the Railway Board's Order No. 2026/Works-III/CBL/10/M/s Sahasra Enterprises (3542742) dated 07.10.2026 issued by the Respondent No.2 insofar as it bans business dealings with the Petitioners No.1 and 2 and their allied/sister concerns and firms/partners; (ANNEXURE-A),*
>
> *b) Issue a Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction directing the Respondents, including the Respondent No.5, to forthwith restore or not deactivate the IREPS Login IDs of the Petitioners No.1 and 2. (ANNEXURE-A),*
>
> *c) Grant such other relief/s as this Hon'ble Court deems fit in the facts and circumstances of the case, in the interest of justice and equity.*"

2. The petitioners being aggrieved by the order dated 07.10.2026[1] (Annexure - A to the writ petition) are before this Court. Vide the impugned order, the petitioners as well as their allied/sister concerns and firms/partners have been banned from business dealings for a period of two years with the Indian Railways and Production Units. A perusal of the impugned order

[1] Hereinafter referred to as "the impugned order"

Digitally Signed by CHEPPUDIRA MONNAPPA POONACHA

also indicates that the login IDs of the petitioners and the E-Procurement portal IREPS have been deactivated.

3. It is the primary contention on behalf of the petitioners that the procedure that is required to be followed under the Indian Railways Vigilance Manual, 2018, issued by the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) has not been followed. It is specifically contended that para 1026 of the said Manual specifically stipulates that a show cause is required to be issued and opportunity of hearing in person is required to be afforded before an order of banning an entity is to be passed, which has not been done in the present case.

4. Learned Additional Solicitor General appearing on behalf of the official respondents submits that in the present case, an opportunity of personal hearing has not been afforded.

5. Having regard to the admitted position that an opportunity of personal hearing has not been afforded, the relief sought for in the present writ petition merits consideration.

Digitally Signed by CHEPPUDIRA MONNAPPA POONACHA

6. It is forthcoming that a notice dated 19.05.2026 (Annexure - E to the writ petition) has been issued, whereunder a memorandum of charges has been enclosed. Petitioner No.1 has given his reply dated 25.06.2026 (Annexure - H to the writ petition) to the said notice dated 19.05.2026. However, it is forthcoming from a perusal of the impugned order dated 07.10.2026 that there is no reference to the notice dated 19.05.2026 whereunder the petitioners have been notified of the charges.

7. It is submitted on behalf of the respondents that in addition to petitioner Nos.1 and 2, various partners and entities of the petitioners are also the subject matter of the impugned order dated 07.10.2026 and were also notified by the notice dated 19.05.2026.

8. In view of the aforementioned factual matrix, the impugned order bearing No.2026/Works-III/CBL/10/M/s Sahasra Enterprises (3542742) dated 07.10.2026 (Annexure - A to the writ petition) is hereby quashed.

Digitally Signed by CHEPPUDIRA
MONNAPPA POONACHA

9. Liberty is reserved to the respondents to notify all the concerned persons and initiate fresh action/proceedings in accordance with law. All rights and contentions of the parties in that regard are kept open.

10. The present writ petition stands disposed of with the aforementioned terms.

11. Pending IAs., if any, stand disposed of.

Digitally Signed by CHEPPUDIRA MONNAPPA POONACHA

(C.M. POONACHA)
JUDGE

Vmb
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 38