

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition(s) (Civil) No(s). 562/2009

SAMAJ PARIVARTANA SAMUDAYA & ORS.

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF KARNATAKA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

1. I.A. No. 225561/2023 (Application for directions) 2. I.A. NO 170903/2025 (Impleadment) 3. I.A. No. 48719/2024 (Application for directions) 4. I.A. NO 88854 & 88855 & 88856/2025 (Permission, Impleadment and Direction) 5. I.A. NO 136808, 136809, 136810/2025 (Permission, Impleadment and Direction) 6. I.A. NO 15317 & 32854/2026 (Early Hearing) 7. I.A. NO 162768/2025 (Direction) 8. I.A. No. 85163/2020 (Application for Directions) 9. I.A. NO 180996/2024 (Permission to file additional documents) 10. IA. NO 78351/2025, 264328/2025 (Direction & Permission to file Additional Documents) 11. I.A. NO 231880, 231882 & 231881/2024 (Permission, Direction & O.T.) 12. I.A. NO 233244, 233893 & 233895/2025 (Direction, Permission, Impleadment) 13. I.A. No. 172165/2023 (Permission to file Directions) 14. I.A. NOS. 56287 & 56284/2023 (Directions & Permission to file Directions) 15. I.A. NO 235188/2025 (Direction) THE FOLLOWING ADVOCATES MAY BE SHOWN AGAINST THIS MATTER : MR. SHYAM DIVAN, SR. ADVOCATE (A.C.), MR. SIDDHARTH CHOWDHARY, ADVOCATE (A.C.), MR. SUDIPTO SIRCAR, ADVOCATE (A.C.), MR. PRASHANT BHUSAN, ADV. 1. MR. JAYANT MOHAN, ADV. 2. MR. KUMAR DUSHYANT SINGH, ADV. 3. MR. SHUBHRANSHU PADHI, ADV. 4. MS. SURBHI MEHTA, ADV. 5. MR. RITU RAJ BISWAS, ADV. 6. MR. ISHANT GEORGE, ADV. 7. MR. RANJAN KUMAR PANDEY, ADV. 8. MR. VARDHMAN KAUSHIK, ADV. 9. MR. YASHRAJ SINGH DEORA, ADV. 10. M/S. NULI AND NULI, ADVS. 11. MR. V.N. RAGHUPATHY, ADV. 12. M/S. LEX REGIS LAW OFFICES, ADVS. 13. MR. RANJEET SINGH, ADV. 14. M/S. KHAITAN AND CO., ADVS. 15. MR. SANCHIT GARGA, ADV.

WITH

Diary No(s). 54622/2026 (PIL-W)

Date : 29-09-2026 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JOYMALYA BAGCHI
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE V. MOHANA

Signature Not Verified
Digitally signed by
NITIN TALWAR
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16:53:01 IST
Reason: []

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UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

IA No.199419/2025

1. This interlocutory application was disposed of by this Court vide order dated 08.09.2026, in the following terms:

"1. Since the core issue that requires determination is whether the subject leased land is revenue land or forest area, and vide Order dated 13.11.2019, such an issue has been remanded by this Court for adjudication to Karnataka High Court; this application is disposed of with a request to the High Court to take up the pending issue and make an endeavour to decide the same, preferably within three months. The application accordingly stands disposed of."

2. Mr. Shyam Divan, learned Senior Counsel and *Amicus Curiae*, has submitted a note to recall/modify the afore-stated order, *inter alia*, pointing out that the question as to whether the subject land is 'revenue land' or 'forest land' has already been authoritatively determined by a Division Bench of the Karnataka High Court vide judgment dated 13.03.2020 passed in Writ Petition No. 29328 of 2018 (*Sri B.R. Ganapathi Singh v. State of Karnataka*). He has further

pointed out that SLP (Civil) No. 946/2021, preferred by the petitioner against the dismissal of his writ petition, was also rejected by this Court vide order dated 16.11.2021.

3. It further appears that the following four writ petitions are still pending in the Karnataka High Court, where we are informed that the same question, namely, whether the disputed land is 'revenue land' or 'forest land' arises for consideration:

- (i) W.P. No. 4254/2021
- (ii) W.P. No. 29336/2018
- (iii) W.P. No. 33051/2018
- (iv) W.P. No. 33820/2018

4. We, thus, dispose of the instant application with a request to Hon'ble the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court to list the afore-stated writ petitions for hearing before an appropriate Bench, especially in light of the decision dated 13.03.2020 of the High Court in *B.R. Ganapathi Singh's* case (supra) and to dispose of the same at the earliest.

5. It is, however, clarified that we have not expressed any opinion on the merits of the case.

Main Matter(s)

6. In deference to our order dated 08.09.2026, the CEC has submitted Report No. 26 of 2026 on 28.09.2026. Learned Senior Counsel for the State of Karnataka is granted two weeks' time to file their objections, if any.

7. Similarly, learned Senior Counsel for the other affected parties also seek and are granted two weeks' time to file their respective objections against the said report.

8. Post these matters on 29.10.2026 at 2 p.m. for consideration of those objections, as well as for taking up the cases that fall under Categories II and IV onwards, as per the categorization mentioned in paragraph 2 of this Court's order dated 08.09.2026.

9. I.A. No.205913/2025, I.A. No.253645/2025, I.A. No.236242/2024 and I.A. No.131439/2025 (in SLP (Civil) Nos. 3585-3586/2024) and I.A. No.13066/2026 and I.A. No.13069/2026 shall also be listed on the next date of hearing.

(NITIN TALREJA)
ASTT. REGISTRAR-cum-PS

(PREETHI DILEEP KUMAR)
DY. REGISTRAR