HC-KAR

IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT DHARWAD

DATED THIS THE 1ST DAY OF JULY, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN SHANKAR MAGADUM

WRIT PETITION NO. 104128 OF 2026 (S-PRO)

BETWEEN:

1. SRI. NIKHIL S/O SRISHAIL DUGGANI,
AGED ABOUT 34 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, HESCOM,
R/O. CHIKKODI,
TQ. CHIKKODI-591201,
DIST. BELAGAVI.

2. SRI. CHETHAN KUMAR
S/O SHANKARAPPA HADIMANI,
AGED ABOUT 35 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, HESCOM,
R/O. GADAG-582101,
TQ. AND DIST. GADAG.

3. SRI. ARULRAJ T. S/O GANGARAJAN,
AGED ABOUT 32 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, HESCOM,
R/O. HUBBALLI,
TQ. HUBBALLI-580020,
DIST. DHARWAD.

4. SRI. VISHAL
S/O DHAREPPA DHAREPPAGOL,
AGED ABOUT 34 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, HESCOM, JAMKHANDI,
R/O. JAMKHANDI-587301,
DIST. BAGALKOT.

Digitally signed by MOHANKUMAR B SHELAR
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

5. SRI. YALLAPPA
S/O NINGAPPA SHIPARAMATTI,
AGED ABOUT 37 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, HESCOM,
O AND M CIRCLE,
VIJAYAPURA-560016,
TQ. AND DIST. VIJAYAPUR.

6. SRI. V. MANJUNATH S/O V. NAGAPPA,
AGED ABOUT 32 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, HESCOM,
R/O. GANGAVATHI,
TQ. GANGAVATHI-583227,
DIST. KOPPAL.

7. SRI. EKANTH M. S/O DIVAKAR,
AGED ABOUT 37 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, GESCOM,
R/O. KOPPAL,
TQ. AND DIST. KOPPAL-583231.

8. SRI. HANUMESH S/O MOULAPPA,
AGED ABOUT 32 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, GESCOM,
RAICHUR, R/O. RAICHUR-584101,
TQ. AND DIST. RAICHUR.

9. SMT. TEJASWINI
D/O SRINIVASALU YENDRAPALLI,
AGED ABOUT 35 YEARS,
OCC. AEE, KPTCL,
R/O. KOLAR-563101,
TQ. AND DIST. KOLAR.

10. SRI. PUNITH KUMAR S/O KEMPANNA,
AGED ABOUT 35 YEARS, OCC. AEE, KPTCL,
R/O. KOLAR-563101,
TQ. AND DIST. KOLAR.

... PETITIONERS

(BY SRI. ARAVIND D. KULKARNI, ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. THE KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD., CORPORATE OFFICE: KAVERI BHAVAN, K.G. ROAD, BENGALURU-560009, REP. BY ITS MANAGING DIRECTOR.

2. THE DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES, KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LTD., CORPORATE OFFICE: KAVERI BHAVAN, K.G. ROAD, BENGALURU-560009.

… RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI. G.I. GACHCHINAMATH, ADVOCATE FOR R1 AND R2)

THIS WRIT PETITION IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA, PRAYING TO ISSUE A WRIT OF MANDAMUS OR ANY OTHER APPROPRIATE WRIT, ORDER, OR DIRECTION DIRECTING THE RESPONDENTS TO FORTHWITH FINALIZE AND PUBLISH THE SENIORITY LIST OF THE ASSISTANT EXECUTIVE ENGINEERS (ELECTRICAL) PERTAINING TO THE 2016 BATCH ANNEXURE A TO A8, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE SERVICE REGULATIONS, RECRUITMENT NOTIFICATION, AND GOVERNING PRINCIPLES OF MERIT-CUM-SENIORITY AND RESERVATION AND ETC.,

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

ORAL ORDER

(PER: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SACHIN SHANKAR MAGADUM)

This petition is filed seeking following reliefs.

a) Issue a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order, or direction directing the respondents to forthwith finalize and publish the seniority list of the Assistant Executive Engineers (Electrical) pertaining to the 2016 Annexures-A1 to A8 in accordance with the applicable service regulations, recruitment notification, and governing principles of merit-cum-seniority and reservation.

b) Issue a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order, or direction directing the respondents to consider the representations of the petitioners for promotion to the post of Executive Engineer vide Annexures-A, A to A5 within a time-bound period as may be fixed this Hon'ble Court insofar as petitioners are concerned.

2. The petitioners, who are serving as Assistant Executive Engineers in the respondent-Corporation, have presented this writ petition being aggrieved by the inaction of the respondent-Corporation in considering their

representations, produced at Annexures-A, A1 to A5, wherein they have sought promotion to the cadre of Executive Engineer.

3. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioners would submit that the petitioners were appointed pursuant to the recruitment notification dated 08.09.2016 and have been serving as Assistant Executive Engineers since the year 2017. It is contended that they have discharged their duties with utmost sincerity, diligence and devotion and that their service records are wholly unblemished. Placing reliance on the relevant Service Rules and Regulations governing the respondent-Corporation, learned counsel would contend that an Assistant Executive Engineer becomes eligible to be considered for promotion to the post of Executive Engineer upon completion of five years of qualifying service. It is therefore submitted that the petitioners have long since acquired the requisite eligibility for promotion.

4. Learned counsel would further contend that, notwithstanding the petitioners having completed the prescribed qualifying service and having put in nearly a decade of service in the respondent-Corporation, the respondents have

failed to finalize the seniority list, which has consequently stalled the process of considering eligible Assistant Executive Engineers for promotion. It is submitted that the petitioners have submitted representations, as per Annexures-A, A1 to A5, requesting the respondent-Corporation to finalize the seniority list and consider their cases for promotion in accordance with the applicable Rules and Regulations. Alleging arbitrary inaction on the part of the respondents in not taking any decision on the said representations, the petitioners have invoked the extraordinary jurisdiction of this Court under Article 226 of the Constitution of India.

5. Per contra, learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent-Corporation, on instructions, submits that the representations submitted by the petitioners will be considered strictly in accordance with the applicable Service Rules and Regulations governing the respondent-Corporation and that an appropriate decision shall be taken within a reasonable and time-bound period.

6. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the parties and perused the material placed on record.

7. It is not in dispute that the petitioners were appointed as Assistant Executive Engineers pursuant to the recruitment notification dated 08.09.2016 and have been serving in the said cadre since the year 2017. It is also not in dispute that, under the applicable Service Rules and Regulations, an Assistant Executive Engineer becomes eligible to be considered for promotion to the post of Executive Engineer (Electrical) upon completion of five years of qualifying service.

8. The grievance projected by the petitioners is not with regard to denial of promotion on merits, but against the failure of the respondent-Corporation to finalize the seniority list and initiate the process of considering eligible officers for promotion. Having completed the prescribed qualifying service and having rendered nearly ten years of service, the petitioners are certainly entitled to have their claim for promotion considered in accordance with law. The respondent-Corporation, being a model employer, is expected to maintain the seniority list in accordance with the applicable Regulations and undertake promotional exercises periodically so that

eligible employees are not deprived of their legitimate right to be considered for advancement in service.

9. Since the respondents have not yet taken a decision on the representations submitted by the petitioners and the learned Standing Counsel has fairly submitted that the same would be considered within a reasonable time, this Court is of the view that the ends of justice would be met by directing the respondents to consider and dispose of the representations in accordance with law.

10. Accordingly, the following:

ORDER

(i) The writ petition is ***allowed***.

(ii) The respondents are directed to consider the representations submitted by the petitioners, produced at Annexures-A, A1 to A5, and pass appropriate orders thereon in accordance with the applicable Service Rules and Regulations, keeping in view the observations made hereinabove.

(iii) The aforesaid exercise shall be completed as expeditiously as possible and, in any event, within a period of four (4) months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

Sd/-
(SACHIN SHANKAR MAGADUM)
JUDGE

MBS
CT:BCK
LIST NO.: 1 SL NO.: 15