IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

KALABURAGI BENCH

DATED THIS THE 1ST DAY OF JULY, 2026

BEFORE

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR

WRIT PETITION NO.202193 OF 2026 (S-PRO)

BETWEEN:

1. TIMMAREDDY S/O NARASANNA,
   AGE: 44 YEARS, OCC: JUNIOR ASSISTANT,
   O & M SUB-DIVISION,
   GESCOM, SIRWAR,
   R/O C/O JYOTHI-9/84,
   VETERANARY HOSPITAL, GABBUR,
   TQ. DEVADURGA, DIST. RAICHUR-584125.

2. VISHWANATH S/O EARANNA,
   AGE: 31 YEARS, OCC: JUNIOR ASSISTANT,
   O & M RURAL SUB-DIVISION, GESCOM, RAICHUR,
   R/O 1-12-132/20A, 4TH CROSS,
   PARVATI NAGAR, BEHIND DADDY COLONY, RAICHUR
   TQ. AND DIST. RAICHUR-584101.

Digitally signed by NIJAMUDDIN JAMKHANDI
Location: HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA

3. RAHEMATHUNNISA BEGUM
   W/O MAHEBOOB HUSSAIN,
   AGE: 35 YEARS, OCC: JUNIOR ASSISTANT,
   O & M CIRCLE OFFICE, GESCOM, RAICHUR,
   R/O 13-7-319, MUSLIM AREA, YERMARUS DUND,
   TQ. AND DIST. RAICHUR-584134.

4. REVEENA P. R.
   W/O MANJUNATHA,
   AGE: 31 YEARS, OCC: JUNIOR ASSISTANT,
   O & M SUB-DIVISION, GESCOM, DEVADURGA
   R/O 7-1-78 /272, KEB STREET,
   NEAR AMBABHAVANI TEMPLE,
   KEB COLONY, TQ. DEVADURGA,

DIST. RAICHUR-584111.

5. BASAVARAJA HUGAR
S/O AMARAGUNDAPPA HUGAR,
AGE: 31 YEARS, OCC: JUNIOR ASSISTANT,
O & M DIVISION, GESCOM, SINDHANUR,
R/O C/O NARASAPPA HUGAR AE,
KEB COLONY QUARTERS, RAICHUR,
TQ. AND DIST. RAICHUR-584101.

…PETITIONERS

(BY SRI MAHANTESH PATIL, ADVOCATE)

AND:

1. THE DIRECTOR (A & HR),
KPTCL, CORPORATE OFFICE,
KAVERI BHAVAN,
K. G. ROAD, BENGALURU-560009.

2. THE GENERAL MANAGER (ADMN & HR),
CORPORATE OFFICE, GESCOM, KALABURAGI
DIST. KALABURAGI-585102.

3. THE SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER (ELE),
O & M CIRCLE, GESCOM, RAICHUR,
TQ. AND DIST. RAICHUR-58102.

4. THE UNDER SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT,
KALYAN-KARNATAKA SPECIAL CELL,
DEPARTMENT OF PERSONAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE
REFORMS (DPAR), II FLOOR VIDHAN SOUDHA,
BENGALURU-560001.

…RESPONDENTS

(BY SRI SUDARSHAN M., ADVOCATE FOR R1 TO R3;
SRI VEERANAGOUDA MALIPATIL, AGA FOR R4)

THIS WRIT PETITION IS FILED UNDER ARTICLES 226 AND 227 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA, PRAYING TO A)

ISSUE A WRIT IN THE NATURE OF CERTIORARI TO QUASH THE IMPUGNED ORDER BEARING NO. ಕವಿಪ್ರನಿನಿ/ಬಿ5c/721/2011-12, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು DATED 19.05.2025 VIDE ANNEXURE-H AND QUASH THE IMPUGNED ORDER BEARING NO. ಕವಿಪ್ರನಿನಿ/ಬಿ55c/721/2011-12, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು DATED 23.02.2026 VIDE ANNEXURE-H1, PASSED BY THE RESPONDENT NO.1; B) ISSUE A WRIT IN THE NATURE OF MANDAMUS DIRECTING THE RESPONDENTS TO MAINTAIN THE CADRE OF ASSISTANT AS PER CHAPTER-7 REGULATION 7(A)(i) AND 7(B) OF KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY BOARD RECRUITMENT AND PROMOTION REGULATIONS, EMPLOYEES (PROBATION) REGULATIONS AND EMPLOYEES (SENIORITY) (AMENDMENT 2019) AS AMENDED 01.06.2026 R/W THE KARNATAKA PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT (RESERVATION IN APPOINTMENT OF KALYAN KARNATAKA REGION) ORDER-2013 BY CONSIDERING THE REPRESENTATIONS DATED 07.10.2024, 10.03.2026, 10.03.2026, 27.04.2026 VIDE ANNEXURE-N, N1, N2 AND N3; C) PASS SUCH OTHER ORDERS OR DIRECTIONS AS THIS COURT DEEMS JUST AND PROPER UNDER THE FACTS AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE CASE AND ALLOW THIS WRIT PETITION, IN THE INTEREST OF JUSTICE.

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

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR

ORAL ORDER

In this petition, petitioners seek the following reliefs:

"a) Issue a writ in the nature of certiorari to quash the impugned order bearing No.ಕವಿಪ್ರನಿನಿ/ಬಿ5c/721/2011-12, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು dated 19.05.2025 vide annexure-h and quash the impugned order bearing No.ಕವಿಪ್ರನಿನಿ/ಬಿ55c/721/2011-12, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು dated 23.02.2026 vide Annexure-H1, passed by the respondent No.1;

b) Issue a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents to maintain the cadre of assistant as per Chapter-7 Regulation 7(a)(i) and 7(b) of Karnataka Electricity Board Recruitment and Promotion Regulations, Employees (Probation) Regulations and Employees (Seniority) (Amendment 2019) as amended 01.06.2026 R/w the Karnataka Public Employment (Reservation in Appointment of Kalyan Karnataka Region) Order-2013 by considering the representations dated 07.10.2024, 10.03.2026, 10.03.2026, 27.04.2026 vide Annexure-N, N1, N2 and N3;

c) Pass such other orders or directions as this court deems just and proper under the facts and circumstances of the case and allow this writ petition, in the interest of justice."

2. Heard learned counsel for the petitioners, learned counsel for respondent Nos.1 to 3 and learned Additional Government Advocate for respondent No.4 and perused the material on record.

3. A perusal of the material on record will indicate that the petitioners were appointed as Junior Assistants in respondent Nos.1 to 3 by way of direct recruitment and they are entitled to promotion as per the Karnataka Electricity Board Recruitment and Promotion Regulations, Employees (Probation) Regulations and Employees

(Seniority) (Amendment-2019) dated 16.01.2019 [for short, 'the Regulations, 2019']. It is contented that on 03.02.2022, the petitioners cleared/passed Assistant Grade Division-A exams/Departmental Exams for the purpose of promotion to the post of Assistant. It is contented that under Chapter-7 of the Regulations, 2019, 15% of the posts are to be filled up by direct recruitment purely on the basis of marks secured in the aptitude test and 10% of the posts are to be filled up by way of interview insofar as in-service candidates are concerned. It is further contented that the remaining 75% of the posts of Assistants are to be filled up by promotion on the basis of seniority-cum-merit from the cadre of Junior Assistant. It is the grievance of the petitioners that though they are entitled to be promoted as Assistants on the basis of seniority-cum-merit in the aforesaid 75% quota reserved in their favour by respondent Nos.1 to 3, respondent Nos.1 to 3 have passed the impugned orders at Annexure-H and H1 dated 19.05.2025 and 23.02.2026, purporting

and attempting to fill up the posts reserved for the petitioners by way of promotion and by appointing persons on compassionate grounds, despite the petitioners being eligible to be promoted to the post of Assistant under the reserved quota as per the Regulations, 2019 and since the repeated representations at Annexure-N, N1, N2 and N3 submitted by the petitioners were not considered by respondent Nos.1 to 3, the petitioners are before this Court by way of the present petition.

4. It is submitted that the petitioners are eligible to get promoted as Assistants in the 75% reserved quota and without promoting the petitioners to the said posts, the respondents are attempting to fill up the said posts by way of compassionate appointment which is impermissible in law and as per the information received by the petitioners, the said posts reserved for the petitioners have already been filled up by respondent Nos.1 to 3 and as such the impugned orders at Annexure-H and H1 dated 19.05.2025 and 23.02.2026 deserve to be quashed.

5. *Per contra*, learned counsel for respondent Nos.1 to 3 submits that respondent Nos.1 to 3 would address the grievances of the petitioners and consider their claim for promotion in terms of Regulations, 2019 read with the Karnataka Public Employment (Reservation in Appointment of Kalyan Karnataka Region) Order-2013 and the representations submitted by the petitioners and thereafter proceed to give effect to the impugned orders in accordance with law.

6. By way of reply, learned counsel for the petitioners submits that liberty may be reserved in favour of the petitioners to take recourse to such other remedies as available in law, including approaching this Court subsequently after respondent Nos.1 to 3 complete the process of recruitment in terms of the aforesaid regulations and impugned orders.

7. A perusal of the material on record will indicate that the petitioners claim to be promoted to the post of Assistant in terms of the 75% reservation quota as per the

Regulations, 2019. It is an undisputed fact that as per the said Regulations, the petitioners would be entitled to promotion quota of 75%. However, since the respondents have subsequently issued the impugned orders at Annexure-H and H1, the respondents would necessarily have to consider the claim of the petitioners for promotion as sought for in their representation and only thereafter give effect to and implement the impugned orders in accordance with law and in terms of the aforesaid Regulations.

8. Under these circumstances, I deem it just and appropriate to dispose of this petition directing respondent Nos.1 to 3 to address the grievances of the petitioners for promotion to the post of Assistant under the 75% promotion quota as per the aforesaid Regulations, 2019 read with the Karnataka Public Employment (Reservation in Appointment of Kalyan Karnataka Region) Order-2013 and consider their representations and take appropriate decision/pass appropriate orders and only

thereafter give effect to and implement the impugned orders at Annexure-H dated 19.05.2025 and Annexure-H1 dated 23.02.2026 in accordance with law within a period of ***three months*** from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. Liberty is also reserved in favour of the petitioners to take recourse to such remedies as available in law, including approaching this Court subsequently if the occasion so arises. It is further directed that till the respondents take appropriate decision/pass appropriate orders, the respondents shall not henceforth appoint anyone in pursuance of Annexure-H and H1 dated 19.05.2025 and 23.02.2026.

9. Subject to the aforesaid directions and reserving liberty in favour of the petitioners, the petition stands ***disposed of***.

Sd/-
(S.R.KRISHNA KUMAR)
JUDGE

SWK
List No.: 1 Sl No.: 4
CT-SI