IN THE MAHARASHTRA ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL MUMBAI

ORIGINAL APLICATION NOS.16, 17, 29, 40, 42, 52 TO 57, 64 & 81 OF 2023

ORIGINAL APPLICAATION NO.16 OF 2023

Shri S.H. Ghuge.)
Age: 33 Yrs., Occu.: Service,)
R/at Room No.302, A Wing, Krushna)
Garden Society, Shahad, Kalyan.) Applicant
Versus	
1) The State of Maharashtra. Through the Secretary, Home Department Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032.) (,))
2) Director General of Police. Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Colaba, Mumbai – 400 001.))
3. The Commissioner of Police. Crawford Market, CST, Mumbai.)
4. The Superintendent of Police. Bhujbal Knowledge City, Adgaon, Nashik – 422 003.)))Respondents
WITH	
ORIGINAL APPLICATION I	NO.17 OF 2023
Smt. Manisha M. Bhalekar.)
Age: 26 Yrs., Occu.: Service,)
R/at B-301, Rajeshwari Park, Phase-II,)
Opp. Chetana School, Hajimalang Road,)
Tisgaon, Kalyan (E) – 421 306.) Applicant

Versus

1) The State of Maharashtra.)
Through the Secretary, Home Department,	;)
Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032.)
2) Director General of Police.)
Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Colaba,)
Mumbai – 400 001.)
3. The Commissioner of Police. Crawford Market, CST, Mumbai.)
4. The Commissioner of Police. Pune City, Office of Sadhu Vaswani Chowk, Church Path, Agarkar Nagar, Pune – 411 001.))) Respondents

WITH

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.29 OF 2023

Mumbai – 400 016.) Applicant
Near Raheja Hospital Road, Mahim (W),)
Building No.14/B, Room No.83,)
Mumbai, R/o New Mahim Police Colony,)
Attached at Dharavi Police station,)
Age: 41 yrs, Working as Police Naik,)
Shri Lalit B. Jadhav.)

Versus

- 1. The Commissioner of Police, Mumbai)
- 2. Superintendent of Police, Nashik)...Respondents

WITH

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.40 OF 2023

Smt. Sonali N. Magar.	
Age: 27 yrs, Working as Police Constable)
At L.AIII, Worli, Mumbai and residing at	

M.R.A. Police Lines, B-Wing, Room No.39,)
Mumbai.)Applicant
Versus	
1. The Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, having office at Mumbai Police Commissionerate, L.T. Marg, Opp. Crawford Market, Fort, Mumbai.)))
2. The Superintendent of Police, Pune.))Respondents
WITH	
ORIGINAL APPLICATION	NO.42 OF 2023
Shri Ravindra D. Patil.)
Working as Police Constable at SB-II,)
Fort, Mumbai, R/o Room No.2,)
54-A, Yogi Nagar, Behind Ajmera)
High School, Borivali [W], Mumbai.)Applicant
Versus	
1. The Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, having office at Mumbai Police Commissionerate, L.T. Marg, Opp. Crawford Market, Fort, Mumbai.)))
2. The Superintendent of Police, Dhule.))Respondents
WITH	
ORIGINAL APPLICATION	NO.52 OF 2023
Smt. Madhuri M. Surve.)
Age: 28 yrs, Occu.: Service,)
R/at Kanhaiya Apartment, Shiravane,)
Sector – 01, Nerul, Navi Mumbai 400 706)Applicant

Versus

1) The State of Maharashtra. Through Secretary, Home Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032.)))
2) Director General of Police. Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Colaba, Mumbai – 400 001.)))
3. The Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, having office at Mumbai Police Commissionerate, L.T. Marg, Opp. Crawford Market, Fort, Mumbai.)))
4. The Commissioner of Police, Sector-10, Opp. RBI, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai – 4000 614.))) Respondents
WITH	
ORIGINAL APPLICATION	NO.53 OF 2023
Shri Bhausaheb M. Jarande.)
Age: 32 yrs, Occu.: Service,)
R/at SRA Building No.5, 13th Floor,)
Room No.1301, Bhoiwada, Parel,)
Mumbai.)Applicant
Versus	
 The State of Maharashtra. Director General of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Mumbai. 	,
WITH	
ORIGINAL APPLICATION	NO.54 OF 2023
Shri Amruta S. Mane.)
Age: 33 yrs, Occu.: Service,)
R/at B-103, Type A, Building No.1,)
Mahalaxmi City, Vilhighat, Panve.)Applicant

Versus

 The State of Maharashtra. Director General of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Navi Mumbai.)
WITH	
ORIGINAL APPLICATION	NO.55 OF 2023
Shri Vikram U. Mhaske.)
Age: 30 yrs, Occu.: Service,)
R/at Rajaram Patil Nagar, Kalyan (E),) Applicant
Versus	
1) The State of Maharashtra. Through Secretary, Home Department, Mantralaya, Mumbai – 400 032.)))
2) Director General of Police. Shahid Bhagat Singh Road, Colaba, Mumbai – 400 001.)))
3. The Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, having office at Mumbai Police Commissionerate, L.T. Marg, Opp. Crawford Market, Fort, Mumbai.)))
4. The Commissioner of Police, Mill Corner, Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Road, Aurangabad – 431 001.))) Respondents
WITH	
ORIGINAL APPLICATION	NO.56 OF 2023
1. Smt. Tejshri S. Kamthe. Age: 30 yrs, Occu.: Service, R/at BL B, 15/6, Ground Floor, Annasaheb Garden, Sector 10, Nerul West, Navi Mumbai – 410 206.))))
2. Smt. Chanchal A. Kale.)

Age: 27 yrs, Occu.: Service, R/at Flat No.102, Dagade Complex, Near Maruti Temple, Bavdhavan BK, Pune – 411 002.)))
3. Smt. Rupali S. Nalkande. Age: 30 yrs, Occu.: Service, R/at NL B, 15/6, Ground Floor, Annasaheb Garden Sector 10, Nerul West, Navi Mumbai – 410 206.))))
4. Smt. Priyanka N. Phadatare Age: 28 yrs, Occu.: Service, R/at Room No.3182, Nehru Nagar Police Colony, Bldg. No.91, Kurla (E), Mumbai.))))
5. Smt. Sosnali R. Yadav. Age: 28 yrs, Occu.: Service, R/at Room No.184, B-Building, 3 rd Floor, M.T. Compound, Nagpada, Byculla, Mumbai - 400 008.))))
6. Smt. Pranali P. Dhumal. Age: 28 yrs, Occu.: Service, R/at Room No.184, B-Building, 3 rd Floor, M.T. Compound, Nagpada, Byculla, Mumbai - 400 008.)))) Applicants
Versus	
 The State of Maharashtra. Director General of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Pune.)))Respondents
WITH	

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.57 OF 2023

Age: 30 yrs, Occu.: Service,)
R/at Room No.11, Jijamata Nagar,)
Jay Maharashtra Society, Thane (W).) Applicant

Versus

1) 2) 3) 4)	The State of Maharashtra. Director General of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Pune.)))Respondents
	WITH ORIGINAL APPLICATION I	NO.64 OF 2023
Work: Mum A-win	Shri Madan S. Solunke 34 yrs, Occu.: Police Constable ing in Motor Dept, Nagpada, bai and R/o. Room No.305, g, Ekveera Apts, Chincpada, n[E], Thane.))))
Work: R/o. I Wadi	Shri Vikas R. Sonawane 36 yrs, Occu: Police Constable ing in Crime branch, Mumbai, Room No.41, 2 nd Floor, A-wing, Bunder Police Quarters, nello Road, Mumbai.))))
Work Mum Vanas	Shri Vikas Ashok Thosar 86 yrs, Occu.: Police Constable, ing in Byculla Police station, bai, R/o Room No.402, J-Wing, shri Apts, Khadakpada circle, n [W], Thane - 421301.))))
Work: Tarde	Shri Gajanan B. Patil 29 yrs, Occu.: Police Constable, ing in Armed Police LA-II, o, Mumbai, R/o Room No.307, Nagar, Kanjurmarg, Mumbai.))))
Work Mum Room	Smt. Surekha V. Patil 35 yrs, Occu.: Police Constable, ing in Byculla Police station bai, R/o Shreedhar-Krupa CHS, No.A-4, M.G. Road, bivali [E], Thane.))))
_	Shri Sagar S. Bide. 36 yrs, Occu.: Police Constable, ing in L.AII, Tardeo, Mumbai.)))

7. Shri Rakesh B. Mahajan. Age: 35 yrs, Occu.: Police Constable, Working in L.AII, Tardeo, Mumbai.)))
8. Shri Ishwar M. Tayade. Age: 34 yrs, Occu.: Police Constable, Working in L.AII, Tardeo, Mumbai.)))
9. Smt. Shubhangi D. Patil. Age: 33 yrs, Occu.: Women Police Constable working at Shiv Police Station, Mumbai.))) Applicants
Versus	
 Commissioner of Police, Mumbai. Superintendent of Police, Jalgaon.))Respondents

AND

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.81 OF 2023

Smt. Dhanashree B. Pawar.)
Age: 34 yrs, Occu.: Woman Police Constable)
Crime Branch [Admin.], Dagdi Building,)
C.P. Compound in the office of)
Commissioner of Police, Mumbai and)
R/at Abhishek Apts., 1st Floor, Room No.9	,)
Savarkar Nagar, Thane (W).) Applicant
Versus	
 Commissioner of Police, Mumbai. Commissioner of Police, Thane.))Respondents

Shri Sandip Dere with Shri A.V. Bandiwadekar, learned Advocates for the Applicants.

Smt. A.B. Kololgi, learned Presenting Officer for the Respondents.

CORAM: A.P. Kurhekar, Member (J)

DATE : 21.03.2023

JUDGMENT

- 1. This Group of 13 OAs wherein Police Constables serving on the establishment of Commissioner of Police, Mumbai seeking Inter District Transfer to different districts/places in terms of G.R. dated 26.10.2017, invoking jurisdiction of this Tribunal under Section 19 of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985 and decided by common order.
- 2. Following Chart shows the District/Places where Applicants are seeking Inter District Transfers, date of filing of application with Commissioner of Police, Mumbai, date of receipt of NOC, etc.

O.A. No.	Applicant's Name	Place where transfer is sought	Date of filing Application	Date of Receipt of NOC
16/23	Samadhan H. Ghuge	Nashik Rural	24.05.2022	13.09.2022
17/23	Manisha M. Bhalekar	Pune City	22.02.2022	28.06.2022
29/23	Lalit B. Jadhav	Nashik Rural	16.10.2022	13.9.2022
40/23	Sonali N. Magar	Pune Rural	3.6.2022	29.6.2022
42/23	Ravindra D. Patil	Dhule Rural	11.11.2020	23.6.2022
52/23	Madhuri M. Surve	Navi Mumbai	10.05.2022	29.06.2022
53/23	Bhausaheb M. Jarande	Pune City	18.05.2022	01.06.2022
54/23	Amruta S. Mane	Navi Mumbai	16.03.2022	29.06.2022
55/23	Vikram U. Mhaske	A'bad City	16.05.2022	26.12.2022
56/23	Tejashri S. Kamthe	Pune City	18.12.2020	01.06.2022
56/23	Chanchal A. Kale	Pune City	15.07.2021	28.06.2022
56/23	Rupali S. Nalkande	Pune City	12.03.2022	28.06.2022
56/23	Priyanka N. Phadtare	Pune City	07.04.2022	28.06.2022
56/23	Sonali R. Yadav	Pune City	13.04.2022	28.06.2022
56/23	Pranali P. Dhumal	Pune City	29.03.2022	28.06.2022
57/23	Hema B. Thorat	Pune City	19.09.2022	08.09.2022
64/23	Madan S. Solunke	Jalgaon Rural	13.01.2021	15.07.2022
64/23	Vikas R. Sonawane	Jalgaon Rural	26.05.2022	15.07.2022
64/23	Vikas A. Thosar	Jalgaon Rural	10.12.2020	15.07.2022
64/23	Gajanan B. Patil	Jalgaon Rural	17.05.2022	15.07.2022
64/23	Surekha V. Patil	Jalgaon Rural	10.12.2020	15.07.2022
64/23	Sagar S. Bide	Jalgaon Rural	29.04.2022	15.07.2022
64/23	Rakesh B. Mahajan	Jalgaon Rural	20.05.2022	15.07.2022
64/23	Ishwar M. Tayade	Jalgaon Rural	17.05.2022	30.11.2022
64/23	Shubhangi D. Patil	Jalgaon Rural	16.12.2020	15.07.2022

81/23	Dhanashree B.	Thane City	11.01.2021	12.08.2022
	Pawar			

- 3. Heard Shri S.S. Dere with Shri A.V. Bandiwadekar, learned Advocates for the Applicants and Smt. A.B. Kololgi, learned Presenting Officer for the Respondents.
- 4. At the very outset, it needs to be clarified that this is the third group of O.As now being decided by the Tribunal. Earlier, Tribunal has decided O.A.No.774/2022 with connected O.As on 19.12.2022 and thereafter also decided another Group of O.As bearing No.1250 with connected O.As on 01.02.2023. Those O.As were allowed and directions were issued to Commissioner of Police, Mumbai to relieve the Applicants within two months from the date of order, so that they can join on respective places. The order passed by the Tribunal in O.A.774.2022 is not complied with, though period of two months given to relieve the Applicants therein is over. All that, learned P.O. sought to contend that the Department intend to challenge the order passed by the Tribunal, but till date, no such concrete steps are taken. Indeed, the Tribunal had already given reasonable time to avail the orders from Hon'ble High Court, but in vain. This being the position, I am constrained to decide this group of O.As on similar line.
- 5. The Government of Maharashtra, in reference to Maharashtra Police Recruitment Rules, 2011 approved the regulation dated 26.10.2017 for Inter District Transfer and accordingly the Home Department issued G.R. dated 26.10.2017. The said regulation *inter-alia* provides for Inter District Transfer from one establishment to another establishment subject to certain terms and conditions mentioned therein. In this behalf, relevant terms and conditions needs to be noted which are as under:-

[&]quot;9. नाव :- या नियमावलीस ''महाराष्ट्र राज्य पोलीस दलातील पोलीस शिपाई ते सहायक पोलीस उपनिरिक्षक (रा.रा.पो.बल गटातील कर्मचारी वगळता) दर्जापर्यंतच्या पोलीस कर्मचा-यांच्या घटक आस्थापना बदली नियमावली'' असे संबोधण्यात येईल.

- २. पात्रता :- राज्य पोलीस विभागातील एका घटक कार्यालयाच्या आस्थापनेवरील पो.शि./पो.ना./पो.हवा./स.पो.उ.नि. स्वेच्छेने अन्य घटकात घटक बदलीने जाण्यास खालील अटींची पूर्तता करीत असल्यासद्ध त्याला घटक बदलीस पात्र समजण्यात येईल:
 - i) घटक बदलीस इच्छुक पोलीस कर्मचा-याची नियुक्ती नियीमत असावी व त्याला/तिला स्थायित्व प्रमाणपत्र दिले असावे.
 - ii) मूळ घटकात किमान ८ वर्ष सेवा पुर्ण झाली असावी. मात्र खालील नमूद अपवादात्मक परिस्थितीत मूळ घटकात कमीत-कमी ३ वर्षे सेवा पुर्ण केल्यानंतर व वर नमूद अट क.१ ची पुर्तता करीत असल्यास संबंधीताची विनंती विचारात घेता येईल.
 - 9. पती-पत्नी एकत्रिकरण प्रकरणी (पती किंवा पत्नी शासकीय अथवा निम-शासकीय सेवेत असल्यासच लागु होईल.)
 - २. कर्मचा-याचा स्वत:चा पत्नीचाद्ध आईचाद्ध विडलाचा अथवा मुलाचा गंभीर वैदयिकय आजार (सक्षम अधिकारी गरन वाटल्यास शल्य चिकित्सक कडून अहवाल प्राप्त करून घेतील)
 - ३. नक्षलवादी /अतिरेकी हल्ल्यातील पीडीत कुटूंबातील पोलीस कर्मचारी
 - iii) एक वर्षात त्या घटकातील एकूण मंजूर पदांच्या ५% पेक्षा जास्त कर्मचारी आंतरघटक बदलीवर सोडण्यात येणार नाहीत.
 - iv) एकदा घटक बदलीने बदलुन गेल्यानंतर तो बदली आदेश रद्द करून पुन्हा पुर्वीच्या आयुक्तालय/जिल्हा पोलीस दलात बदली झालेली आहे. तेथे किमान २ वर्षे इतकी सेवा पुर्ण करणे आवश्यक आहे. रा.रा.पो.बलातील ज्या पोलीस कर्मचा-याची रिक्त पदांअभावी इच्छित जिल्हयाऐवजी अन्य आयुक्तालय/जिल्हा पोलीस दलातद्ध जिल्हा बदली झालेली आहेद्ध अशा पोलीस कर्मचा-याला जर इच्छित आयुक्तालय/जिल्हा पोलीस दलात घटक बदलीवर पुन्हा जावयाचे झाल्यास त्या कर्मचा-यास त्या आयुक्तालय/जिल्हा पोलीस दलात िकमान २ वर्ष सेवा पूर्ण करणे आवश्यक राहील.
 - v) संपूर्ण सेवाकाळात फक्त २ वेळा घटकबदली देय राहील.''
- 6. Thus, the perusal of regulation dated 26.10.2017 reveals that the minimum eight years' service is required for Inter District Transfer but in exceptional cases on the ground of illness of parents, husband and wife wants to live together etc., three years' service is required. Another condition is that Inter District Transfer should not exceed 5% of sanctioned post in the concerned year. The Police Constable will have to forgo his seniority on the establishment, he is seeking transfer. These are the material terms and conditions relevant here for Inter District Transfer.
- 7. It is in pursuance of regulation dated 26.10.2017, all these Applicants who are serving as Police Constable have made applications for Inter District Transfer citing their grounds for Inter District Transfer and those were placed before the Police Establishment Board of C.P. Mumbai. Indisputably, all these Applicants were found eligible for Inter District Transfers in terms of regulation dated 26.10.2017. Having found

eligible, their request was sent to their counterpart who in turn issued NOC showing their readiness to accommodate the Applicants on their establishment. Suffice to say, there is no denying that all these Applicants fulfilled eligibility criteria and counterpart also issued NOC for accommodating them on their establishment. This aspect is not at all disputed by the Respondents as well as by learned P.O.

- 8. The resistance to relieve the Applicants is by Commissioner of Police, Mumbai only and counter-parts have already issued No Objection Certificates and they are ready to accommodate the Applicants on their establishments. Now, let us see whether there is any substance in the resistance of C.P, Mumbai.
- 9. The C.P, Mumbai has filed common Affidavit-in-reply in all these O.As, which is taken on record in O.A.No.16/2023. The sum and substance of the defence raised in Affidavit-in-reply filed by C.P, Mumbai is as under:-
 - (i) The proceeding regarding Inter District Transfers in the year 2023 is not started yet and the decision regarding NOC shall be taken in next PEB.
 - (ii) G.R. dated 26.10.2017 does not mandate specific time limit to relieve the Police Personnel and Inter District Transfer is not fundamental right.
 - (iii) There are total 22167 sanctioned posts of Police Constables on the establishment of C.P, Mumbai and in the year 2022, he has already relieved more than 5% of the candidates, approximately 1400. In a year, the candidates more than 5% of sanctioned posts cannot be relieved by way of Inter District Transfers.
 - (iv) Man-power at the disposal of C.P, Mumbai is inadequate so as to relieve the Applicants.

- 10. Indeed, all the grounds now raised in the Affidavit-in-reply as summarized above pales into insignificance, since PEB had already accepted the request of the Applicants considering the difficulties and it was communicated to the courter-parts who have also issued NOC and they are ready to accommodate the Applicants on their respective establishments. As such, once PEB has taken decision, the question of holding another PEB to relieve the Applicants does not survive.
- 11. There is absolutely no dispute about the eligibility of the Applicants for Inter District Transfers in terms of G.R. dated 26.10.2017 and they having found eligible in all respects, the PEB had already accepted their request and what remains the formal order to relieve them. Even if G.R. dated 26.10.2017 does not prescribe time limit to relieve Police Personnel, once PEB has taken conscious decision to accept their request, they need to be relieved within reasonable time, otherwise the very object of G.R. dated 26.10.2017 would frustrate. Once Applicants' right to Inter District Transfers is crystallized in view of acceptance of their request in PEB, it cannot be kept in abeyance for such a long time without any justiciable reason. Notably, Affidavit-inreply filed by C.P, Mumbai is conspicuously silent about the vacancy position. All that, in Affidavit-in-reply, it is stated that total sanctioned posts of Police Constables are 22167 without disclosing how many posts are vacant. Be that as it may, the fact remains that now in 2023, in terms of G.R. dated 26.10.2017, the candidates upto 5% of sanctioned posts can be relieved by way of Inter District Transfers. In all these O.As, there are total 26 Applicants who are seeking Inter District Transfers. The ground of shortage of man-power also stands negatived in view of Affidavit filed by Director General of Police, which was filed in connected O.As stating that recently 546 Police Personnel have completed their training and they will join the establishment of C.P, Mumbai w.e.f. 28.12.2022. Their pass out parade was scheduled on 28.12.2022. As such, now these additional 546 Police Constables are available at the disposal of C.P, Mumbai. This being the position, there could be no

resistance to release these 26 Police Personnel in 2023. It is not a case that in 2023, the limit of 5% of sanctioned posts is already exceeded.

- 12. In such situation, all that, reasonable time can be granted to C.P. Mumbai to relieve the Applicants. G.R. dated 26.10.2017 is a sort of benevolent provision for the family welfare of Police Personnel, so that even if they joined at one establishment, they could be transferred to other establishment on completion of certain period of service on the ground of family difficulties. The family welfare is also one of the paramount considerations. If the Applicants found it difficult to continue their stay in Mumbai, which is already over-crowded and seek Inter District Transfer and fulfills all requisite terms and conditions of G.R. dated 26.10.2017, they need to be relieved within reasonable time. If the claim of the Applicants for Inter District Transfer is kept in abeyance or prolonged, their children and family members would suffer greater hardship, since admission to Schools/Colleges would be over by June, 2023. Therefore, this is high time to grant request of Applicants for direction to C.P, Mumbai to relive them. They are ready to forego their seniority in terms of G.R. dated 26.10.2017.
- 13. Suffice to say, in the facts and circumstances of the matter, in my considered opinion, the stand taken by C.P, Mumbai is totally unjust, irrational and arbitrary. As stated above, the courter-parts of C.P, Mumbai have already given NOC and certain posts are kept vacant awaiting joining of the Applicants. Therefore, Applicants' claim for Inter District Transfer cannot be defeated on the grounds raised by C.P, Mumbai. Hence, the following order.

ORDER

(A) All these Original Applications are allowed.

- (B) The Commissioner of Police, Mumbai is directed to relieve the Applicants within two months from today, so that they can join at their respective places.
- (C) The concerned Head of the Districts/Commissionerate where Applicants are seeking transfer also directed to get the Applicants joined on their establishment after they are relieved from C.P, Mumbai.
- (D) No order as to costs.

Sd/-(A.P. Kurhekar) Member-J 21.03.2023

Mumbai

Date: 21.03.2023 Dictation taken by:

S.K. Wamanse.
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