

ಪತ್ರಿಕಾ ತುಣುಕುಗಳು  
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ಇಲಾಖೆ / ವಿಷಯ: DEPARTMENT / SUBJECT: Court Matter

ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯ ಹೆಸರು : NAME OF THE NEWS PAPER: Deccan Herald

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## SC/ST promotion quota: Top court verdict today

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court would, on Friday, pass its judgement on a batch of petitions pertaining to the contentious issue of reservation in promotion to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST) employees in Karnataka.

A bench of Justices U U Lalit and D Y Chandrachud had, on March 6, wrapped up hearing the arguments by general category and reserved category employees as well as the state government, in the matter also related to the fresh law brought in the state to protect the affected staff, facing demotion after the February 9, 2017, judgement in the B K Pavitra case.

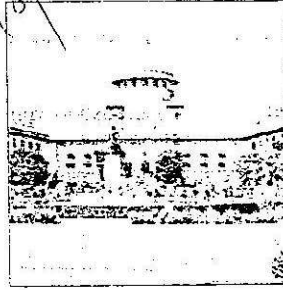
The general category of employees led by senior advocate Rajeev Dhavan and advocate Kumar Parimal sought directions to the government to comply with the Pavitra judgement, which had quashed the law granting reservation in promotion to SC/ST employees.

They said that the state government neither collected cadre-wise data nor examined the issue of efficiency in administration, before bringing a new law. He contended that the creamy-layer principle discussed in the Constitution bench judgement in the Jarnail Singh case had also been disregarded by the government.

They claimed there has been "wilful disobedience" by the government in complying with the Pavitra judgement.

The court had started hearing arguments in the matter in October, 2018.

The top court had, in the



Pavitra case, quashed the Karnataka law on reservation in promotion to the SC/ST employees. The state government, subsequently, issued notifications revising the seniority list.

In the meantime, 'The Karnataka Extension of Consequential Seniority to Government Servants Promoted on the Basis of Reservation (To the Posts in the Civil Services of the State) Act, 2017' was passed to protect interest of the SC/ST staff.

The law received the President's assent last year. It was published in the gazette on June 23, 2018.

Senior advocates Indira Jaising, Dinesh Dwivedi and Nidhesh Gupta, among others, representing the affected employees from SC/ST communities, said about 8,000 employees had been demoted and the new Act, which came into effect from June 23 last, must be allowed to be implemented.

Notably, on March 1, the top court had stayed the Karnataka government's order of February 27 restoring cadre and pay scales of thousands of SC/ST employees, demoted in terms of the Pavitra case. The court had then directed for maintaining status quo.