

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL ORIGINAL JURISDICTION

WRIT PETITION (CIVIL) NO.252 OF 2026

AWDESH KUMAR YADAV

PETITIONER

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & OTHERS

RESPONDENTS

O R D E R

Briefly stated, the facts of the case are that the petitioner herein is stated to be the National President of the Vishwa Yadav Parishad. The petitioner has approached this Court being aggrieved by alleged caste and religion-based stereotyping in the film "*Yadav Ji ki Love Story*", and seeks the issuance of a writ of mandamus or any other appropriate writ, order or direction restraining the release of the said film; the issuance of directions to the Respondent No.2 herein - Central Board Film Certification (CBFC) to re-examine the content of the said movie in line with Constitutional

principles and statutory guidelines; stay of the release of the said film as well as the issuance of a direction to Respondent No.3 - Ankit Bhadana, the producer and director of the said film to change its title and remove any references to the Yadav community from the title.

2. According to the petitioner, the said film contains *prima facie* offensive and derogatory content and portrays a particular caste in a negative and defamatory manner. That the said film is likely to invoke caste and social disharmony and would disturb public order, resulting in the violation of rights under Articles 14, 15, 19(2), 21 and 51A(e) of the Constitution. Hence, the instant writ petition.

3. We have heard learned senior counsel and learned counsel appearing for the petitioner, at length.

4. We have also perused the material on record.

5. The main grievance of the petitioner is that the name of the forthcoming film "*Yadav ji*

ki love story” reflects the Yadav community in poor light in the society. Therefore, the contention of learned senior counsel and learned counsel for the petitioner is that the title of the film ought to be changed.

6. We have considered this argument. We fail to understand as to how the title of a film can reflect the community in bad light. This, we say for the reason that the title of the film in question nowhere has any adjective or any other appellation which depicts or portrays the community i.e. the Yadav Community in bad light.

7. We find that the apprehensions expressed by the learned senior counsel and learned counsel appearing for the petitioner are wholly unfounded.

8. In this context we would like to distinguish our order in an earlier case titled as “Atul Mishra vs. Union of India & Others”, Writ Petition (Civil) No.181 of 2026 dated 19.02.2026. In that case, the title of the film was “Ghooskhor Pandat”. The apprehension expressed there was that the expression ‘Pandat’

related to a particular community and the expression 'Ghooskhor' in English language meant 'corrupt'. Therefore, a negative meaning has been attached to a particular community as such. The respondents in the said case voluntarily decided to replace the title of the said film by filing an affidavit of undertaking before this Court. Consequently, the matter did not call for any adjudication.

9. However, we find that in the instant case, there is no such negativity which is attached to the Yadav community by having such a title of the film. In the circumstances, we find that neither of the reasonable restrictions which are expressed under Article 19(2) of the Constitution of India are attracted and hence, we find that the right to free speech and expression under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India must prevail in the instant case.

10. While re-affirming the judicial precedents on the issue, we are of the firm view that any interference by the Court would directly impinge

upon the creative freedom of the film maker.

11. We reiterate once again that the name and title of the film "*Yadav ji ki love story*" in no way portrays or denigrates the Yadav community in poor light or in a negative way in any manner whatsoever. This film is only a fiction and therefore, shall remain a fiction.

12. The Writ Petition is accordingly dismissed.

....., J
(B.V. NAGARATHNA)

....., J
(UJJAL BHUYAN)

NEW DELHI
FEBRUARY 25, 2026

ITEM NO.43

COURT NO.4

SECTION PIL-W

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). 252/2026

AWDESH KUMAR YADAV

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

RESPONDENT(S)

FOR ADMISSION

Date : 25-02-2026 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM : HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE B.V. NAGARATHNA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE UJJAL BHUYAN

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. S. R. Singh, Sr. Adv.
Mr. Dalganjan Singh Yadav, Adv.
Mr. Aftab Ali Khan, AOR
Mr. Vikrant Singh, Adv.
Mr. Sandeep Malik, Adv.

For Respondent(s) :

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following

O R D E R

Writ Petition is dismissed in terms of the signed order, which is placed on file.

Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(B. LAKSHMI MANIKYA VALLI)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(DIVYA BABBAR)
COURT MASTER (NSH)