APHC010444602025

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

MONDAY, THE 16th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE VENKATESWARLU NIMMAGADDA

WRIT PETITION NO: 23196 OF 2025

Between:

1. GUDDETI NAGA PADMAVATI, W/o. Late G Venkata Rao, aged about 58 years, R/o. Thotavaripalem Village, Epurupalem Post, Chirala Mandal, Prakasam District.(New Bapatia District).

...PETITIONER

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Rep. by it's Principal Secretary, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development (Vig-VII) Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravathi.

2. Andhra Pradesh Central Power Distribution Company Limited, Rep by its Chairman and Managing Director, Beside Govt. Polytechnic, m Road, Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh, 520 008

3. The Panchayat Secretary, Thotavaripalem Gram Panchayat,Sachivalayam -1 Chirala Mandal, Prakasam District(New Bapatia District).

4. The Executive Engineer, Bapatla Division, Guntur District(New Bapatla District).

5. The Assistant Engineer, APCPDCL Chirala Rural, Prakasam District(New Bapatla District).

6. Nadepena Dhana Lakshmi Guddeti Dhana Lakhsmi, D/o Nadepena Adinarayana, Aged about 40 years, R/o D.No.5-102, Opp to Sivalayam Road, Thotavaripalem, Chirala Mandal, Prakasam District (New Bapatla District). R6 is impleaded as per the Court's Order dt.14.11.2025 in I.A.No.02 of 2025

...RESPONDENTs

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be Pleased to issue an appropriate writ, order or direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the Respondents No.5 in discontinuing the supply to the Petitioner's house in view of the proceedings dated 05.07.2025 issued by the Respondent No.3 either without any notice or an opportunity of hearing to the petitioner as illegal, arbitrary, null and void, violation of Article 14, violation of principles of Natural Justice and violation of Section 43 of the Electricity Act read with General Terms and Conditions of Supply of APCPDCL and consequently direct the Respondents to Restore the Electricity Supply to the Petitioner's and pass

Counsel for the Petitioner: SANAKA MANASWI

Counsel for the Respondents: GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV
Counsel for the Respondents:V V SATISH (SC for APEPDCL)

Counsel for the Respondents: Mattegunta.Sudhir, Standing Counsel For Z.P.Ps,M.P.Ps,Gram Panchayats

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The Court made the following order:

Heard learned counsel for the Writ Petitioner and learned Standing counsel for the Respondents.

2. The claim of the writ petitioner herein is that Respondent No.5, the Assistant Engineer, APCPDCL, Chirala, disconnected the electricity supply to the petitioner's premises purportedly on the basis of a letter dated 05.07.2025 issued by Respondent No.3, the Panchayat Secretary, Thotavaripalem Gram Panchayat, without issuing any prior notice to the petitioner or affording the petitioner an opportunity of hearing.

3. Upon hearing the learned counsel appearing for both parties, this Court, vide order dated 08.05.2026, passed the following interim order in I.A. No.01 of 2025:

> *"In the light of the Judgment of Hon'ble Apex Court, in* ***Dileep (Dead) through LRs vs. Satish and Others****1, and the Judgment of this Court in* ***B.Munirathnam Vs. AP Southern Power Distribution Company Limited & Others*** *in WP No.7120 of 2024, there shall be interim direction as prayed for."*

4. Learned Counsel for the Writ Petitioner submits that the respondents have disconnected the electricity supply without adhering to the principles of natural justice and without following the due process of law.

5. Per contra, learned Standing Counsel submits that Respondent No.3, the Panchayat Secretary, had addressed a letter to Respondent No.5, the Assistant Engineer, APCPDCL, informing him that the ‘No Objection Certificate’ issued in favour of the Writ Petitioner had been withdrawn and, consequently, requesting disconnection of the petitioner's electricity service connection forthwith. Pursuant to the said letter, the respondents have disconnected the electricity supply to the petitioner's service connection. He further submits that, pursuant to the interim order dated 08.05.2026 passed by this Court, the respondents have restored the electricity supply to the petitioner's service connection and that, as on date, the service connection is in live status. He also submits that, in the event the respondents intend to disconnect the electricity supply in future, they shall follow the due process of law. Accordingly, he prays that the writ petition may be disposed of.

6. Having considered the submissions made by the learned counsel appearing on either side, this Court deems it appropriate to dispose of the Writ Petition with a direction to the respondents that, in the event they intend to disconnect the electricity supply to the service connection of the Writ Petitioner, they shall strictly follow the due process of law as contemplated as per the Electricity Act, 2003 as well as the General Terms and Conditions of Supply and adhere to the principles of natural justice by issuing prior notice and affording the petitioner a reasonable opportunity of hearing. Further, it is further made clear that, without following the due process of law, the respondents shall not interfere with or disconnect the electricity supply to the

petitioner's service connection, so long as the petitioner continues to pay the regular current consumption (CC) charges as demanded by the authorities.

7. With these observations and directions, this Writ Petition stands disposed of. No order as to costs.

8. Consequently, Miscellaneous Petitions, if any, pending in this Writ Petition shall stand closed.

VENKATESWARLU NIMMAGADDA, J

Dt: 16.11.2026
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