APHC010536882026

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH**
**AT AMARAVATI [3460]**
**(Special Original Jurisdiction)**

THURSDAY, THE 8th DAY OF OCTOBER 2026

**PRESENT**

**THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE NYAPATHY VIJAY**

**WRIT PETITION NO: 29221/2026**

**Between:**

1. SANIKOMMU VENKATA SRINIVASA REDDY, S/O. KRISHNA REDDY, AGED ABOUT 64 YEARS, OCC RETIRED DEPUTY RANGE OFFICER, R/O D.NO. 15-6-31, REDDY STREET, OLD GUNTUR, GUNTUR DISTRICT. 522 001.

**...PETITIONER**

**AND**

1. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL CHIEF CONSERVATOR (HOD), PVS LAND MARK, NEAR APIIC BUILDING, ARNYA BHAVAN, MANGALAGIRI, GUNTUR DISTRICT 522503.
2. THE CHIEF CONSERVATOR OF FORESTS, NEAR COLLECTOR BUNGALOW, PRYAVARAN BHAVAN, GUNTUR, GUNTUR DISTRICT -522004.
3. THE DISTRICT FOREST OFFICER, NEAR COLLECTOR BUNGALOW, PRYAVARAN BHAVAN, GUNTUR, GUNTUR DISTRICT -522004.

**...RESPONDENT(S):**

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 topleased to issue a Writ or order or

direction more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the respondents not releasing the Annual Grade Increments for the years 2012 and 2013 (Two years) to the petitioner on the ground that the petitioner was placed under suspension as highly illegal, arbitrary, unjust, improper, violative of the provisions of Fundamental Rules and contrary to the orders of this Honble Court apart from violative of Articles 14,16 and 21 of the constitution of India and consequently direct the respondents to release the Annual Grade Increments due for the years 2012 and 2013 (Two years) and pass

**IA NO: 1 OF 2026**

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased pleased to direct the respondents to release the Annual Grade Increments for the years 2012 and 2013 (Two years), pending disposal of the above writ petition and pass

**Counsel for the Petitioner:**

1. NAGESWARA RAO CHAVA

**Counsel for the Respondent(S):**

1. GP FOR SERVICES IV

**The Court made the following:**

**THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE NYAPATHY VIJAY**

**W.P.No.29221 of 2026**

**ORDER:**

1. The present Writ Petition is filed questioning the action of the Respondents in not releasing the annual grade increments due to the Petitioner for the years 2012 and 2013 and to declare the same as illegal and arbitrary.

2. The Petitioner was initially appointed as Forest Section Officer in the year 1985. Thereafter, he was promoted to the post of Deputy Range Officer in the year 2002. Later, the Petitioner retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation on 31.07.2025. While the Petitioner was working as Deputy Range Officer at Nakarekallu Section, Guntur Range, he was placed under suspension w.e.f. 25.03.2011 in connection with an ACB case registered for disproportionate assets in FIR No.07/2016/RCA-ACB-VJA/2011, dated 22.03.2011 for the offenses punishable under Sections 13(2) r/w 13(1)(e) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. On 06.06.2013, the suspension of the Petitioner was revoked *vide* Memo No.3268/For.IV/A1/2011, dated 06.06.2013. As annual increments were not sanctioned for the years 2012 and 2013, the present Writ Petition is filed.

3. Learned counsel for the Petitioner relied upon Order passed by the Division Bench of this Court in W.P. No. 6617 of 2004, dated 04.11.2004 and similar Orders passed by this Court in W.P.No.9228 of 2021, dated 13.07.2021, W.P.No.4553 of 2021, dated 24.02.2021 and W.P.No.15504 of 2009, dated 16.04.2015 and W.P.No.36534 of 2025, dated 31.12.2025. This Court in similar circumstances had directed the Respondent-authorities to sanction the annual grade increments after referring to the provisions of F.R.24.

4. Learned Assistant Government Pleader appearing for the Respondents would submit that the representation of the Petitioner for the purpose as sought would be considered by the Respondent-Authorities and an appropriate decision would be taken.

5. Heard both the counsel.

6. The Division Bench of this Court in W.P.No.6617 of 2004 was considering the case of an individual seeking subsistence allowance after factoring in the annual grade increments. The Andhra Pradesh Administrative Tribunal had directed that the subsisting allowance be paid after taking into account the annual increments. In the Writ Petition filed by the State, the Division Bench of this Court, after referring to the provisions of F.R.24, held that unless an order of

withholding increments is passed, the same cannot be withheld.

7. The said principle was followed in series of Judgments of this Court in W.P.Nos.9228 of 2021, 4553 of 2021 and 18004 of 2022.

8. In that view, the present Writ Petition is allowed declaring the action of the Respondents in withholding the annual grade increments for the years 2012 and 2013 as illegal, and consequently, the Respondent-authorities are directed to release the annual grade increments due to the Petitioner for the years 2012 and 2013 within a period of one (01) month from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

9. There shall be no order as to costs.

10. As a sequel, the miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending in this Petition shall stand closed

**NYAPATHY VIJAY, J**

Date: 08.10.2026
chs

**THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE NYAPATHY VIJAY**

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**W.P.No.29221 of 2026**

Date: 08.10.2026

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