APHC010570762026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI **[3333]**
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

TUESDAY, THE 27th DAY OF OCTOBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE V.SUJATHA

WRIT PETITION NO: 31198/2026

Between:

1. GANGULA BRIJENDRA REDDY, S/O. GANGULA PRABHAKAR REDDY, AGED 39 YEARS, R/O. 7-4-32/1, BALAJI NAGAR, ALLAGADDA TOWN AND MANDAL, NANDYALA DISTRICT- 518 543.

2. KATASANI RAMABHUPAL REDDY, S/O. LATE SRI KATASANI NARASIMHA REDDY, AGED 66 YEARS, OCC AGRICULTURIST AND FORMER MEMBER OF LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, PANYAM CONSTITUENCY, KURNOOL DISTRICT, R/O. D.NO. 77/1-2-1 A, MS LAKSHMI NAGAR, KALLUR VILLAGE AND MANDAL, KURNOOL DISTRICT.518543

...PETITIONER(S)

AND

1. THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, VIJAYAWADA, NTR DISTRICT, REP. BY ITS STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, NEW HOD'S BUILDING, 0PP. INDIRA GANDHI MUNICIPAL STADIUM M.G. ROAD, VIJAYAWADA- 520 010.

2. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REPRESENTED BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, HOME DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS, VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATHI, GUNTUR DISTRICT- 522 238.

3. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER, NANDYALA DISTRICT, COLLECTORATE, NANDYALA TOWN AND DISTRICT- 518 502.

4. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, NANDYALA, OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, KRANTHI NAGAR, OLD DSP OFFICE, NEAR III TOWN P.S. NANDYALA- 518 502.
5. THE RETURNING OFFICER, ALLAGADDA MANDAL, NANDYALA DISTRICT- 518 543.
6. THE RETURNING OFFICER, CHAGALAMARRI MANDAL, NANDYALA DISTRICT- 518 553.
7. THE RETURNING OFFICER, DORNIPADU MANDAL, NANDYALA DISTRICT- 518 135.
8. THE RETURNING OFFICER, RUDRAVARAM MANDAL, NANDYALA DISTRICT- 518 594.
9. THE RETURNING OFFICER, SIRIVELLA MANDAL, NANDYALA DISTRICT- 518 563.
10. THE RETURNING OFFICER, UYYALAWADA MANDAL, NANDYALA DISTRICT-518 155.

...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, Order or Direction more particularly one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus declaring the inaction of the Respondents No. 1, 3 and 4 in not considering and not acting upon the representation of the 1st Petitioner dated 23.10.2026, insofar as the same relates to the stage of withdrawal of candidatures on 27.10.2026 in the Second Ordinary Elections to the MPTCs and ZPTCs, 2026 in Allagadda, Chagalamarri, Dornipadu, Rudravaram, Sirivella and Uyyalawada Mandals of Nandyala District, as illegal, arbitrary and violative of Articles 14, 21 and 243K of the Constitution of India, and consequently direct (i) the Respondents No. 1 to 4 to provide adequate and impartial police protection to the candidates set up by the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party for the said MPTCs and ZPTCs, their proposers and the Petitioners on 27.10.2026, at their residences, during their travel and at and around the offices of the Respondents No. 5 to 10, under the supervision of an officer not below the rank of Additional Superintendent of Police, and to ensure that no such candidate or proposer is summoned, detained or threatened except in accordance with law (ii) the Respondents No. 5 to 10 to receive a notice of

withdrawal only in the manner prescribed by law and after satisfying themselves as to the identity of the person delivering the same and that the withdrawal is voluntary and (iii) the Respondents No. 1 and 3 to 10 to video record the entire withdrawal proceedings on 27.10.2026, including the approaches to the offices of the Respondents No. 5 to 10, and to preserve the recordings and pass

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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 No. 1 to 4 to provide adequate and impartial police protection to the candidates set up by the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party for the MPTCs and ZPTCs in Allagadda, Chagalamarri, Dornipadu, Rudravaram, Sirivella and Uyyalawada Mandals of Nandyala District, their proposers and the Petitioners on 27.10.2026, at and around the offices of the Respondents No. 5 to 10 and during their travel to and from the same, and direct the Respondents No. 5 to 10 to video-record the withdrawal proceedings on 27.10.2026 and preserve the recordings, pending disposal of the Writ Petition and pass

Counsel for the Petitioner(S):

1. VARUN BYREDDY

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR HOME
2.

The Court made the following:

ORDER:

The present Writ Petition came to be filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking the following relief:-

> *"…pleased to issue a Writ, Order or Direction more particularly one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus declaring the inaction of the Respondents No.1, 3 and 4 in not considering and not acting upon the representation of the 1st Petitioner dated 23.10.2026, insofar as the same relates to the stage of withdrawal of candidatures on 27.10.2026 in the Second Ordinary Elections to the MPTCs and ZPTCs, 2026 in Allagadda, Chagalamarri, Dornipadu, Rudravaram, Sirivella and Uyyalawada Mandals of Nandyala District, as illegal, arbitrary, and violative of Articles 14, 21 and 243K of the Constitution of India and consequently direct (i) the Respondents No.1 to 4 to provide adequate and impartial police protection to the candidates set up by the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party for the said MPTCs and ZPTCs their proposers and the Petitioners on 27.10.2026, at their residences, during their travel and at and around the offices of the Respondents No. 5 to 10, under the supervision of an officer not below the rank of Additional Superintendent of Police, and to ensure that no such candidate or proposer is summoned, detained or threatened except in accordance with law; (ii) the Respondents No.5 to 10 to receive a notice of withdrawal only in the manner prescribed by law and after satisfying themselves as to the identity of the person delivering the same and that the withdrawal is voluntary and (iii) the Respondents Nos.1 and 3 to 10 to video record the entire withdrawal proceedings on 27.10.2026, including the approaches to the offices of the Respondents No.5 to 10 and to preserve the recordings…."*

2. The case of the petitioners is that the 1st petitioner is the Allagadda Assembly Co-ordinator of the YSRCP and the 2nd petitioner is the Nandyala

District President of the YSRCP. The President of the YSRCP issued two Forms-A dated 19.10.2026, authorising the 1st petitioner to issue Form-B notices for the MPTC candidates in six Mandals of Allagadda constituency and the 2nd petitioner to issue Form-B notices for all ZPTC candidates in Nandyala District. The said Forms-A were issued with reference to the election notification dated 19.10.2026. The petitioners state that the Form-B notices issued by them are acted upon by respondent Nos.5 to 10 on the last date for withdrawal of candidatures, i.e., 27.10.2026, and, therefore, they are directly concerned with the withdrawal process. They further state that YSRCP candidates were threatened and obstructed during the nomination process and apprehend that they may also be threatened or forced to withdraw their candidatures. In this regard, they submitted a representation dated 23.10.2026 to respondent Nos.1, 3 and 4, seeking adequate police protection to the candidates and their proposers, supervision by a senior police officer, video-recording of the withdrawal proceedings and appointment of Observers to the concerned Mandals. However, the respondents have not considered the representation or informed the petitioners about the steps taken in this regard. Hence, the petitioners have filed the present Writ Petition seeking necessary directions to ensure free and fair withdrawal of candidatures.

3. Heard learned counsel for the petitioners and the learned counsel appearing for the respondents.

4. In the present case, the petitioners apprehend that the YSRCP candidates contesting the MPTC and ZPTC elections may be threatened or coerced into withdrawing their candidatures. They have also submitted a representation dated 23.10.2026 to the respondents, seeking necessary measures to ensure a free and fair withdrawal process. In this regard, it is relevant to refer to the order dated 16.10.2026 passed by this Court in W.P.No.30031 of 2026. The relevant portion of the said order reads as follows:

> *"……taking into consideration the submissions of either side, respondents are directed to take all precautions by installing CCTV cameras in and around the offices, where the nominations are to be filed by the candidates and to provide sufficient police bandobust for ensuring fair and peaceful conduct of local body elections and to see that the elections shall be conducted in a fair and transparent manner without any law and order problems and ensure that the instructions dated 16.10.2026 received from the Director General of Police shall be strictly followed. Further, the State Election Commission shall issue a circular that all officers who have been assigned for election duty shall display their identity cards prominently and whenever any of the observers or any authority calls upon to prove their identity, they should readily and immediately produce their identity card and establish their identity.*
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> *With the above directions, this writ petition is disposed of."*

5. The said order was further upheld by the Hon'ble Division Bench of this Court in W.A.No.1229 of 2026, vide order dated 19.10.2026.

6. As the relief sought in the present writ petition is also similar as in W.P.No.30031 of 2026 and for the reasons alike in the aforesaid order, this Writ Petition is also disposed of, directing the respondents to consider the representation dated 23.10.2026 submitted by the petitioners and take appropriate steps, to ensure that the withdrawal of candidatures is conducted in a free, fair and peaceful manner, in accordance with the directions issued by this Court vide order dated 16.10.2026 in W.P.No.30031 of 2026. There shall be no order as to costs.

7. Registry is directed to attach the copy of the order, dated 16.10.2026 passed by this Court in W.P.No.30031 of 2026 to this order.

Consequently, all pending miscellaneous applications, if any, shall stand closed.

JUSTICE V.SUJATHA

Dated: 27.10.2026
KGR/GCD