APHC010570812026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

Bench Sr.No:-8 [3584]

WRIT PETITION NO: 31178 of 2026

Dr Jatothu Aravind Kumar ...Petitioner

Vs.

The State of Andhra Pradesh and Others ...Respondents

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CORAM : THE CHIEF JUSTICE LISA GILL
SRI JUSTICE CHALLA GUNARANJAN

DATE : 27th October, 2026

Present :

Advocate for Petitioner : Mr Ashok Ram V

Advocate(s) for Respondents : GP for Medical, Health & FW for R.1, Ms Tata Venkata Sridevi, SC for Dr.NTR University of Health Sciences for R.2 & R.3.

LISA GILL, CJ:

Prayer in this writ petition reads as under:

> "..to issue a Writ, Order or Direction, more particularly one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus, (i) declaring the action of the Respondents in treating the Petitioner as an Open Category (OC) candidate instead of a Scheduled Tribe (ST) candidate for admission into PG Medical Degree/Diploma Courses under the Competent Authority Quota for the academic year 2026-27, solely on the ground that his community certificate was issued by the competent authority in Telangana, as illegal, arbitrary, discriminatory and violative of Article 14 read with Articles 15(4)

of the Constitution of India; (ii) declaring paragraph 9 of Notification dated 14.10.2026, bearing Endorsement No.5148/EA2/PG/2026, Clause 6.4(1) to (4) of the Prospectus, and the consequential certificate and portal requirements, insofar as they operate to classify the Petitioner as OC and exclude him from ST consideration in the circumstances pleaded, as illegal and unenforceable against the Petitioner, or reading down the said requirements accordingly; consequently directing the 2nd respondent and 3rd respondent to receive the Petitioner's application under the ST category instead of the OC category in the merit list and permit him to exercise web options and participate in the ongoing and subsequent rounds of counselling, subject to verification of his community certificate, other eligibility requirements and merit and pass such other order or orders.."

2. When faced with decision dated 25.08.2026 of this Court in W.P.No.23708 of 2026 titled ***Vankudoth Greeshma Vs. The State of Andhra Pradesh and Others,*** wherein the issue is squarely covered against petitioner, learned counsel for petitioner sought to distinguish said decision by submitting that petitioner had in fact secured admission for MBBS course in Andhra Pradesh on the basis of Scheduled Tribe community certificate issued in Telangana. It was, therefore, contended that petitioner had a legitimate expectation that same benefit would be afforded to him for admission to PG Medical Degree/Diploma Courses as well.

3. However, learned counsel for petitioner is unable to deny that, in terms of Section 95 of Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, benefit in question was to be made available for a period of ten years and said period admittedly has come to an end on 01.06.2024. Circular dated 21.07.2025 issued by Health, Medical and Family Welfare (C1) Department, a copy of which is attached to writ petition, also clarifies the position in this regard. In view of the express statutory provision, petitioner's plea of legitimate expectation cannot be accepted. Learned counsel for petitioner was also unable to point out any ground which calls for dispensation different from the one in the case of ***Vankudoth Greeshma*** *(supra)*.

4. Writ Petition is dismissed accordingly. No costs.

Pending application(s) if any stand(s) disposed of accordingly.

LISA GILL, CJ

CHALLA GUNARANJAN, J

Vjl

Whether the order is Speaking/Reasoned : Yes / No

Whether the order is Reportable : Yes / No