APHC010582322026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

Bench Sr.No:-4 [3584]

W.P(PIL).No.257 of 2026

Achanta Kalyan Rao ...Petitioner

Vs.

State of Andhra Pradesh and others ...Respondents

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CORAM : THE CHIEF JUSTICE LISA GILL
SRI JUSTICE CHALLA GUNARANJAN

DATE : 4th November 2026

Present :

Advocate for Petitioner : Sri Chandra Sekhar Ilapakurti representing M/s. Astonish Laws.

Advocate for Respondents : Learned Government Pleader for Municipal Administration and Urban Development,

Learned Government Pleader for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development,

Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for Andhra Pradesh State Election Commission,

Learned Government Pleader for Revenue.

LISA GILL, CJ.

Prayer in this Writ Petition filed by way of Public Interest Litigation reads as under:-

> ***"For the reasons stated in the accompanying affidavit, it is hereby prayed that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to issue an appropriate Writ, Order or Direction more particularly one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of Respondents Nos.1 to 19 herein in merging the villages within the limits of Respondents Nos.9 to 19, without following the due procedure prescribed under the Andhra Pradesh Gram Panchayat (Declaration of Villages) Rules, 2007 and the Andhra Pradesh Transitional Area and Smaller Urban Areas (Fixation of Criteria) Rules, 2013, and in issuing G.O.Ms.No.252 dated 12.10.2026 through the 2nd Respondent herein without considering the written representation dated 19.10.2026 submitted by the villages, as arbitrary, autocratic, illegal, ultra vires and violative of the principles of natural justice; and consequently, direct Respondents Nos.1 to 19 herein not to conduct elections to the 7th Respondent Corporation in respect of the areas falling within the limits of Respondents Nos.9 to 19 without due process of law in the interest of justice and pass such other order or orders as this Hon'ble Court deems fit and proper under the circumstances of the case."***

2. Learned counsel for respondents point out that this matter is squarely covered by decision dated 01.10.2026 passed in W.P.No.19118 of 2021 and batch of this Court. It is pointed out that W.P.No.18511 of 2021, which was decided as part of the said batch, specifically raised the issue of merger of the same ten Gram Panchayats as are mentioned in this P.I.L., namely Kateru, Torredu, Venkata Nagaram, Pidimgoyyi, Satellite City, Hukumpeta, Bommuru,

Dowleswaram, Rajavolu and Vemagiri into Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation. It is further informed that decision dated 01.10.2026 has been challenged before Hon'ble Supreme Court in S.L.A.(C).No.35853 of 2026, wherein notice has been issued but there is no stay of operation of impugned order.

3. Learned counsel for respondents further point out that reference to decision dated 01.10.2026 in W.A.No.1063 of 2026 and batch is duly made in G.O.Ms.No.155, Panchayat Raj & Rural Development (E&R) Department, dated 13.10.2026, as well as Andhra Pradesh Gazette Notification Roc.No.5271/2026/G1, dated 17.10.2026. It is further submitted that W.A.No.1063 of 2026 and batch were decided *vide* judgment dated 01.10.2026. Expeditious conduct of local body elections was directed while holding that restrictions relating to census operations do not prohibit delimitation of municipal wards. Challenge to said judgment before Hon'ble Supreme Court in S.L.P.(C).No.35791 of 2026 was disposed of on 09.10.2026.

4. Learned counsel for petitioner is unable to deny that principal issue concerning merger of aforesaid Gram Panchayats into Rajamahendravaram Municipal Corporation is squarely covered against petitioner by decision dated 01.10.2026 in W.P.No.19118 of 2021 and batch. Consequential prayer in present writ petition seeking restraint on the conduct of municipal elections is

also untenable in light of decision dated 01.10.2026 in W.A.No.1063 of 2026 and batch, hence rejected.

5. Keeping in view aforesaid factual matrix and decisions dated 01.10.2026 in W.P.No.19118 of 2021 and batch and W.A.No.1063 of 2026 and batch, this petition is dismissed. No order as to costs.

Miscellaneous Petitions pending, if any, shall stand closed.

LISA GILL, CJ

Date : 04.11.2026 **CHALLA GUNARANJAN, J**

AMD

Whether the order is Speaking/Reasoned : Yes / No

Whether the order is Reportable : Yes / No

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HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE LISA GILL, CHIEF JUSTICE
&
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE CHALLA GUNARANJAN

W.P(PIL).No.257 of 2026

Dt:04.11.2026

AMD