APHC010585982026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI **[3458]**
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

TUESDAY, THE 3rd DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32085/2026

Between:

1. KOTALA PADMAJA, W/O. KOTALA CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY, AGED ABOUT 47 YEARS, OCC. HOUSEWIFE, RESIDING AT D.NO.1-24, KUCHUVAARIPALLI, RAMIREDDIPAIIE, CHANDRAGIRI MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT - 517 102.

2. BALAM YUGANDHAR REDDY,, S/O B MADHUSUDHAN REDDY, AGED ABOUT 64 YEARS, OCC.BUSINESS RESIDING AT DOOR NO. 5-A, NEILUTLAVANDLAPALLI, CHINNAGOTTIGAILU MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT.

3. S. SHREELEKHA,, C/O. N. KAPILESWARA REDDY, AGED ABOUT 32 YEARS, OCC.HOUSEWIFE RESIDING AT D.NO.9-51/A, PANTAPAILI, PAKALA MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT - 517 112.

4. YEDDALA CHANDRA SEKHAR REDDY,, S/O. LATE CHINNAMA REDDY, AGED ABOUT 60 YEARS, OCC.BUSINESS RESIDING AT NUTHIGUNTAPALLI, ANUPPAILI, RAMACHANDRAPURAM MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-517 102.

5. VUTUKURI REDDAMMA,, W/O. VUTUKURI CHENGAL REDDY, AGED ABOUT 53 YEARS, OCC. HOUSEWIFE RESIDING AT D.NO.13-15, YANAMALAVANDLAPALLI, KAMALAIAHGARIPALLI, YERRAVARIPALEM MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT - 517 194.

...PETITIONER(S)

AND

1. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, HOME DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS

VELAGAPUDI VILLAGE, AMARAVATI-522238.

2. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS, VELAGAPUDI VILLAGE, AMARAVATI-522238.

3. THE UNION OF INDIA, REP. BY ITS SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS, NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI-110001.

4. THE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REP. BY ITS SECRETARY, VIJAYAWADA, NTR DISTRICT-520010.

5. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, AP POLICE HEAD QUARTERS, MANGALAGIRI, GUNTUR DISTRICT-522503.

6. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT ELECTION AUTHORITY, TIRUPATI DISTRICT, TIRUPATI-515001.

7. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, TIRUPATI DISTRICT, TIRUPATI-515001.

8. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, ZILLA PRAJA PARISHAD, TIRUPATI DISTRICT, TIRUPATI-515001.

9. THE RETURNING OFFICER, MPTC AND ZPTC ELECTIONS, CHANDRAGIRI MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

10. THE RETURNING OFFICER, MPTC AND ZPTC ELECTIONS, CHINNAGOTTIGALLU MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

11. THE RETURNING OFFICER, MPTC AND ZPTC ELECTIONS, PAKALA MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

12. THE RETURNING OFFICER, MPTC AND ZPTC ELECTIONS, RAMACHANDRAPURAM MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

13. THE RETURNING OFFICER, MPTC AND ZPTC ELECTIONS, YERRAVARIPALEM MANDAL, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

14. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, CHANDRAGIRI POLICE STATION, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

15. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, CHINNAGOTTIGALLU POLICE STATION, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

16. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, PAKALA POLICE STATION, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

17. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, RAMACHANDRAPURAM POLICE STATION, TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

18. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, YERRAVARIPALEM POLICE STATION TIRUPATI DISTRICT-515001.

...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 to issue a writ more particularly in the form of Writ of Mandamus declaring the inaction of the respondents in not taking effective steps pursuant to the representations dated 30.10.2026 and 31.10.2026 submitted by the petitioners for the conduct of a free and fair poll to the Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituencies and the Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituencies of Chandragiri, Chinnagottigallu, Pakala, Ramachandrapuram and Yerravaripalem Mandals, Tirupati District, scheduled on 05.11.2026, as per se illegal and arbitrary, and consequently direct the respondents to deploy adequate additional police force, preferably Central Armed Police Forces, at all polling stations in the said Mandals and particularly at the sensitive, hypersensitive and critical polling stations, to arrange live webcasting at all polling stations and videography/CCTV coverage at the polling stations, the strong rooms and the counting centres, to provide protection to the Scheduled Caste voters and all other voters so that they exercise their franchise without fear or obstruction, and to provide adequate police protection to the 1st and 5th petitioners, and to restrain the respondents from placing the general agents, election agents and polling agents of the petitioners under house arrest or preventive detention and to permit them to function freely at the polling stations and the counting centres,

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 direct the respondents to deploy adequate additional police force, preferably Central Armed Police Forces, at all polling stations in Chandragiri, Chinnagottigallu, Pakala, Ramachandrapuram and Yerravaripalem Mandals, Tirupati District, and particularly at the sensitive, hypersensitive and critical polling stations, for the poll scheduled on 05.11.2026 and at the strong rooms and the counting centres till the declaration of results, to arrange live

webcasting at all polling stations in the said Mandals, and to provide adequate police protection to the 1st and 5th petitioners, and to restrain the respondents from placing the general agents, election agents and polling agents of the petitioners under house arrest or preventive detention and to permit them to function freely at the polling stations and the counting centres, pending disposal of the writ petition

Counsel for the Petitioner(S):

1. VMR LEGAL

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV
2. GP FOR HOME

The Court made the following:

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32085/2026

ORDER:-

Heard Sri Venkatesh B. Reddy, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner, Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for SEC appearing for the respondent No.4 and learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home, appearing for the respondent respondents.

2. The instant Writ Petition is filed seeking for the following relief:

> *"....to issue a writ more particularly in the form of Writ of Mandamus declaring the inaction of the respondents in not taking effective steps pursuant to the representations dated 30.10.2026 and 31.10.2026 submitted by the petitioners for the conduct of a free and fair poll to the Mandal Parishad Territorial Constituencies and the Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituencies of Chandragiri, Chinnagottigallu, Pakala, Ramachandrapuram and Yerravaripalem Mandals, Tirupati District, scheduled on 05.11.2026, as per se illegal and arbitrary, and consequently direct the respondents to deploy adequate additional police force, preferably Central Armed Police Forces, at all polling stations in the said Mandals and particularly at the sensitive, hypersensitive and critical polling stations, to arrange live webcasting at all polling stations and videography/CCTV coverage at the polling stations, the strong rooms and the counting centres, to provide protection to the Scheduled Caste voters and all other voters so that they exercise their franchise without fear or obstruction, and to provide adequate police protection to the 1st and 5th petitioners, and to restrain the*

respondents from placing the general agents, election agents and polling agents of the petitioners under house arrest or preventive detention and to permit them to function freely at the polling stations and the counting centres and to pass…"

3. When the matter is taken up for consideration today, the learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home, appearing for the respondent No.8 has placed before the Court a copy of the instructions received in the case. The same are taken on record. A perusal of the same reflects that out of the total 378 polling stations, 185 polling stations have been identified as Hypersensitive (including Critical) and 90 polling stations as Sensitive polling stations, while the remaining 103 polling stations have been identified as Normal polling stations. The Mandal-wise details are as follows:

S.No	Name of the Mandal	Total Polling Stations	Hypersensitive (Incl.Critical)	Sensitive	Normal
1	Chandragiri	63	30	18	15
2	Chinnagottigallu	26	11	2	13
3	Pakala	53	19	11	23
4	Ramachandrapuram	40	4	18	18
5	Yerravaripalem	27	4	12	11
6	Tirupati Rural	169	117	29	23
	Total	**378**	**185**	**90**	**103**

Thus, all the 378 polling stations have been covered under the monitoring arrangements, comprising webcasting with Micro-Observers at 275 Sensitive and Hypersensitive polling stations and laptop-based videography at

the remaining 103 Normal polling stations. No polling station in the said Mandals is left without monitoring.

4. It is further submitted that the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Praja Parishad and Additional District Election Authority, Tirupati District, is coordinating with the District Election Authority, Superintendent of Police, Returning Officers of the Mandals concerned and other election authorities to ensure that all necessary arrangements are in place for the smooth and peaceful conduct of the elections. With regard to the allegations made by the petitioners regarding apprehensions of house arrest, preventive detention and obstruction to the functioning of their General Agents, Election Agents and Polling Agents, it is stated that the election authorities are taking necessary steps to ensure that all duly appointed and authorised agents are permitted to discharge their lawful duties at the polling stations and counting centres in accordance with the applicable election rules and instructions of the State Election Commission. No unlawful restraint or interference shall be permitted.

5. In the light of the said submissions, this Court deems it appropriate to dispose of the Writ Petition, directing the respondents to ensure that the elections are conducted in a free, fair and peaceful manner by taking all necessary precautionary and preventive measures, in accordance with law, and in terms of the instructions/Order issued by SEC dated 01.11.2026 and the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP (C) No.37476 of 2026, dated 27.10.2026.

6. With the above observations, the Writ Petition is disposed of. No costs.

As a sequel, miscellaneous applications pending, if any, shall also stand closed.

JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

Date: 03.11.2026

SR

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32085 OF 2026

Date: 03.11.2026

SR