APHC010588122026

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: 32198/2026

Between:

1. KOTA SUSHMA, D/O KOTA VENKATRAMANA AGED ABOUT 22 YEARS, R/O PATHAKURAVAPALLI VILLAGE H/O BOMMAIAHGARIPALLI, ROMPICHERLA MANDAL CHITTOOR DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH (CONTESTING YSRCP ZPTC CANDIDATE ROMPICHERLA MANDAL)

...PETITIONER

AND

1. ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REP. BY STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER 1ST FLOOR, NEW HODS BUILDING M.G. ROAD, VIJAYAWADA - 520010.
2. THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER CUM DISTRICT COLLECTOR, CHITTOOR DISTRICT, CHITTOOR, ANDHRA PRADESH -517001.
3. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY HOME DEPARTMENT, A.P. SECRETARIAT VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATI, ANDHRA PRADESH 522238.
4. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, AP POLICE HEADQUARTERS, MANGALAGIRI GUNTUR DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH 522503.
5. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, CHITTOOR DISTRICT, CHITTOOR ANDHRA PRADESH -517001.
6. THE STATION HOUSE OFFICER, ROMPICHERLA POLICE STATION CHITTOOR DISTRICT ANDHRA PRADESH - 517192.

...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 that the inaction of Respondent Nos. 1 to 6 to consider the Petitioners representa tion dated 26.10.2026 and to take protective and preventive measures for a free, fair and peaceful poll in Rompicherla ZPTC Constituency is illegal, arbi trary and violative of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India, and con trary to paragraph 13 of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27.10.2026 in SLP (C) No. 37476 of 2026 and to SEC Order No. 840/SEC F1/2026 as arbitrary, unconstitutional, violative of Articles 14, 19, and 21 of the Constitution of India, and in direct violation of AP SEC Orders, Circulars and the binding directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27.10.2026 in SLP (C) No. 37476/2026 and consequently direct Respondent Nos. 1 to 6 to implement, in respect of the Rompicherla ZPTC election, paragraph 13(i), (ii), (iii), (v) and (vi) of the said order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court until the com pletion of counting and declaration of the result to arrange videography / CCTV coverage, adequate police bandobast, election observers / Micro Observers and, where permissible and feasible, live webcasting and drone surveillance at Polling Station Nos. 224, 225, 226 and 227 (Bommagaraipalle Panchayat), No. 213 (Bodipattivari Panchayat) and No. 201 (Ganugachintha Panchayat), and to preserve the footage in terms of paragraph 13(vi) of the said order and make it available as the law requires 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 Re spondent Nos. 1 to 6 to implement, in respect of the Rompicherla ZPTC election, paragraph 13(i), (ii), (iii), (v) and (vi) of the order of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dated 27.10.2026 in SLP (C) No. 37476 of 2026 until the completion of counting and declaration of the result to ar range videography / CCTV coverage, adequate police bandobast, election observers / Micro Observers and, where permissible and feasible, live webcasting and drone surveillance at Poll ing Station Nos. 224, 225, 226 and 227 (Bom magaraipalle Panchayat), No. 213 (Bodipattivari Panchayat) and No. 201 (Ganugachintha Pan chayat), and to preserve the footage in terms of paragraph 13(vi) of the said order and make it available as the law requires and pass

Counsel for the Petitioner:

1. MOHAMMED ABDUL BASITH

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR HOME
2. GP FOR REVENUE
3.

The Court made the following:

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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ORDER:-

Heard Sri Mohammed Abdul Basith, learned counsel for the petitioner; learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home, appearing for respondent Nos.1, 3, 4 and 5; and Sri N. Ashwini Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for the State Election Commission appearing for respondent No.6.

2. Challenging the inaction of the respondents in considering the representations of the petitioner dated 26.10.2026 and in taking protective and preventive measures to ensure the conduct of free, and fair elections in ZPTC Constituency, Rompicherla the instant Writ Petition has been filed.

3. In this regard, the learned counsel for the petitioner places reliance on the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP (C) No.37476 of 2026, dated 27.10.2026, wherein the Hon'ble Apex Court has issued certain directions to the election authorities to be followed while receiving nomination papers and scrutinizing the nominations of the respective contesting candidates.

4. In the light of the said directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, the learned counsel for the petitioner contends that similar measures are required to be implemented by the State Election Commission at the time of the poll as well and, accordingly, seeks a direction to the State Election Commission to ensure implementation of the said measures during the poll

5. The learned Standing Counsel, Sri N. Ashwini Kumar, appearing for respondent No.6, submits that the State Election Commission has already issued a Circular dated 01.11.2026, instructing all the officers concerned to ensure compliance with the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court to ensure that the poll process is conducted in a free, fair and impartial manner, without giving scope for any complaints.

6. When the matter has been taken up for consideration, the learned Assistant Government Pleader for Home, appearing for respondents has placed before the Court a copy of the instructions received in the case. The same are taken on record. The said instructions states that the authorities have taken all necessary precautionary measures to maintain law and order in ZPTC Constituency, Rompicherla during the poll process. Adequate instructions have been issued to the police personnel deployed at the polling stations to maintain strict vigilance, prevent any unlawful assembly, intimidation, obstruction or other election-related offences and ensure that the polling process is conducted in a peaceful atmosphere.

7. It is further stated that special attention has been given to the subject polling stations mentioned in the Writ Petition, viz., Polling Station Nos.224, 225, 226 and 227 of Bommagaraipalle Panchayat, Polling Station No.213 of Bodipattivari Panchayat and Polling Station No.201 of Ganugachintha Panchayat. Adequate police personnel have been deployed at the said polling stations, and necessary security arrangements have been

made to prevent any untoward incidents and to provide a safe environment for the voters, polling personnel and contesting candidates.

8. And further stated that the police personnel deployed for election bandobast have been specifically instructed to maintain impartiality and discharge their duties without favour or prejudice towards any political party, candidate or individual. They have been directed not to interfere with the lawful electoral activities of any candidate and to ensure that every eligible voter is able to exercise his or her franchise freely and without any fear, threat or intimidation.

9. And that the police authorities have taken preventive measures within their jurisdiction to avert any possible breach of peace in the constituency. The police personnel have been instructed to maintain close surveillance over the situation, identify any persons attempting to disturb public peace and initiate appropriate preventive and legal action, wherever necessary, strictly in accordance with law.

10. It is further stated that the primary responsibility of the police authorities is to maintain law and order, prevent cognizable offences, provide necessary security and ensure that the election process is conducted peacefully. The police authorities have discharged and continue to discharge their statutory duties in this regard, without any discrimination or political considerations.

11. It is further stated that the police authorities shall continue to remain vigilant and take all necessary precautionary measures, in coordination with the concerned election authorities, until completion of the entire election process, including counting and declaration of results, so as to prevent any untoward incidents and maintain public peace and tranquility.

12. Having regard to the above and having regard to the Circular dated 01.11.2026 issued by the State Election Commission, this Court deems it appropriate to dispose of the Writ Petition, directing the respondents to ensure that the elections are conducted in a free, and fair manner. It is also incumbent to ensure that law enforcement and maintenance of public order shall remain in tandem by taking all necessary precautionary and preventive measures, in accordance with law, and the directions issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP (C) No.37476 of 2026, dated 27.10.2026, referred *supra*.

13. With the above observations, the Writ Petition is disposed of. There shall be no order as to costs.

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

JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

Date: 03.11.2026
MVK

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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Date:03.11.2026

MVK