APHC010589012026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH AT AMARAVATI

Bench Sr.No:-9 [3584]

WRIT PETITION NO: 32240 of 2026

Relangi Prathyusha, ...Petitioner

Vs.

The State of Andhra Pradesh and Others ...Respondent(s)

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CORAM : THE CHIEF JUSTICE LISA GILL
SRI JUSTICE CHALLA GUNARANJAN

DATE : 4th November, 2026

Present:

Advocate for Petitioner: MR.CH. RAYAN ABHISHEK

Advocate for Respondents: GOVT. PLEADER FOR MEDICAL, HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE; GOVT. PLEADER FOR SPORTS, MRS.TATA VENKATA SRIDEVI, Standing Counsel For Dr.NTR University of Health Sciences;

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ORDER: (per Hon'ble Sri Justice Challa Gunaranjan)

Writ Petition No. 32240 of 2026. Prayer in Writ Petition is as follows:

"…. to issue a Writ, Order or Direction, more particularly, one in the nature of a WRIT OF MANDAMUS (a) to declare the action of Respondents Nos.2 and 3 in not considering the Petitioner's candidature under the Local Category for admission into PG Medical Degree Courses for the academic year 2026-2027 under the Competent Authority/Management Quota, 2026 even though the Petitioner's candidature fulfils the Local Category criteria as stipulated under Regulations 3.4(II)(i)(a)(b) and 3.4(II)(ii)(a)(b) issued by the 2nd

> Respondent University in consonance with the Presidential Order, 1974, as illegal, arbitrary and unconstitutional; (b) consequently direct the Respondents to grant admission to the Petitioner in PG Medical Degree Courses under the Local Category for the academic year 2026-27 under the Competent Authority/Management Quota, 2026 as per her merit and rank secured in the NEET Entrance Examination, 2026 exactly in terms of the similar order passed by this Hon'ble High Court in W. P. No.35102 of 2025 and pass …"

2. Petitioner completed her schooling from Class 1 to Class 7 in Prakasam District and from Class 8 to 10 in Kadapa District of Andhra Pradesh. Petitioner pursued her Intermediate course from March, 2013 and completed the same in March, 2015 at Ranga Reddy District, now in State of Telangana. She later pursued MBBS course at Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada, having secured admission as local candidate under S.V. University Region and completed the course in the year 2020–21. She got selected as Civil Assistant Surgeon in the year 2023. Now, petitioner secured all-India rank of 91813 in PG Medical Entrance Examination. She had made online application for registering herself in ongoing counselling; however, was refused to be registered with local status, rather she has been declared as non-local. Thus, aggrieved, present Writ Petition.

3. Heard Mr.Ch.Rayan Abhishek, learned counsel for petitioner and learned Government Pleader for Medical, Health and Family Welfare and Mrs.T.V. Sridevi, learned Standing Counsel for 2nd respondent University.

4. Learned counsel for petitioner contends that by virtue of Regulation 3.4(II(i)(a) and (b) of Regulations for admission into Post Graduate Medical Degree / Diploma Courses under Competent Authority Quota (CQ) (for short "Regulations"), issued by 2nd respondent-University, petitioner, since has pursued seven consecutive academic years prior to joining MBBS course within the State of Andhra Pradesh, is entitled to be considered as local candidate, therefore, 2nd respondent-University erroneously declared her as non-local candidate. In support of aforesaid submissions, reliance has been placed on order passed by coordinate Bench of this Court in **Bodi Sravani v. State of A.P**[1].

5. *Per contra*, Mrs.T.V. Sridevi, learned Standing Counsel for 2nd respondent-University, produced written instructions, dated 04.11.2026, which is taken on record, subject to just exceptions. Based on said instructions, it is submitted that eligibility to claim as local candidate is governed by provisions of Presidential Order, 1974, which has been followed by University by incorporating *pari materia* clause in prospectus issued for the purpose of counselling, in terms of which petitioner would not be eligible. It is further submitted that note appended to Explanation to Regulation 3.4 of Regulations excludes period of study at Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada, for the purpose of determining local status,

[1] Order, dt.18.12.2025, in W.P.No.35104 of 2025 (APHC)

and only seven consecutive academic years of study period prior thereto shall be the governing factor to assess the same. Therefore, petitioner, since studied Intermediate between 2013 and 2015 at Ranga Reddy District and after bifurcation of State with effect from 02.06.2014, part of period of study fell in the State of Telangana, petitioner would not have seven consecutive academic years of study in the State of Andhra Pradesh for assessing local status. Thus, urged for dismissal of writ petition.

6. We have given our anxious consideration to the submissions made above and perused the record.

7. In case of **Bodi Sravani**[1], a coordinate Bench of this Court had an occasion to consider similar issue. Petitioner therein completed school education up to 10th standard in State of Andhra Pradesh and pursued Intermediate during the years March, 2012 to March, 2014 at Ranga Reddy District, presently in State of Telangana. Thereafter, she got admission at Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada, by treating her as local candidate under S.V. University Region. When she was sought to be declared as non-local by applying Regulation 3.4 of Regulations, and taking into consideration the fact that by the time petitioner therein completed Intermediate course, State was not reorganized and Ranga Reddy District remained to be falling within the State of Andhra Pradesh up to 02.06.2014, Regulation 3.4(II) (i) was applied, and thus, she was

declared to be treated as local candidate. It is apt to refer to following paragraphs of the said judgment:

> "5. The respondents 2 and 3 took the view that her study in the MBBS Course in Siddardha Medical College, Vijayawada cannot be taken into account for considering her as a local candidate, in view of the fact that Siddardha Medical College has been declared to be a Statewide Educational Institution. The respondent took the view that the status of the petitioner would then have to be determined on the basis of Regulation 3.4 (II)(i) which required the petitioner to have studied in educational institutions within the State of Andhra Pradesh for not less than seven consecutive academic years and that the petitioner does not qualify on this criteria because she had studied for two years in Rangareddy District of the present State of Telangana.
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> 6. Sri G. Venkata Reddy, learned counsel for the petitioner, would on the other hand, contend that the petitioner had studied in Rangareddy District, in 2012-2014 when the said area was part of the combined State of Andhra Pradesh and as such, the provision would have to be read to mean that the petitioner had studied within the State of Andhra Pradesh for all the relevant periods.
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> 7. Smt. T.V. Sridevi, the learned Standing Counsel for NTR University and the learned Government Pleader for Medical and Health Sciences, relying upon G.O.Ms.No.260, dated 10.07.1997, would contend that Rangareddy District falls within Osmania University area and the same is excluded now by virtue of the notification issued by Dr. NTR Health University.
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> 8. Clause 3.4 stipulates that a candidate would be treated as a local candidate in relation to a local area where he/she studied in the educational institution, for not less than four consecutive academic years ending with academic year in which the relevant qualifying examination is held. In the present case, the petitioner has studied in Siddardha Medical College in Vijayawada. However, this study is excluded from

consideration on account of clause 3.2 read with explanation to clause (iii) (b) to clause 3.4.

9. As clause 3.4(I)(i) cannot be applied to the petitioner, she would be entitled for consideration under clause 3.4 (II)(i). This provision stipulates that if the candidate had studied for not less than seven consecutive academic years within the State, she would be entitled to be treated as the “local candidate" for the local area where she had studied for the maximum period. In the present case, the petitioner had studied up to her 10th class in Nandyal while she had pursued her intermediate course in Rangaredy District. However, the fact remains that Rangareddy District, up till 2nd June, 2014, was a part of the State of Andhra Pradesh. In such circumstances, clause 3.4 (II)(i) would be clearly applicable and she would have to be treated as a local candidate for S.V University area. The provisions of G.O.Ms.No.260, dated 10.07.1997, do not, in any manner, detract from this position.”

8. In contrast, in the present case, unfortunately petitioner completed her Intermediate course in March, 2015 at Ranga Reddy District, which by then was forming part of State of Telangana with effect from 02.06.2014. Regulation 3.4 (II)(i) requires candidate to study in educational institutions within State for a period of not less than seven consecutive academic years ending with academic year for the relevant qualifying examination. It is an admitted position, even by petitioner, that the period of study at Siddhartha Medical College, Vijayawada, requires to be excluded for reckoning consecutive academic years; thus, seven years prior thereto ought to be taken into consideration. If that be so, since petitioner completed second year of Intermediate course at Ranga Reddy District, falling in the State of Telangana, she would not be able to satisfy

requirement of Regulation 3.4(II)(i). Therefore, we are of the view that petitioner is not entitled to claim local status, and 2nd respondent-University has rightly declared her status as non-local for the purpose of PG admissions.

9. Writ petition fails and accordingly stands dismissed. No order as to costs

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

LISA GILL, CJ **CHALLA GUNARANJAN, J**

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