APHC010594542026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI **[0]**
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

FRIDAY, THE 6th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

WRIT PETITION NO: 32562/2026

Between:

1. KARRI UMA LAKSHMI, W/O KARRI NELAKANTHA RAO, AGED 45 YEARS, OCCUPATION HOUSE WIFE-SOCIAL WORKER, R/O, 30-12-20, RANGA STREET RAJDHANI HOTEL, DABAGARDENS, VISAKHAPATNAM - 530020.

...PETITIONER

AND

1. THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, ANDHRA PRADESH, REPRESENTED BY THE STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, HOD BUILDING COMPLEX, MG ROAD, VIJAYAWADA -520002.
2. THE DISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER DISTRICT COLLECTOR, VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT, VISAKHAPATNAM -530002.
3. THE COMMISSIONER, GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, VISAKHAPATNAM -530002.
4. THE RETURNING OFFICER, WARD NO. 41, GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, NAME AND DESIGNATION , VISAKHAPATNAM-530002.
5. PAMPANA RAJYALAKSHMI, ELECTED CANDIDATE FROM WARD NO.41, GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, VISAKHAPATNAM-530002.

...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 an appropriate writ, order or direction, more particularly one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus, declaring the action and inaction of the

respondents, particularly the 4th respondent, in allegedly rejecting valid ballot papers cast in favour of the petitioner in the election to Ward No.41 of the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation, without providing a reasonable opportunity of inspection to the counting agents and without following Rule 51 of the Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations (Conduct of Election of Members, Election Expenses and Election Petitions) Rules, 2005, as arbitrary, illegal and contrary to the prescribed procedure, and consequently direct the respondents to conduct the recounting of Ward No. 41 of ballet votes and further consequently direct the respondents to preserve the entire election material relating to Ward No.41 of the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation, including all accepted and rejected ballot papers, particularly the 393 ballot papers declared invalid, counting records, result sheets, endorsements, packets and other connected documents, in safe and sealed custody consequently direct the respondents to consider the representation dated 03.11.2026 submitted by the petitioner and take appropriate action in accordance with the applicable election laws and rules and to 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 the respondents to forthwith preserve and maintain the entire election material relating to Ward No.41 of the Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation, Visakhapatnam, including all 393 rejected ballot papers, accepted ballot papers, counting records, result sheets and other connected election documents, in their present sealed condition, and not to destroy, tamper with, open or otherwise disturb the same, except under orders of the competent Court or Election Tribunal, and pass

Counsel for the Petitioner:

1. SIMHACHALAM KARUKOLA

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR REVENUE
2.

The Court made the following:

ORDER:-

Heard Sri Simhachalam Karulola, learned counsel for the petitioner, Sri N.Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent Nos.1 and 2 and Sri A.S.C.Bose, learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent Nos.3 and 4.

2. The grievance of the petitioner in the instant writ petition is against the actionof the 4th respondent, in allegedly rejecting valid ballot papers cast in favour of the petitioner in the election conducted in respect of Ward No.41 of the 3rd respondent - Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation, without providing a reasonable opportunity of inspection, to the counting agents, and without following Rule 51 of the Andhra Pradesh Municipal Corporations (Conduct of Election of Members, Election Expenses and Election Petitions) Rules, 2005.

3. It is stated by learned Standing Counsel appearing for SEC that the results in respect of the Ward Members of the 3rd respondent - Greater Visakhapatnam Municipal Corporation have already been declared.

4. Having regard to the same, the grievance of the petitioner would not merit for further consideration, however, the petitioner is at liberty to avail alternative remedies under law.

5. With the above, 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.

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JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

Dated: 06.11.2026

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THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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Dated: 06.11.2026
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