APHC010595422026

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
AT AMARAVATI
(Special Original Jurisdiction)

WEDNESDAY, THE 11th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32618 OF 2026

Between:

1. BHUPATHIRAJU BHARATHI VIJAYA LAKSHMI, W/o. Bhupathiraju Venkata Rama Raju, Aged about 52 years, Occ Business, Resident of Flat No.204, Sri Mai Apartments, B Block, Palakoderu, Vissakoderu, West Godavari Dist., A.P.

...PETITIONER

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, Represented by its Principal Secretary, Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department, Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati - 522238.

2. The State Election Commission, Andhra Pradesh, Represented by its Commissioner, Vijayawada - 520010.

3. The Chief Electoral Officer, Andhra Pradesh, Vijayawada - 520010.

4. The District Collector and District Election Officer, West Godavari District, Bhimavaram - 534201.

5. The Electoral Registration Officer, Undi Assembly Constituency, West Godavari District - 534199.

6. The Commissioner, Bhimavaram Municipality, Bhimavaram, West Godavari District - 534201.

7. The Vissakoderu Gram Panchayat, Vissakoderu Village, Palakoderu Mandal, West Godavari District - 534244. Rep by secretary.

8. The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, Palakoderu Mandal, West Godavari District - 534210.

...RESPONDENTs

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 in the nature of Writ of Mandamus or any other appropriate Writ declaring the action of the Respondents in not reflecting and updating the name of the Petitioner, bearing EPIC No. IMH0692518, in the 5thWard Electoral Roll of Vissakoderu Village and Panchayath, Palakoderu Mandal, Undi Constituency in terms of her approved registration at Serial No. 304, Part No. 111-Vissakoderu, as illegal, arbitrary, unilateral, unjust and unconstitutional, contrary to the Representation of the People Act 1950 and violative of Articles 14 and 24-ZA of the Constitution of India and consequently direct the Respondents to immediately update the Panchayath electoral roll by including Petitioners name and pass

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 pleased to direct the Respondent to receive and accept my nomination along with all requisite forms and deposits for contesting as a Member of the 5th Ward in the Vissakoderu Panchayath, Palakoderu Mandal, Undi Assembly Constituency pursuant to the Schedule dated 14-10-2026, treat me as a duly registered elector under Serial No. 304 of Part No. 111-Vissakoderu, Undi Assembly Constituency and permit me to participate in the scrutiny and contest the election, pending disposal of the writ petition and pass

Counsel for the Petitioner: ALMAS BEGUM MOHAMMED

Counsel for the Respondents: GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV
Counsel for the Respondents:GP FOR REVENUE

The Court made the following order:

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32618 OF 2026

The Court made the following Order:

Heard the learned counsel for the petitioner, learned Government Pleader for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for the respondent Nos.2, 3 & 5, Smt. Sireesha Rani Vallabhaneni, learned Standing Counsel for the respondent No.6/Municipality and Sri Y. Koteswara Rao, learned Standing Counsel for the respondent Nos.7 & 8.

2. The grievance of the petitioner in the instant Writ Petition is against the inaction of the respondent Nos.2 to 5 in reflecting and updating the name of the petitioner bearing EPIC No.IMH0692518, in the 5th Ward Electoral Roll of Vissakoderu Village & Panchayat, Palakoderu Mandal, Undi Constituency in terms of her approved registration at Serial No.304, Part No.111-Vissakoderu.

3. It is contended that the petitioner is a resident of Flat No.204, Sri Mai Apartments, B-Block, Palakoderu, Vissakoderu, West Godavari District, Andhra Pradesh. Earlier, the petitioner was enrolled as an elector in Bhimavaram Assembly Constituency with the same EPIC No.IMH0692518, Serial No.249. Upon shifting residence to Vissakoderu, the petitioner applied for transfer of electoral registration through Form-8 on 27-04-2026, which was duly accepted by the respondent No.5 under Section 23 of the Representation of the People Act, 1950. Consequently, the petitioner's name was enrolled in Undi Assembly Constituency, Part No.111- Vissakoderu, at Serial No.304,

under the same EPIC number. The petitioner intends to contest for the office of the Ward Member of Vissakoderu Gram Panchayat in the 2nd ordinary elections that are to be held. However, the petitioner's name has not been included in the updated electoral roll of the Gram Panchayat. Thus, the petitioner approached this Court by way of the instant Writ Petition seeking a direction to incorporate her name in the electoral roll.

4. The proviso to Section 11 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994, specifically provides that any amendment, transposition or deletion of any entry in the electoral roll, or any inclusions of names in the electoral roll up to the date of election notification shall be carried out in the electoral roll of the Gram Panchayat and any such names included shall be added to the part relating to that Ward.

5. Having regard to the status of the EPIC issued by the ECI (downloaded on 23.10.2026) and in light of the provisions of Section 11 of the AP Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 and having regard to the circular instructions of the State Election Commission dated 14.10.2026, the respondent Nos.2 & 3 are directed to verify and pass appropriate orders for publication of the name of the petitioner in the electoral roll of the subject Gram Panchayat namely Vissakoderu as expeditiously as possible before issuing the election notification for Gram Panchayats.

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

As a sequel, all pending miscellaneous applications shall stand closed.

JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

Dated: 11-11-2026
MSI

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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Dated: 11-11-2026
MSI