APHC010597402026

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

WEDNESDAY, THE 11th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 32738/2026

Between:

1. RONGALI MAHALAKSHMI, S/O.R.RAMULU (LATE), AGED ABOVE 60 YEARS, R/O. D.NO.1-11, RONGALIVAANI PALEM, ANAKAPALLI, ANAKAPALLI DISTRICT, A.P-531032.

...PETITIONER

AND

1. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, A.P. SECRETARIAT, VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATI, GUNTUR DISTRICT - 522238.
2. ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REP. BY ITS STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, 1ST FLOOR, NEW HODS BUILDING, M.G. ROAD, VIJAYAWADA, KRISHNA DISTRICT - 520010.
3. THE SECRETARY, ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, NEW HODS BUILDING, M.G. ROAD, VIJAYAWADA, KRISHNA DISTRICT - 520010.
4. THE DISTRICT ELECTION AUTHORITYCUMDISTRICT COLLECTOR, ANAKAPALLI DISTRICT, SANKARAM, ANAKAPALLI - 531002.
5. THE DIVISIONAL ELECTION AUTHORITYCUMREVENUE DIVISIONAL OFFICER, ANAKAPALLI DIVISION, SANKARAM

VILLAGE, ANAKAPALLI DISTRICT - 531002.

6. THE MANDAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, ANAKAPALLI MANDAL, SANKARAM VILLAGE, ANAKAPALLI DISTRICT - 531002.

7. THE RONGALIVANI PALEM R V PALEM GRAM PANCHAYAT, REP. BY IT'S PANCHAYAT SECRETARY, R.V.PALEM VILLAGE, ANAKAPALLI MANDAL, ANAKAPALLI DISTRICT.-531032.

...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 toissue a writ, order or direction more particularly one in the nature of a writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the 4th respondent in issuing the amended Gazette Notification No.89 of 2026, Dt 26-10-2026, vide Proceedings E.No.106465/2026/A1, Dt 26-10-2026, in so far as it alters the reservation of the office of Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat, Anakapalli Mandal, Anakapalli District, from UN-RESERVED (WOMAN) to SC (WOMAN) without assigning any reasons, as illegal, arbitrary, contrary to Section 15 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 and the Rules, 2026 issued vide G.O.Ms.No.154, Dt 12-10-2026, and violative of Articles 14 and 243D(4) of the Constitution of India, and consequently set aside the said Gazette Notification No.89 of 2026 to that extent and direct the respondents to conduct the ensuing election to the office of Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat as per the reservation of Scheduled Caste (General) notified in District Gazette Notification No.86 of 2026, Dt 15-10-2026

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 suspend the operation of the amended Gazette Notification No.89 of 2026, Dt: 26- 10-2026, issued vide Proceedings E.No.106465/2026/A1, Dt: 26-10-2026, by the 4th respondent, in so far as Rongalivani Palem (R.V.Palem) Gram Panchayat, Anakapalli Mandal, Anakapalli District, is concerned, pending disposal of the main writ petition

Counsel for the Petitioner:

1. TURAGA SAI SURYA

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV

The Court made the following:

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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ORDER:-

Heard Sri Turaga Sai Surya, learned counsel for the petitioner, Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel appearing for respondent Nos.2 & 3 and learned Government Pleader for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development appearing for respondent No.1.

2. The grievance of the petitioner in the instant Writ Petition is against the action of the 4th respondent in issuing the amended Gazette Notification No.89 of 2026, dated 26.10.2026, whereby the reservation of the office of Sarpanch of Rongalivani Palem (R.V.Palem) Gram Panchayat, Anakapalli Mandal, Anakapalli District, which was notified as Unreserved (Woman) in District Gazette Notification No.86 of 2026, dated 15.10.2026, was altered to SC (Woman), without assigning any reasons.

3. The petitioner submits that a representation was already submitted to the concerned election authority on 02.11.2026, requesting the authorities to examine the circumstances and reasons for changing the reservation of Gram Panchayat from Unreserved (Woman) to SC(Woman). The said representation was received by the concerned authority on 04.11.2026. As no orders have been passed on the said representation,

the petitioner has approached this Court by way of the instant Writ Petition seeking appropriate directions to the authorities.

4. Having regard to the same, as the petitioner's representation is still pending consideration, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the respondents to consider the petitioner's representation dated 02.11.2026 and pass appropriate orders forthwith, in accordance with law, before issuance of the notification for the Gram Panchayat Elections.

5. 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

Dated:11.11.2026

MVK

Note:
Issue C.C. By 12.11.2026
B/o.
MVK

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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