APHC010599712026

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: 32819/2026

Between:

1. KUCHIPUDI VENKATESWARLU, S/O KOTILINGAM, AGED ABOUT 57 YEARS, OCC AGRICULTURE, R/O D.NO. 2-38A, MEERJA PETA VILLAGE, TARLUPADU MANDAL, PRAKASAM DISTRICT- 523332.
2. KUCHIPUDI SUJATHA, W/O VENKATESWARLU AGED ABOUT 56 YEARS, OCC EMPLOYEE, R/O D.NO. 2-38A, MEERJA PETA VILLAGE, TARLUPADU MANDAL, PRAKASAM DISTRICT- 523332.
3. KUCHIPUDI PURNACHANDRA RAO, S/O VENKATESWARLU, AGED ABOUT 30 YEARS, OCC DOCTOR, R/O D.NO. 2-38A, MEERJA PETA VILLAGE, TARLUPADU MANDAL, PRAKASAM DISTRICT- 523332.

...PETITIONER(S)

AND

1. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT BUILDING, VELAGAPUDI VILLAGE, TULLUR MANDAL, GUNTUR DISTRICT- 522238
2. THE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REP. BY ITS STATE ELECTION COMMISSIONER, 1ST FLOOR, NEW HOD BUILDING, M.G. ROAD, VIJAYAWADA- 520010.
3. THE COMMISSIONER, PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, TADEPALLI, GUNTUR DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH- 522501.
4. THE DISTRICT COLLECTORCUMDISTRICT ELECTION OFFICER, MARKAPURAM DISTRICT, MARKAPURAM, ANDHRA PRADESH- 523316.
5. THE DISTRICT PANCHAYAT OFFICER, MARKAPURAM DISTRICT,

MARKAPURAM, ANDHRA PRADESH- 523316.

6. THE ELECTORAL REGISTRATION OFFICER ERO, MARKAPURAM ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCY, OFFICE OF THE REVENUEDIVISIONALOFFICER, MARKAPURAM REVENUE DIVISION, MARKAPURAM DISTRICT-523316.
7. THE RETURNING OFFICER / ELECTION OFFICER, MEERJAPETA GRAM PANCHAYAT, TARLUPADU MANDAL, MARKAPURAM DISTRICT-523332.

...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 a Writ, Order or Orders more particularly one in the nature of Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the Respondents in not allowing the petitioners either to cast their votes or allow them to contest in the ensuing elections to be held on 29.11.2026, for the Meerjapeta Gram Panchayat, Tarlupadu Mandal, Markapuram District, despite petitioners names were included in the voters list published on 31.07.2026, and issued EPIC cards, thereby depriving their right to cast their votes and to contest in the Electoral Process in the ensuing Gram Panchayat Elections, being illegal, arbitrary, and contrary to Section 11 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994, and violation of Article 14, 243K and 326 of Constitution of India and consequently direct the respondents forthwith to allow the petitioners to cast their votes and to contest in the ensuing Gram Panchayat Elections to be held on 29.11.2026, for the Meerjapeta Gram Panchayat, Tarlupadu Mandal, Markapuram District 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 forthwith to allow the petitioners to cast their votes and to contest in the ensuing Gram Panchayat Elections to be held on 29.11.2026, for the Meerjapeta Gram Panchayat, Tarlupadu Mandal, Markapuram District, pending disposal of the above writ petition and to pass

Counsel for the Petitioner(S):

1. MADHAVA RAO NALLURI

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR PANCHAYAT RAJ RURAL DEV
2. GP FOR REVENUE

The Court made the following:

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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The Court made the following Order:

Heard Sri Madhava Rao Nalluri, learned counsel for the petitioners, learned Government Pleader for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development appearing for the respondent Nos.1, 3 and 5, Sri N.Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent Nos.2 and 7.

2. The grievance of the petitioners in the instant writ petition is against the action of the respondents in not allowing the petitioners either to cast their votes or allow them to contest in the ensuing elections to be held on 29.11.2026, for the Meerjapeta Gram Panchayat, Tarlupadu Mandal, Markapuram District, despite petitioners names were included in the voters list published on 31.07.2026, and issuance of EPICs, thereby depriving their right to cast their votes and to contest in the Electoral Process in the ensuing Gram Panchayat Elections.

3. The 2nd petitioner is intending to contest to the office of Sarpanch, Meerjapeta Gram Panchayat. The petitioners contend that they have submitted applications in Form-8 seeking transfer of their names from the Electoral Rolls of Tarlupadu Village and Gram Panchayat to the Meerjapeta Village and Gram Panchayat. The same were processed and the EPIC cards were also generated, bearing EPIC Nos.MPV1342880, MPV1342872 and ZIO1095083 respectively duly reflecting the names of the petitioners in Meerjapeta, Tarlupadu Mandal. In light of the same, the petitioners seek a

direction under the provisions of Section 11 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994, to include their names in the electoral roll of Meerjapeta, Tarlupadu Mandal, and to allow the petitioners to cast their votes and to allow the 2nd petitioner to contest in the ensuing elections that would be conducted for the Post of Sarpanch.

4. Having regard to the status of EPICs issued/generated in the case of the petitioners and in light of the provisions of Section 11 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994 and the Circulars/Orders of the SEC dated 14.10.2026, this Court deems it appropriate to dispose of the writ petition, directing the respondent Nos.2 and 6, while publishing the Photo Electoral Roll of the subject Gram Panchayat for the ensuing elections, due consideration shall be given to the provisions of Section 11 of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj Act, 1994and the Circular dated 14.10.2026, issued by the SEC, so as to reflect the names of the petitioners in the Photo Electoral Roll that would be issued by the SEC for conducting elections to the office of Sarpanch of the Meerajpeta Gram Panchayat.

5. With the above direction, 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:11.11.2026

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THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO:32819 of 2026

Dated: 11.11.2026
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