APHC010617412026

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

THURSDAY, THE 19th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 33795 OF 2026

Between:

1. G. Sruthi,, W/o. Gajjela Srinu Reddy, aged about 36 years, Occ Household, Rio. Garnimitta Village, K.V. Palli Mandal, Annamayya District, Andhra Pradesh.

...PETITIONER

AND

1. The State of Andhra Pradesh, represented by its Principal Secretary, Home (Prisons) Department, A.P. Secretariat, Velagapudi, Amaravati, Guntur District - 522238

2. The Director General of Prisons and Correctional Services, Andhra Pradesh, Mangalagiri, Guntur District - 522503

3. The Superintendent, District Jail, Chittoor, Chittoor District - 517001

4. The Andhra Pradesh State Election Commission, represented by its Secretary, Vijayawada, NTR District - 520001

5. The District Election AuthoritycumDistrict Collector, Annamayya District, Rayachoti -51269

6. The Returning Officer Election Officer, Garnimitta Gram Panchayat, K.V. Palli Mandal, Annamayya District -517213

7. The Station House Officer, Khambamvaripalli, Annamayya District - 517213

8. The Superintendent of Police, , Annamayya District Madanapalli - 517325

...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 a Writ, Order or Direction, more particularly one in the nature of a Writ of Mandamus, declaring the action of the 3rd Respondent in refusing to attest the nomination paper (Form-Ill) and the declarations affidavit of the Petitioners husband, Sri Gajjela Srinu Reddy, an undertrial prisoner confined in District Jail, Chittoor, for contesting the election to the office of Sarpanch of Garnimitta Gram Panchayat, K.V. Palli Mandal, Annamayya District, as illegal, arbitrary and violative of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India, and consequently direct the 3rd Respondent to forthwith permit the Petitioners husband to sign the said nomination paper and declarations affidavit in his presence, attest the same and hand them over to the Petitioner or the proposer, so as to enable presentation before the 6th Respondent before 3.00 P.M. on 20.11.2026 direct the 6th Respondent to receive and process the said nomination in accordance with law

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 direct the 3rd Respondent to permit the Petitioner's husband, Sri Gajjela Srinu Reddy, an undertrial prisoner confined in District Jail, Chittoor, to sign the nomination paper in Form-Ill and the declarations / affidavit for contesting the election to the office of Sarpanch of Garnimitta Gram Panchayat, K.V. Palli Mandal, Annamayya District, to attest the same, and to hand them over to the Petitioner or the proposer on or before 11.00 A.M. on 20.11.2026

further direct the 6th Respondent to receive the said nomination if presented by the proposer before 3.00 P.M. on 20.11.2026 and to process the same in accordance with law, pending disposal of the Writ Petition,

Counsel for the Petitioner: GUNDALA SIVA PRASADA REDDY

Counsel for the Respondents: GP FOR HOME

Counsel for the Respondents: GP FOR REVENUE

The Court made the following Order:

Heard Sri Gundala Siva Prasada Reddy, learned counsel for the petitioner, learned Government Pleader for Home appearing for the respondent Nos.1 to 3, 7 & 8 and Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for the respondent Nos.4 to 6.

2. The grievance of the petitioner in the instant Writ Petition is that the jail authorities are not allowing the petitioner's husband, Sri Gajjela Srinu Reddy, who is an under trial prisoner confined in District Jail, Chittoor, to affix his signatures on the nomination papers (Form-III).

3. It is contended that the petitioner's husband is proposing to contest in the scheduled elections to the office of Sarpanch, Garnimitta Gram Panchayat, K.V. Palli Mandal, Annamayya District. In the said regard, the petitioner had approached this Court seeking a direction to the respondent No.3 to permit the petitioner's husband to affix signatures on the nomination papers and after due attestation handover the same to the petitioner / proposer / the authorized representative or as the case may be, so as to

enable them to submit the same before the 6th respondent on or before 3.00 PM on 20-11-2026.

4. Having regard to the contentions advanced, in the interest of justice this Court deems it appropriate to direct the respondent No.3 to allow the petitioner / proposer of the contesting candidate, Sri Gajjela Srinu Reddy / authorized representative, to obtain the signatures of Sri Gajjela Srinu Reddy on the nomination papers. The respondent No.3 shall allow the under trial prisoner, Sri Gajjela Srinu Reddy to sign the nomination papers in the presence of the 3rd respondent. The 3rd respondent is further directed to attest the signatures of Sri Gajjela Srinu Reddy, the under trial prisoner.

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: 19.11.2026
MSI

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

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Dated: 19.11.2026
MSI