APHC010621052026

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

FRIDAY, THE 20th DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 34016/2026

Between:

1. KETHAVATH KOTESWARI BAI @ KOTIBHAYI KETVTU, W/O. KASANA NAIK @ KASINYA, AGED ABOUT 57 YEARS, OCC HOUSEWIFE, R/O. H.NO.1-224, KOTHAPULLAREDDYPURAM VILLAGE, VELDURTHI MANDAL, PALNADU DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH - 522613.

...PETITIONER

AND

1. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, PANCHAYAT RAJ AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT, VELAGAPUDI, AMARAVATI, GUNTUR DISTRICT - 522238.
2. THE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REP. BY ITS SECRETARY, 1ST FLOOR, NEW HODS BUILDING, M.G. ROAD, VIJAYAWADA, NTR DISTRICT - 520010.
3. THE COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT ELECTION AUTHORITY, PALNADU DISTRICT, COLLECTORATE, NARASARAOPET - 522601.
4. THE REVENUE DIVISIONAL OFFICER AND APPELLATE AUTHORITY, GURAZALA REVENUE DIVISION, GURAZALA, PALNADU DISTRICT - 522415.
5. THE DISTRICT PANCHAYAT OFFICER, PALNADU DISTRICT, NARASARAOPET - 522601.
6. THE MANDAL PARISHAD DEVELOPMENT OFFICER, MANDAL

PRAJA PARISHAD, VELDURTHI, PALNADU DISTRICT - 522613.

7. THE RETURNING OFFICER, KOTHAPULLAREDDYPURAM GRAM PANCHAYAT, VELDURTHI MANDAL, PALNADU DISTRICT - 522613.

8. THE ELECTION COMMISSION OF INDIA, REP. BY ITS SECRETARY, NIRVACHAN SADAN, ASHOKA ROAD, NEW DELHI 110001.

9. KOTHAPULLAREDDYPURAM GRAMA PANCHAYAT, REP. BY ITS SECRETARY, KOTHAPULLAREDDYPURAM VILLAGE, VELDURTHI MANDAL, PALNADU DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH 522613

...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 Writ of Mandamus declaring the threatened action of the 7th Respondent in rejecting the nomination of the Petitioner for the office of Sarpanch of Kothapullareddypuram Gram Panchayat, Veldurthi Mandal, Palnadu District, on the ground of variation between her name Kethavath Koteswari Bai in the Aadhaar card and KotiBhayi Ketvtu at SI.No.514, Part No.119 of the electoral roll (EPIC No.SKK2170090), as being illegal, arbitrary, contrary to Rule 9(2) and the proviso to Rule 12(2) of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj (Conduct of Elections) Rules, 2006 and violative of Article 14 of the Constitution of India and consequently direct the 7th Respondent to scrutinise the said nomination strictly in accordance with the said Rules,

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 7th Respondent to scrutinise the nomination of the Petitioner for the office of Sarpanch of Kothapullareddypuram Gram Panchayat, Veldurthi Mandal, Palnadu District strictly in accordance with Rule 9(2) and the proviso to Rule 12(2) of the Andhra Pradesh Panchayat Raj (Conduct of Elections) Rules, 2006, without rejecting it on the ground of variation in her name between the Aadhaar card and the electoral roll, pending disposal of the above writ petition

Counsel for the Petitioner:

1. GUNDALA SIVA PRASADA REDDY

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

WRIT PETITION NO: 34016/2026

ORDER:-

Heard Sri Gundala Siva Prasada Reddy, learned counsel for the petitioner; the learned Government Pleader for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development appearing for respondent No.1 & 5; and Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for the State Election Commission appearing for respondent No.2.

2. It is stated by the learned counsel for the petitioner that the issue raised in the instant Writ Petition is squarely covered by a decision of the Coordinate Bench of this Court passed in W.P (SR).No.48244 of 2026 dated 15-11-2026. The relevant portion of the order passed in W.P (SR).No.48244 of 2026 at Paragraph 9 reads as under:

> "*9. Keeping in view limitations on the jurisdiction of this Court under Article 226 of the Constitution of India in matters relating to elections, the Writ Petition is disposed of observing that the Election Officer would strictly follow the Rules 9(2) and 12(2), particularly its proviso, of the Andhra Pradesh Municipalities / Nagara Panchyats (Conduct of Elections for Chairpersons and Ward Members in Municipalities and Nagara Panchayats) Rules, 2026, during the scrutiny of the nomination of the petitioner, if any submitted, and is in accordance with law in all other respects. There shall be no order as to costs.*"

4. Having regard to the same, the Writ Petition is disposed of in terms of the observations made in the above said order. There shall be no order as to costs.

5. Registry is directed to append a copy of the order passed by this court in W.P (SR).No.48244 of 2026 dated 15-11-2026 to this order.

6. With the above directions, 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

Date: 20.11.2026
MVK

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 34016/2026

Date:20.11.2026

MVK