APHC010623192026

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

SATURDAY, THE 21st DAY OF NOVEMBER 2026

PRESENT

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 34123 OF 2026

Between:

1. GARA VENKATA PADMA, W/O BADRINATH OCC HOUSE WIFE ,AGED 46 YEARS,R/O NAGASANIPALLI VILLAGE KHAJIPET MANDAL,YSR KADAPA DISTRICT - 516203

...PETITIONER

AND

1. THE STATE OF ANDHRA PRADESH, REP. BY ITS PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, HOME DEPARTMENT, SECRETARIAT BUILDINGS, AMARAVATHI, GUNTUR DISTRICT - 522237.
2. THE ANDHRA PRADESH STATE ELECTION COMMISSION, REP. BY ITS SECRETARY, VIJAYAWADA, NTR DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH - 520001.
3. THE DIRECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, , ANDHRA PRADESH, POLICE HEADQUARTERS, MANGALAGIRI, GUNTUR DISTRICT - 522503.
4. THE DEPUTY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF POLICE, KURNOOL RANGE, KURNOOL DISTRICT -518001.
5. THE SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, YSR KADAPA DISTRICT, KADAPA -516001.
6. THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE, MYDHUKUR SUB-DIVISION, YSR KADAPA DISTRICT - 516434.
7. THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR AND DISTRICT ELECTION AUTHORITY, YSR KADAPA DISTRICT, KADAPA, - 516001.

8. THE CIRCLE INSPECTOR OF POLICE, KHAJIPET RURAL POLICE STATION, KHAJIPET MANDAL, YSR KADAPA DISTRICT - 516312

...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 todeclaring the action of the respondents in providing necessary police protection to the petitioner despite her representation dated 19.11.2026 regarding serious threats to her life and attempts to prevent her from filing nomination for the post of Sarpanch of Nagasanipalli Gram Panchayat, Khajipet Mandal, YSR Kadapa District, in the third phase of Gram Panchayat elections, as arbitrary, illegal and violative of Articles 14 and 21 read with Article 243-K of the Constitution of India, and consequently direct the respondents to provide adequate police protection and escort to the petitioner, from her residence at Nagasanipalli Village to the nomination centre at Pulluru Grampachayat Village Office on 21.11.2026, facilitate peaceful submission of all four sets of nomination papers before the competent Returning Officer in accordance with law, prevent any threats or obstruction and ensure their safe return to the petitioner's residence

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 respondents provide adequate police protection and escort to the petitioner, from her residence at Nagasanipalli Village to the nomination centre at Pulluru Grampachayat Office, Khajipet mandal on 21.11.2026, facilitate peaceful submission of all four sets of nomination papers before the competent Returning Officer in accordance with law and ensure their safe return without any threat or obstruction, pending disposal of the above writ petition

Counsel for the Petitioner:

1. DAVULURI DILIP

Counsel for the Respondent(S):

1. GP FOR HOME

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 34123 OF 2026

ORDER:-

Heard Sri Davuluri Dilip, learned counsel for the petitioner, the learned Government Pleader for Home and Sri N. Ashwani Kumar, learned Standing Counsel for State Election Commission appearing for the respondents.

2**.** The grievance of the petitioner in the instant Writ Petition is against the action of the respondents in preventing the petitioner to file her nomination for the office of Sarpanch of Nagasanipalli Gram Panchayat, Khajipet Mandal, YSR Kadapa District.

3. The petitioner contends that she has been receiving threats from certain villagers who are political opponents of the petitioner. It is further contended that the respondents, acting at the instance of the said political opponents, are preventing the petitioner from filing her nomination. The petitioner apprehends that, at the time of her submission of filing her nomination papers, the said political opponents would threaten her and obstruct her from submitting the nomination papers. Hence, the petitioner seeks police protection to ensure that she can safely approach the concerned authorities and submit her nomination papers and contest in the elections. In the said regard although the petitioner had submitted representation dated 19.11.2026 to respondents seeking police protection, no action has been taken. Hence, the present writ petition is filed seeking a direction to provide adequate police protection to enable her to file her nomination and contest the elections.

4. When the matter has been taken up for consideration, the learned Standing Counsel for State Election Commission, has placed before the Court a copy of the Circular/instructions dated 13.11.2026 issued by the State Election Commission and submits that the Clause No.3 of the Circular would address the grievance of the petitioner. The said Circular order is taken on record. For better appreciation, the relevant portion of the same is extracted hereunder:

> *"1. The Collectors & DEAs are requested to provide Videography/CCTV Camera coverage at all Nomination Receiving Centers. If there is any constraint, videography can be undertaken using a mobile instrument with memory card and tripod. Videography / CCTV coverage shall be done at Polling Stations and Counting Centers.*
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> *2. The Commission vide its Order No.1470/SEC-F1/2026, dated 31.10.2026 has issued instructions that the footage shall be preserved in the safe custody of MPDO concerned with the supervision of the District Panchayat Officer concerned. The footage shall be preserved for 60 days. Where any Election Petition is filed, the footage shall be preserved beyond 60 days and till final disposal of the election petition. The footage shall be permanently deleted from the laptops/video recording devices, and it shall be ensured that the personnel entrusted with this activity shall not retain copies of the recorded footage in their devices. They shall not share, transmit or circulate such footage to any person or on social media platforms.*
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> *3. Necessary Police protection shall be provided to the candidates, who request for such protection, based on the threat perception assessment conducted by the Police Department. The Director General of Police is requested to issue necessary instructions to the Superintendents of Police concerned in this regard."*

5. Considered the submissions.

6. Having regard to the contentions advanced, this Court deems it appropriate to direct the 5th respondent to issue necessary instructions to the SHO, Khajipet Rural Police Station to provide police security to the petitioner so as to enable her to submit her nomination paper, which shall be between 10.00 am and 3.00 pm of the date chosen only.

7. The Station House Officer shall make necessary arrangements forthwith to provide police protection to the petitioner on the date chosen by the petitioner, so as to enable her to submit the nomination paper without any hindrance. The said arrangement of protection would apply only for the submission of nominations and for only one day.

8. 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.

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JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

Date: 21.11.2026
BSK

13

THE HONOURABLE SMT JUSTICE KIRANMAYEE MANDAVA

WRIT PETITION NO: 34123 OF 2026

Date: 21.11.2026

BSK

HIGH COURT OF ANDHRA PRADESH :: AMARAVATI

MAIN CASE: WRIT PETITION NO: 34123 OF 2026

PROCEEDING SHEET

Sl. No.	DATE	ORDER	OFFICE NOTE
01.	21.11.2026	**KM,J** The Writ Petition is disposed of. (Vide Separate Order) **KM, J** BSK	